



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time 23rd February 2025, Year C
Readings: Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7 1, Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6: 39-45

Parish Priest
Msgr Gerard Burns

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Assistant Priest
Fr Alfred Tong

Alfred@stfrancisochariu.nz

Parish Office Hours
04 478 7137
Mon to Thursday
8.30am—2.30pm

Office@stfrancisochariu.nz

Mass/Liturgy Times

For the coming week

**Sat: 5.00pm Vigil
Mass**

Sun: 10.00am Mass

Mon:

Tue: Mass or Liturgy with St
Brigid's
5.00pm Reconciliation
5.30pm Mass

Wed: **Ash Wednesday**
10.30 Reconciliation
11.00am Mass

Thurs 5.30pm Liturgy with
Communion

Fri: 8.30am Exposition &
9.00am Liturgy with
Communion

Reconciliation can also be
requested by arrangement
with office 04 478 7137

Reflection

Good trees bear good fruit.

Today's readings compare us to trees. If we are disciples of Jesus, and deeply united to him through prayer, we will be good trees bearing good fruit, even to old age. We will be known as disciples of Jesus and fruitful in His Kingdom.

The readings also challenge us to be careful of our speech, to be thoughtful of what we say and how we say it. Ecclesiasticus reminds us that our words betray what we are thinking and that good words come from a good heart.

In the Gospel Jesus urges us to suspend judgement of others and if we must judge to make sure that we are clear of the same fault we see in others.

Hence his admonition of taking the plank out of our own eye first, before removing the speck from another's eyes.

In living a Christ-centred and good life Paul in his letter urges us never to give up; never to admit defeat. He says that Jesus has given us the victory, so therefore we know that in working for the Lord we are not labouring in vain.

*"Lord Jesus in union with you may we bear good
fruit for your glory and for your Kingdom,
now and always.*

Amen

Ewen Laurenson

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased: Ursula Maechtel

Anniversary: Marie Byrne, Antonino De Gregorio (Tony)

Prayers for the sick, Fr Frank Whitaker Tovia Fa'i ,Carmen Godinez, Anna Mika-Hunt Walsh, Lote So'oa, Madonna Aspinall, Fr Joe Savesi, Betty Stewart, Fr David Orange, Jocelyn Whitehouse, David Clarke, Saili Tafaese ,Moe Pio Tafaese, Gerard McDonagh, Jessie Hensen, Tau So'oa, John Fanning, Tony Bordignon, Domingo Basilio Navera Jr, Joe Godinet, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Fr Maurice Carmody, Fr Peter O'Connell, .



For the more information please visit the Parish Website - <https://www.stfrancisochariu.nz>

Parish Synodal Gathering (Last Sunday)

Thank you to all who participated in the Parish Synodal Gathering last Sunday.

As "Pilgrims of Hope", it was a delight and joy to appreciate the work of the Holy Spirit, as we gathered as a parish to connect, to listen to one another and find out and understand where we are as a parish.

Special thanks to the speakers from the representative groups and of the parish who presented a snapshot of parish life and activity.

Thank you especially to James Fouhy and the Parish Pastoral Council for leading the charge and Lucienne Hensel for facilitating the prayer discernment process.

TE RĀ O NGĀ TAMARIKI -Children's Day

This weekend we celebrate Children's Day.

We invite all families to join us at the 10am Mass, followed by activities, face painting, games music pizza and fun! See you there...



Lord Jesus,

we thank you that you take children into your arms and bless them.

May every child know the deep peace and love of being held close to you.

We especially ask you to protect all unborn children and children who are impoverished, neglected and abused.

May we your people open our hearts to bring compassion into their lives.

Help us to support families and communities in the love and protection of their children.

May children everywhere grow up feeling accepted, safe and loved.

Amen

World Day of Prayer Service

Will be held on **Friday 7 March at 10:30 am** at **St Francis of Assisi Ohariu**.

It is 5 years since we have hosted this special liturgical service at our church where we welcome fellow Christians from 3 other denominations in Johnsonville.

This years' service is prepared by women from the Cook Islands with the theme,

"I made you wonderfully".

The service will be followed by morning tea.

We look forward to seeing you there. **All welcome.**

Stations of the Cross during Lent

We invite all our parishioners to take part in the Stations of the Cross, every Friday in our Church from **7th March at 6.30pm**.

This will be followed followed by the **Divine Mercy prayers**.

One of our Priests will be available for Reconciliation during the Stations of the Cross.

Pleroma Christian Supplies

Seeks a dedicated and enthusiastic Manager to oversee the daily operations of [Pleroma](#) in Otane, Central Hawkes Bay.

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Quote from Pope Francis [Angelus](#), 27 February 2022 **Laudato Si'** "...as part of the universe.... all of us are linked by unseen bonds and together form a kind of universal family, a sublime communion which fills us with a sacred, affectionate and humble respect." LD #67

Action: What motivations arise from the invitation to 'clean up our gaze' and 'reflect on our speech', in relation to all creation, as the Lenten journey begins?

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Office Hours Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 2.30pm

Email: office@stfrancisohariu.nz, Phone: 04 478 7137 **If you need to contact a priest urgently, such as for the Anointing of someone who is gravely unwell,**

please call: the Parish Office 04 478 7137 and select option 1

Website: www.stfrancisohariu.nz

Facebook—<https://www.facebook.com/st.francis.ohariu/>

Parish Bank Account for Koha/Donations

02-0524-0203642-00

Account name: **Arch Dio of Wgtn St Francis of Assisi Parish**

