



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

The Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary – 16 August 2026, Year A
Readings: Apoc 11:19;12:1-6,10 ; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26; Luke 1:39-56

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
office@stfrancisohariu.nz

Mass/Liturgy Times

For the coming week

Sat: 5.00pm Vigil Mass

Sun: 10am Sunday Mass

Weekdays Mass Time

Tue : 5.00 pm Reconciliation
5.30 pm Mass

Wed: 10.30 am Reconciliation
11.00 am Mass followed
by morning tea

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

Holy Hour/Adoration every

Wednesday at 7.00 pm

Important Dates

16 August 2026

Pilgrimage to Peace Flame,
Botanical Gardens—2.30pm

18 August 2026

St. Brigid's School Liturgy on Mary
at 9.15 am

23 August 2026

Confirmation Session at 11.15 am

25 August 2026

Liturgy Committee Meeting at
7.00pm

Reflection

Mary our Mother and example:

Mary crossed hills where thieves roamed to see and help Elizabeth. It was a dangerous journey and yet for Mary it was a natural consequence of her YES to carry Jesus and what he stood for to others. Full of conviction, mission and grace she went in haste overflowing with love and joy. Her embrace allowed a child to jump with life in Elizabeth's womb. A mirac-



ulous life giving encounter. I often wonder when Mary proclaimed her Magnificat saying that the "Almighty works marvels for me" had she anticipated her yes would see Jesus work miracles and change lives AND would see him die a horrible death while she stood powerless under his cross. Mary's YES, her Magnificat permeated all of her son's life and her life. She is our example, our mother, our sister. Her Magnificat reminds us that the just loving world that she and Jesus lived for are possible. A world where the poor are raised, the hungry filled with good things and



riches distributed for those in need. Where the promise and reality of having life to the full becomes real – for ourselves and others. Dietrich Bonhoeffer – a German theologian said Mary's hymn was 'the most passionate, wildest, one might even say the most revolutionary hymn ever sung.' Let's deeply reflect on this gospel – even with a magnifying glass! asking Mary for her faith filled grace so that in Aotearoa New Zealand 2026 we say YES to singing and living her song. For Mary is the Patroness of our nation. It is her example we are challenged to follow.

Kitty McKinley

Wills and Bequests Campaign – A Legacy of Faith

A gift in your will is a powerful way to leave a lasting legacy of faith and support the future mission of the Church. By remembering the Church in your will or with a bequest, you help ensure that future generations can continue to encounter God through His Church. Your generosity strengthens our parish and continues the mission of the Church. Every gift, regardless of size, helps strengthen this mission, and supports your local parish and the Archdiocese. To find out more about leaving a gift in your will, please visit:

<https://cadw.nz/wills-and-bequests>

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased :

Anniversary: Paul O'Donnell , David Shroff , Shaun McElwee , Vittorio Canderle

Prayers for the sick: 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, Jessie Hensen,

Tau So'oa, John Fanning, Domingo Basilio Navera Jr, Joe Godinet, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Fr Maurice Carmody, Fr

Peter O'Connell



For the latest information visit the Parish Website - <https://www.stfrancisohariu.nz>

Solemnity of the Assumption

Please note that the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary has been transferred to **Sunday, 16 August 2026** by the New Zealand Bishops. **The Vigil Mass on Saturday, 15 August and Sunday Mass on 16 August will be celebrated as the Mass of Assumption.**

HOLY HOUR: Join us for Adoration, reflection, and prayer for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life. **Tuesday 25 August 7.30–8.30pm, at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Thorndon.** Every 4th Tuesday of the month.

Marriage Seminar: To be held on **Wednesday, 19 August, hospitality from 6.30pm, session will start 7.00pm at Connolly Hall, 10 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon, Wellington.** 'Happily Married in a Tech Obsessed World'. Explore how we can be present and nurture a healthy marriage in a world where so much demands our attention. For more details email to: marriage@cadw.nz

XLT Night – 'Ave' : Our next XLT night is **Friday, 28 August, from 7–9pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Main Road, Tawa.** This month's theme is 'Ave', as we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We're excited to welcome **Archbishop Paul**, who will speak about how, like Mary, we too are young people called by God.

