



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Website: www.stfrancisohariu.nz

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

Twenty Third week of Ordinary Time 8 September 2024, Year B
Readings: Isaiah 35:4-7 James 2:1-5 Mark 7:31-37

REFLECTION 23rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR B

“Courage” says the prophet Isaiah – “do not be afraid”

Which is all very well but where do you find Courage? It's not available in the supermarket, you can't find it online- although even now in England you can “Take Courage” – it's a very old beer that's been brewed since about 1787 and you can still find “Courage Best Bitter” or even “Courage Imperial Russian Stout” but at best it will cheer you up temporarily and at worst leave you with a hangover.

SO – where do you find courage? That is going to depend on you personally but you might start with simplification – don't look for immediacy! Courage takes time to build so give yourself to doing the small prayers. You can talk to God with small prayers – they don't have to be long and complicated. You don't have to go out and fight dragons!!

Last year when I faced cancer twice I came across a small invocation from Joshua (1:9) “Do not be afraid or dismayed for the Lord your God is with you at all times”.

It was simple, easy to remember and could be repeated as often during the day as I felt like saying it. Simple but effective. AHA, says you, but did it give you courage? Not really – but it gave me confidence enough to keep on and to also realize that I had handed it over to God to decide what my fate would be. Pragmatic? Yes but also prayerful and trustful.

Maybe you find courage by having confidence and hope. Maybe you find it by being small. Sometimes being big and full of braggadocio is a sign of fear, so reduce yourself to the image of God as a gentle breeze and try and be the gentle breeze yourself and maybe confidence will come and with it courage to say “I'm alive today and tomorrow I will have enough courage to face another day because I am confident” – And trust in God.

Tony de Joux

“Courage, - do not be afraid”.

Parish Information

Sacramental Programme 2024

First Communion **Begins this weekend**

Session 1 : **Sunday 8th September 11.15am**

Session 2 : **Sunday 15th September 11.15am**

We warmly invite the children and their families to join the **10am Parish Mass** before sessions 1 & 2



Practice : **Friday 20th September 6.30pm**

First Communion Mass **Sunday 22nd September - 2.00pm**

Note, there will be no children's Liturgies at the Sunday Masses on 8th and 15th September

Please continue to keep the Children in your Prayers

Weekday Mass

We are trialling a new weekday Mass at **5.30pm Tuesday**

We warmly invite you to attend.

Malvina Major:

An Anointing Mass will be celebrated in the Burma Lounge at 10.30am on Tuesday 17th September.



Vegetable garden – advisors and helpers sought:

Next to the small, wooden house beside our church is a vegetable gardening area. This has been looked after by Challenge 2000 for community needs.

We would like to renew this work in conjunction with Challenge as both a food production and educational project. Planting time will soon be upon us and we are looking to bless the garden during the Season of Creation (1 Sept-4 Oct).

We are looking for people who might be interested in gardening but also anyone with skills in planning a vegetable garden and/or maramataka (lunar) planting.

Please contact parish office.if you are able to help
Phone 04 478 7137 Mon to Thursday 8.30am—2.30pm or
email office@stfrancisohariu.nz



Parish Information

The Garden at 27 Dr Taylor Terrace

Last Sunday, September 1st, Pā Gerard, parish and community members blessed and planted vegetables in the gardens next door at 27 Dr Taylor Terrace to mark the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and to commit to caring for our land and growing vegetables for our food bank and community.

It was a wonderful turn out. Potatoes, silver beet and beans were planted and the earth was prepared for more plants.

Some of our St Brigid's students, parishioners, Challenge 2000 staff and volunteers will now care for this project.

All are welcome to contribute, plant, water, harvest and care for our garden.

Its exciting! Small steps like this really do matter and make a difference.

Thank you everyone

Kitty McKinley



Parish Information

St Vincent de Paul

St Vincent de Paul are having their monthly meeting at **7pm on Tuesday the 10th September** in the Parish Meeting Room.



All new members are very welcome.

Social Justice Week: 8-14 September 2024

**Imagine Peace for all:
Choose forgiveness, know peace.**

Each year, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops lead us in Social Justice Week to consider an issue of social justice in Aotearoa. This year we are looking at the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation for building lasting peace. Join us in reflecting on how these values can transform our lives and communities. Through prayer, education, and action, we can work together to create a more just and peaceful society.

For resources and more information visit
www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week

IMAGINE PEACE FOR ALL

POHEWATIA TE RANGIMĀRIE MŌ TE KATOA



Social Justice Week 8th to 14th of September.

The theme is 'Imagine Peace for all'. During this week our 2 weekend masses, on **Saturday 7th September** at 5pm, and **Sunday 8th September** at 10am, will have the Caritas Social Justice focus.

The special Children's Peace liturgy on **Sunday 8th September at 4pm, is now cancelled.

We will also be visiting our local schools and contacting children on our past sacramental programmes to catch up with you again.

Other Information

Social Justice Week September 8th to 14th.

The **Challenge Parish Foodbank** is currently in need of the following items: baked beans, tinned spaghetti, tea bags, sugar, toilet paper, soap, and toothpaste.

If you're able to contribute, please bring any of these items to one of the masses for donation. Your support is crucial, as the foodbank relies on donations.

This is a wonderful opportunity to engage in the spirit of Social Justice Week and make a meaningful impact!

