



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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

Where heaven and earth come together

The Presentation of the Lord Sunday 9th February 2025, Year C
Readings: Isaiah6:1-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

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

Reflection

A Shifting Target.

I'm not sure about you, but I have a natural fear of failure. And like Simon Peter and the disciples, they would rather prefer doing ministry in neat and tidy parcels they can control. Rather than deal with the uncontrollable crowd who were messy and demanding, they instead went fishing as they knew how to, back to their comfort zone to complete their own life's project.

When I was studying Environmental Chemistry, I was told by my supervising professor that "perhaps the project will need to be a shifting target"!

That didn't sit comfortably with me. I thought, I've already spent a year and a half doing a literature research, picking out what I was to achieve. If I changed tact now, or 'pivot', I may not be able to achieve anything that I can show to others and say "I'm worthy of a doctorate!". I might not even make it to receiving the celebratory chocolate fish they give every candidate upon submission of their thesis.

Catching no fish in our own life projects and goals is like the disciples' experience out at sea. Even with careful planning our best plans can fail. We're often asked to be content with 'second best' – indeed a fridge magnet I got as a present one time from a professor said "Shoot for the moon, and if you miss, you'll land amongst the stars". But I wonder, has God's plan ever failed or become second best for our lives?

Blessings, Fr Alfred.

Mass/Liturgy Times

For the coming week

Sat: 5.00pm Vigil Mass

Sun: 10.00am Mass

Mon:

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

Wed: 10.30 Reconciliation
11.00am Mass followed by 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:

Anniversary: Daniel Clough

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 Sunday 23rd February

Sunday 23rd February 1.30-4pm: Time to meet, listen and talk! St Francis of Assisi parish has many active groups and we have been together on one site for 2 years now. We are a very multi-ethnic community and it has been some time since we had a general parish hui. As we look to a hope-filled, mission-shaped and courageous future, the parish pastoral council invites all to a Parish Synodal Gathering in our church building. Part of this will be to listen to each other through the conversation-in-the-spirit model used in recent synod processes. Afternoon tea will be provided.

Is there more to life than this?

Are you a young adult searching for the meaning of life?

We have an invitation for you! Alpha is coming to our parish- a place to connect with others as you explore the big questions in life. Join us and bring your mates along for a shared meal, an episode on a topic of faith, a chance to ask questions and share ideas. All are welcome to attend.

Join us for a PROMO NIGHT on **Tuesday 11th February**, 7:00pm in our church hall.



Children's Liturgy

Children's liturgy commences **Sunday 9th February at 10am** mass.

Our mission is to make Jesus real to the children. During our children's liturgy sessions we promote a safe learning and supervised environment. We have a committed group of leaders

The sessions are designed for primary aged children. Children under 5 are welcome accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

Taking place during the Sunday mass we celebrate the Liturgy of the Word, pray and do activities that highlight the gospel of the day.

Joshua Wellington extends an open invitation to everyone to a MASS followed by a light supper on **Thursday 20th February** at **7:30pm** in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street.

Celebrant: Fr Peter Ewart sm, Joshua chaplain, contact David Monastra 027 4477280 joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

Waitangi Day Service

Arranged by Challenge 2000 Youth Ministry and Whānau **6th February 1pm** followed by kai/shared food.

Contact Gabe 022 656 1070 or Naia 027 525 0052

Malvina Major Anointing Masses

The First Anointing Mass of 2025 at Malvina Major will be on **Wednesday 26th February** at **2pm** in the Chapel/Reflection room, followed by afternoon tea.

Fundraising for missionary work in Pakistan, Tanzania, and Sudan

We invite you to join us at the annual Mission Fair of the Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver on Saturday, **22nd February, 10am– 1p.m.** in Convent grounds, 1 Mersey Street, Island Bay to raise funds for missionary work in Pakistan, Tanzania, and Sudan. Saleable goods for the fair and donations are greatly appreciated (toys, cakes, jams, costume jewellery, etc. except electronic goods).

Contact Sister Reena John or Sister Elcy for queries (04) 383 8401 Email: peterclaver@xtra.co.nz

What is happening around our Diocese ?

Stay up to date with Archdiocesan events:..

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

Quote from Pope Francis, Angelus 6 Feb 2022

'With Jesus, we sail the sea of life without fear, without giving in to disappointment when one catches nothing, and without giving up and saying "there is nothing more that can be done".'

Always, in personal life as well as in the life of the Church and society, there is something beautiful and courageous that can be done, always. We can always start over — the Lord always invites us to get back on our feet because he opens up new possibilities'.

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**

