St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

Feast of All Saints – 1 November 2026, Year A
Readings: Apocalypse 7:2-4,9-14; 1John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

Parish Priest
Msgr Gerard Burns
g.burns@cadw.nz

Assistant Priest
Fr Alfred Tong
alfred@stfrancisohariu.nz

Parish Office Hours
04 478 7137
Mon to Thurs : 9am to 2pm

Mass/Liturgy Times

For the coming week
Sat: 5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun: 10.00am Sunday Mass

Weekdays Mass Time
Mon : 5.30 pm All Souls Day Mass
Tue : 5.00 pm Reconciliation
5.30 pm Mass
Wed: 10.30 am Reconciliation
11.00 am Mass followed by morning tea
7.00 pm Remembrance Mass
Reconciliation can also be requested by arrangement with office 04 478 7137

Important Dates

2 November 2026
All Souls Day Mass at 5.30 pm
4 November 2026
Remembrance Mass at 7.00 pm

Reflection



This weekend we mark the feasts of All Saints and All Souls. We rejoice in the example and assistance of the Saints (canonized and uncanonized) and we remember those who might still need our help on their way to God.

My appreciation of the saints as companions, friends on the journey, has grown immensely over the years. They show how to live the gospel in each age, with its social, economic and political situations, lighting ways to show and respond to God's love. I have been privileged to know 3 people now officially beatified. Ordinary people looking to do their best by God.

And we are now in the voting period for our national elections. We do this in the midst of high costs for food, fuel, energy, and accommodation, long-term degradation of waterways, need to restore basic infrastructure and ensure a fair society for all and for coming generations. No political party will offer a complete answer to all our concerns. Our vote has to be for the 'best-in-this-situation' and in the light of Catholic Social Teaching.

Many saints had to live in these kind of circumstances, negotiating difficult choices. I suggest Sts Thomas More, Edith Stein and Maximilian Kolbe can help us in terms of difficult choices and integrity. St Francis of Assisi, too, always bringing together love of God, the needy and the earth. Vote!

Fr Gerard Burns

Quote :

'Mary… now cares with maternal affection and pain for this wounded world…She treasures the entire life of Jesus in her heart (cf. Lk 2:19,51) and now understands the meaning of all things. Hence, we can ask her to enable us to look at this world with eyes of wisdom.'

Pope Francis , Laudato Si' #241

Action: *As we mourn the loss of loved ones around this time of All Saints and All Souls, we mourn also the degradation of our environment. How does this invitation to ask Mary to enable you to look at this world with eyes of wisdom impact your mourning of ecological destruction?*

PARISH AND ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS

ALL SOULS' DAY MASS

The All Souls' Day Mass will be held on **Monday, 2 November 2026 at 5:30 PM at SFOAO-Church.** All are welcome to attend and pray for the souls of the departed.



Our annual Remembrance Mass will be on **Wednesday, 4 November, 7pm**. This is an opportunity to remember all of our family members and parishioners who have passed away in the last 12 months. If you would like someone remembered, at this Mass, please email to our bereavement ministry team, **Katharina Dobson** : dobsonkatharina@gmail.com or ring her on 0273273609. A cup of tea served afterwards. Everyone welcome.

Late Night Mass: Come along to Late Night for Young People! We hope to see you all there to celebrate our Catholic faith together. **Friday, 6 November at 8.00pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral,** and don't forget to bring a plate to share. We'll see you there!

Join us for Greccio: The Song, a musical celebrating St. Francis, the Franciscan Jubilee, and 60 years of NZ–Philippines friendship, featuring our parishioner JL IBARRA as Bro. Leo. **Saturday, 5 December , Allan Gibbs Centre, Wellington College 2:00 pm matinee and 7:30 pm evening show.** Family concessions and group bookings available. Book now:

https://events.humanitix.com/greccio-the-song?c=adw-stfrancisofassisi

Support our parish! Scan the parish QR code or book through the link above. Our parish receives 25% of net ticket sales from bookings made through this link or QR code.

Enquiries: vineyardhouse.nz@gmail.com

From Parish Liturgy Committee :

From time to time the Liturgy Committee will explain an aspect of our weekend worship which may be of concern or interest to you. If you have a question or clarification for the committee to consider, please send it through the parish office.

"Ordinary Time": This word is linked to the Latin "ordo", which means "numbered".

It is not "plain", in the usual interpretation of the word, but rather an opportunity to focus on the teachings and life of Christ, outside of the major feasts.

INVITATION TO PRAY THE ROSARY

Every Friday at 2.00 pm—3.00 pm, at Wanaka Street (Brigidine Chapel).



Everyone are welcome. Although the Brigidine Chapel on Wanaka Street is closed until further notice, the Rosary Prayer Group will continue to meet every Friday as usual.

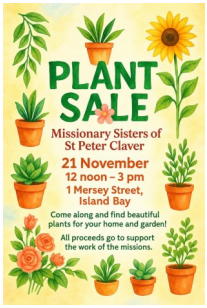
Nativity Photoshoot : 29 November 2026

At the Christmas Eve Family Mass, there will be a special nativity slide presentation featuring photos of children from our parish. Photos for the presentation will be taken in the church **after the 10am Mass on Sunday, 29th November.** All children are invited to stay after Mass to participate. Costumes will be provided, and children may choose their own. Each participant will receive a small gift. Parents are welcome to stay.