Thank you

Help Required



Theology Course

TH502 What is Theology? Course Wed-Fri: 9-11 October
9am-4pm CTC Thorndon, Wgtn with
Dr Christopher Longhurst-
Enrol now – call (04) 819 8380 or email office@ctc.ac.nz

TE KUPENGA
CATHOLIC
THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE

Te Ngākau Tapu (Sacred Heart Parish)

Mass is held at every Friday at 12.05pm.
Te Ngākau Tapu (access via Bishop Viard College driveway)
20 Kenepuru Drive
Porirua 5022

All are welcome to join us...



Love is a Decision :

Limited places left available in the next course of 'Love is a Decision' the flagship marriage preparation course of the Archdiocese, Sundays 8th & 15th September.

Enrol online at wn.catholic.org.nz Only two more courses in 2024 – the last course for 2024 will be in November.

Any queries email marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz

Other Events/Notices

St Vincent de Paul

Your fashion finds can change lives. All adult clothing and shoes at just \$5!

Join us for our Saturday Sale, **Saturday 14th September** from 10am—4pm.
Be part of something bigger.

At Vinnies Khandallah, 18 Ganges Road,



Craft Gathering at the Home of Compassion

Wednesday, 12:00 pm

Venue: Suzanne Aubert Heritage Centre, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay

Join us for our weekly craft gathering.

For more information contact ph. (04) 383-7769 or events@compassion.org.nz

What is happening around our Diocese ?

Stay up to date with Archdiocesan events:..

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

Sacred Heart Cathedral Organ Restoration:

The Fundraising Group wishes to thank all those who supported the fundraiser at Malvina Major recently and to thank Sir Bill English and the Staff of Malvina Major for making possible a most successful and enjoyable event.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITY IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

Are you looking for an opportunity to dig deeper into your faith, and to learn how to share it with others?

Would you like to know more about Church teaching, and what it means for us today?

Do you want to serve in your parish community, but feel you lack the formation and training?

JOIN US on an exciting, new formation journey that offers personal faith formation and equips you for ministry and service.

CALLED & EQUIPPED is a new archdiocesan Adult

Formation Programme starting in February 2025.

If you think this could be you, talk to your parish leadership team or Parish Council.

Contact Lucienne Hensel

at l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz for details.

2025
CALLED & EQUIPPED
Adult Formation Programme
Archdiocese of Wellington

JOIN US...
on an exciting, new formation journey that offers personal faith formation and equips you for ministry.

For more information, email l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz

Dig deeper into your faith

Learn how to share faith with others

Understand what Church teaching means for us today

Be trained and equipped to serve in your parish community

St Theresa's Catholic School, Plimmerton



We are celebrating our 75th Jubilee
and invite you to join us.
Thursday, 12th September
9.30 - 11.30a.m.



Archbishop Paul Martin will be celebrating
Mass followed by the blessing of our art installation, the sharing of stories of
the past and present and light refreshments.

*For catering purposes, please email the School Office
office@stp.school.nz or call us on 04-2338093
if you know you will be attending.

Holy Land: we need your Prayers

Caritas and the New Zealand Catholic Education Office joined together and
released a statement condemning a recent air strike on the Holy Family
School Catholic school in Gaza, which houses families who have lost their
homes due to the current conflict. You can read the full statement [here](#)

*God of all nations, we pray for a ceasefire in Gaza and a just and lasting peace
in the Holy Land. We remember those killed in the shelling of Gaza's Holy Family
School this week and all who have died during the conflict. May the unjustly
imprisoned be released, hostages freed and all in the Holy Land be able to live
whole and dignified lives. Amen*

Quote from Pope Francis

Season of Creation **Social Justice Week 8-14 Sept**



"The reality is that a low, richer percentage of the planet contami-
nates more than the poorest 50% of the total world population, and
that per capita emissions of the richer countries are much greater than those
of the poorer ones." (# 9 Laudate Deum)

Action – There is more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere than ever previously
recorded, new data from a New Zealand monitoring station shows. Consider
our Pacific neighbours facing sea level rise. How might we advocate for
them? Read about the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and act by signing
the Faith Letter as an Individual. See <https://fossilfuel treaty.org/faith-letter>

MASS INTENTIONS

We ask for your prayers - Masses have been offered for:



Recently Deceased: Mark McGuire, Paul Wilson

Anniversaries: Joan Prior, Peter Cross, Peter Bleakley, Leonarda Zodiacal

Prayers for the Sick: Carmen Godinez, Anna Mika-Hunt Walsh, Terry Marks, Lote So'oa, Madonna Aspinall, Fr Joe Savesi, Betty Stewart, Fr David Orange, Jocelyn Whitehouse, David Clarke, 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 Frank Maguire, Fr Kevin Purcell, Fr Peter O'Connell, Fr Frank Whitaker.

MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 7th September– Friday 13th September

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Timetable 37 Dr Taylor Tce

Sat:	5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun:	10.00am Mass
Tues:	9.15am Liturgy with St Brigid's school; 5.30pm Mass
Wed:	11.00am Mass- followed by Morning Tea
Thurs:	9am Liturgy
Fri:	8.30am Exposition and 9.00am Liturgy



Please note, Reconciliation will be held every Wednesday at 10.30am before the 11am Mass. Reconciliation can be made by appointment through the Parish Office.

Our Parish Vision

We are missionary disciples of Christ,
in a community of communities,
being transformed in our lives,
and transforming others and our world.

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 Donations:
02-0524-0203642-00