



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

Where heaven and earth come together

3rd Sunday in Lent 23rd March 2025, Year C

Readings: Year C Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12:1; Gospel Year A John 4:5-42

Parish Priest

Msgr Gerard Burns

g.burns@wn.catholic.org.nz

Assistant Priest

Fr Alfred Tong

Alfred@stfrancisochariu.nz

Parish Office Hours

04 478 7137

Mon to Thursday

8.30am—2.30pm

Office@stfrancisochariu.nz

Dear Parishioners

Water. Precious, essential, potentially powerful and destructive, cleansing, nourishing.

This Lent we are using the Gospels of Year A (because these are meant to particularly assist adults preparing for baptism at Easter), alongside the Year C first readings. This week the Gospel is about the encounter and dialogue of Jesus with the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4).

The dialogue operates at many levels - around physical thirst (Jesus), physical effort (the woman having to come out of the village to fetch water), cross-cultural and cross-religious encounter (Jews-Samaritans), the search for a sustaining spiritual depth (living water) and the dialogue of life (who/what might these '5 husbands' be?).

Jesus and the Samaritan woman meet each other at a deep level. For each of us we are invited to a similar dialogue with God, starting where we are (thirsty, tired?) and in the dialogue with Jesus uncovering our deepest hopes and deepest entrapments.

Jesus represents the God who comes to sit with us during our everyday tasks, essential or not. He comes to talk with us about the things that matter in our lives, mundane or more. Are we ready to enter into that dialogue? And are we ready, like the Samaritan woman, to be changed in the process and tell others about what we have experienced, bringing others to that encounter?

Fr Gerard Burns

Mass/Liturgy Times

For the coming week

Sat: 5.00pm Vigil

Mass

Sun: 10.00am Mass

Tue: 9.15am Mass or Liturgy with St Brigid's
5.00pm Reconciliation
5.30pm Mass

Wed: 10.30 Reconciliation
11.00am Mass & Morning Tea

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

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased: Carolina (Liny) Nobelen, Sr Patricia Clarke SM,

Anniversary: Leslie Rangimārie, Dorothy Clapham, Marshal Concessio

Prayers for the sick, Fr Brian Wysocki, Kolotita Gae'e, 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>

Holy Week Timetable

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu



Palm Sunday 13 April (Regular Mass Schedule)
Saturday 5pm
Sunday 10am

Holy Thursday 17 April Thursday 7pm

Good Friday 18 April Liturgy & Veneration
Friday 3pm
Friday 5pm

Holy Saturday 19 April 7pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 20 April 8am Early Mass
10am Mass

Take up a Lenten Challenge and Prepare for Easter.

Over the next few weeks we invite **YOU** to contribute to our Easter ceremonies and Liturgies. Our parish Liturgy team is **very keen** to get suggestions and/or volunteers to help create special, spiritual, inclusive Liturgies. Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Saturday and Easter Sunday are opportunities for us all to deepen our faith and celebrate our many different communities. So please think about how you might practically help and then check out the newsletter next week to see when meetings will be held to discuss all these ceremonies.

For more info please contact

Resty.sales@gmail.com, semanaiagafili@challenge2000.org.nz, kittymckinley@xtra.co.nz or a member of the Parish leadership team. Thank you

What's happening around the Diocese?

<https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/events/>

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 by the **Divine Mercy prayers**.

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

Caritas Lent Appeal 2025—Restoring Hope

The Bishops' Lent Appeal for Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand has begun.

The Bishops' Lent Appeal is essential to our mission, providing much of the resources necessary to continue our life-changing work in Aotearoa, the Pacific, and beyond.

For more information, please look for the Caritas Poster and Giver Envelopes in our Church foyer or click here <https://www.caritas.org.nz/>

St Benedict's School Colour Run!!!

The Colour Run is coming up in less than a month,

Key info: Sunday 6th April, 11.30am til 1pm Nairnville field, Cost: \$10 through the student fundraising profile: www.schoolfunrun.co.nz (or please put money direct into the FWFC/HOK account 12-3141-0352804-00 for siblings or those that aren't able to set up a profile).

The Colour Run will also have BBQ, baking and treats. For more info [click](#)

Malvina Major:

An Anointing Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday **26 March at 2 00pm** in the Chapel-Reflection Room. All welcome.

Quote from Pope Francis [Angelus](#), 20 March 2022.

Jesus knows that conversion is not easy. He knows that we often repeat the same mistakes and the same sins; that we become discouraged, and perhaps it may seem that our commitment to do good is useless in a world where evil appears to rule. Thus he encourages us with a parable that tells of the patience of God. He offers the comforting image of a fig tree that does not bear fruit during the accorded season, but is not cut down. More time is given to it, another possibility.

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**