Ordination to the Priesthood - Reverend Deacon Emilio Capin: The Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington warmly invites you to Deacon Emilio's Ordination to the Priesthood on **Saturday, 5 September 2026 at 11am at the Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, 40 Hill Street, Thorndon.** Join us in prayer and celebration as Emilio begins his new ministry as a priest. All are welcome.

Upcoming ONLINE Safeguarding Workshops: Join one of our online safeguarding workshops to learn how we, as a Church, are working together to keep everyone safe. Upcoming Workshops: **Monday, 17 August (12 noon to 1.15pm), Monday 24 August (7.00pm to 8.15 pm) & Tuesday 25 August (6.30 pm to 8.00pm).** To register, email Kevin Plant at k.plant@cadw.nz

St Joseph's Catholic School, New Plymouth 1926 – 2026 : warmly invites past students, staff, and families to celebrate its Centenary **Jubilee from Friday 23 October to Sunday 25 October 2026.** Please register here: <https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSeUuzs83RR.../viewform...>



IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?

Are you a young adult searching for the meaning of life? We have an invitation for you! . 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 22 Sept, 7:00pm** in our church hall.

Pilgrimage to Peace Flame, Botanical Gardens, Sunday Aug 16th. On 6 & 9 Aug, 1945 atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. A peace flame lit from the ruins of those cities stands in Wellington's Botanical Gardens, near the Begonia House/Rose Garden. Fr Gerard Burns will lead a short prayer for peace there **at 2.30pm on Sunday, 16 August.** Come to this event (wet or fine) for the jubilee year of St Francis of Assisi.

St Brigid's Quiz Night – Fundraiser



Join us for a fun Quiz Night on **Sunday, 30 August, 7:00–9:00 pm at 1841 Café, Bar & Restaurant, Johnsonville.** Tickets are \$20 per person. Please bring some coins for raffles and games. Scan the QR code to book your place!

Living Wage Election Forum

Join the Living Wage Movement election forum on **Wednesday 2 September, 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start at Naenae College, Lower Hutt, to hear politicians' commitments to ensuring workers receive a Living Wage.** All are welcome. For more information, contact Deirdre Meskill: d.meskill@cadw.nz

Multicultural Mass : Sunday, 27 September 2026

One Faith, Many Cultures: On Mission Together. Join us for a vibrant Multicultural Mass, presided by **Archbishop Paul Martin SM on Sunday, 27 September 2026 at 2.00pm, Sacred Heart Cathedral, 40 Hill Street, Thorndon.** Mass will be followed by a joyful fellowship of songs and shared meals. All are welcome, come and celebrate.

Hope for the World Conference – Life, Faith & Family

Join us in **Auckland 25–27 September** for inspiring local and international speakers on life, faith and family. **Register by Thursday 20 August** to enter the draw to win a beautiful Holy Family statue. Find out more and register: <https://fli.org.nz/prolifeconference2026/>
Enquiries: **Simon Archer – 021 400 729 | simon@fli.org.nz**

Expressions of Interest – Lead Evaluator (Primary Schools)

The Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington seeks Expressions of Interest for a Lead Evaluator – Catholic Character Evaluations of Primary Schools contract role. For an application pack, email Kelly Ross at k.ross@cadw.nz
Applications close: **Monday, 24 August 2026.**

Quote :

'Mary's song, Magnificat, strengthens the hope of the humble, the hungry, the faithful servants of God. These are the men and women of the Beatitudes who, even in tribulation, already see the invisible: the mighty cast down from their thrones, the rich sent away empty, the promises of God fulfilled. Such experiences should be found in every Christian community.'

– Pope Leo XIV, Homily, 15 August 2025.

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

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