PARISH AND ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS

Homage to Te Raukura: Join us for Homage to Te Raukura: The Power of Peaceful Resistance, an evening of music and performance commemorating the 1881 invasion of Parihaka. Featuring Henare Walmsley, the Choir of St Mary of the Angels, St Bernard's College, Dan Poynton, Pepe Becker, Baroque Voices, and more, hosted by author Richard Shaw (The Forgotten Coast). **Thursday, 5 November 2026, 6:30–8:30 pm at St Mary of the Angels, Boulcott Street. Free admission.**



"PLANT SALE" Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver on Saturday 21 st November 2026 from 12 noon – 3pm at Convent grounds : 1 Mersey Street, Island Bay.

Proceeds go to: - Financial Support for Franciscan Sisters of Charity Diocese of Mahenge Tanzania—purchasing of balanced food for Destitute Girls and Boys at St Raphael Centre Ifakara in Tanzania.

Please come along and find beautiful plant for your home and garden! More information , contact Sisters: 04 3838401

COME & SEE VOCATIONS MORNING for young men wanting to explore a vocation to the priesthood. **9.00am to 12.30pm on Saturday, 21 November Our Lady of Hope Church, Main Road, Tawa.** Are you thinking about priesthood? Join other like-minded young men for a morning of reflection, discussion and fellowship. Text 021 164 5800 or email: l.hensel@cadw.nz to let us know you're coming!



Catholic Social Service Annual Appeal 2026

Throughout November, we invite you to support our Annual Appeal and help bring a greater sense of belonging to people in our community. Your generosity helps people feel welcomed, connected, supported and cared for. Scan our QR code: or go to our website for more details on how to donate: cadw.nz/our-work/catholic-social-services/donate

Every gift makes a difference - thank you for your kindness and support.

Life Teen Summer Camp Aotearoa | 12–16 January 2027

Join us in Rotorua for an exciting Catholic youth camp filled with faith, prayer, sacraments, community, and fun! If you'll be at college next year, we'd love you to join our parish group. For more information, email Caroline at willandcaro2025@gmail.com. Visit https://lifeteen.nz/ or Instagram @lifeteenaotearoanz to see highlights from previous camps.



CALLED & EQUIPPED Formation Programme 2027 - Applications NOW OPEN! 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 what it means to be Catholic? Do you want to serve in your parish community, but feel you don't know enough? **DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!** JOIN US on this exciting journey that offers personal faith formation and equips you for ministry and service. For more information, contact: Lucienne Hensel at: l.hensel@cadw.nz / 04 496 1715 **or speak to your Parish Priest. Applications close on Tuesday,15 December 2026**

Remembering the Holy Souls



Recently Deceased :

Anniversary: Rae Evans

Prayers for the sick: Pope Leo XIV , Kartini Havell, Irene Stonyer , Vaeluaga Aspinall , Sam Godinet, Theresa Peteli, Isabel Zamorano F, Kolotita Gae'e, Fr Frank Whitaker ,Tovio Fa'I, Carmen Godinez, Lote So'oa, Fr Joe Savesi, Betty Stewart, Fr David Orange, David Clarke, Saili Tafaese ,Moe Pio Tafaese, Gerard McDonagh, Tau So'oa, John Fanning, Domingo Basilio Navera Jr, Joe Godinet, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo,



BAPTISM ENQUIRIES

Baptism usually takes place on the third weekend of each month, during:
Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 pm or Sunday Mass: 10:00 am.
Please contact Katrina and Billie by email: baptism@stfrancisohariu.nz

PREFERENCE CERTIFICATE :

If you require a Preference Certificate from our parish for your child's enrolment at a Catholic school, please email your enquiry to the Parish Office : office@stfrancisohariu.nz
Please note that to obtain a Preference Certificate, you must be living within our parish boundaries.

CHILDREN LITURGY :

There will be **NO Children's Liturgy on 1 , 8 and 15 November 2026. Children's Liturgy will be held on 22 & 29 November 2026 and 6 December 2026.** Thank you for your understanding.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME :



Please continue to pray for our children as they prepare to receive their First Holy Communion. **Scheduled: Session 1: 1 Nov, 11:15 am | Session 2 : 8 Nov, 11:15 am | Practice – 14 Nov, 2:00 pm| First Holy Communion Mass – 15 Nov, 2:00 pm.**

Volunteer Needed!! We are looking for a volunteer to help lead children's sessions for 2027! If you'd like to support our young people in their faith journey please reach out to the team at : sacramentalprogramme@stfrancisohariu.nz



Columban Calendars 2027 – On Sale Now!

Get your Columban Calendar for **$15.** If you're interested, please see the sacristan after Mass or contact parish office.

Payment can be made by cash or pay online to:

ARCHDIO OF WGTN ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH : 02-0524-0203642-00

with reference : calendar

<u>Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville</u>

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9am to 2pm

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**

Account name: ARCHDIO OF WGTN ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

Parish Bank Account for Planned Giving/Koha: 02-0524-0203642-00

