



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

Twenty Fifth Sunday in the Ordinary Time– 20 September 2026, Year A
Readings: Isaiah 55:6-9; Phillippians 1:20-24.27; Matthew 20:1-16

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: 10.00am Sunday Mass

Weekdays Mass Time

Tue : 9.15 St Brigid's School Mass
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

22 September 2026

Alpha Promo Night at 7.00pm

23 September 2026

Malvina Major Anointing Mass at
2.00pm

26 - 27 September 2026

Suzanne Aubert Feast & Migrant
and Refugee Sunday

4 October 2026

Suzanne Aubert National Centen-
nial Mass at St Mary of the Angels

Reflection

Love that Knows No Limits

Sometimes we are on the lookout, making sure that we get our fair share of what is on offer; often we are driven by a fear that someone else might be getting more than their fair share – or rather what we decide is their fair according to our own standards.

Isaiah reminds us (55:6-9) that God's measuring gauge of justice and fairness is beyond anything we humans can imagine. God loves every one of us and is more than ready to welcome us back when we mend our ways and turn again to the loving face of God no matter the size of our straying from the goodness of God. The Psalmist reassures us that God is very near and hears us when we tentatively whisper our sorrow to God for what we have done and express our sincere desire to mend our ways. That God is hugely compassionate and boundlessly loving calls forth our trust in God.

For Paul (Philippians 1:20-24. 27) the meaning of life is being with Christ – whether living or dead. Paul urges us to live daily in ways that are worthy of Christ.

Matthew (20:10-16) records a parable of Jesus that asks the complaining workers "Why are you jealous because I am generous?" Many of us will be able to relate to the workers who grumble to their employer about the unfairness of those who work for fewer hours and receive the same amount of pay as those who were employed for the whole day.

Let us reflect on this today "Why be envious because I am generous?" That's a challenging one!

Judy McCormack

Quote :

'What is fair? For the owner of the vineyard, that is, for God, it is just that each person has what is needed to live. He called the labourers personally, he knows their dignity . . . the labourers from the first hour are disappointed: they cannot see the beauty of the gesture of the landowner, who was not unjust, but simply generous; who looked not only at merit, but also at need. God wants to give his Kingdom, that is, full, eternal and happy life, to everyone. And this is what Jesus does with us: he does not establish rankings, he gives all of himself to those who open their hearts to him.'

Pope Leo XIV General Audience 4 June 2025

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased : Brian Bourke , Frank Szpetnar , Margaret O'Connor.

Anniversary: Ray Vaughan , John Collier, Daniel Clough, Zosimo Marinay, Jr

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, 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>



OCIA: The parish community welcomed those in the journey of becoming Catholic (catechumens), and acknowledged those wanting to be join us from other Christian traditions (candidates) in a special rite in last Sunday's mass. Let's continue to support and pray for them. If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming Catholic, please get in touch with Fr Alfred or Ning at : ocia@stfrancisohariu.nz by **Sunday, 20 Sept 2026.**

eXaLT (XLT): Join us for eXaLT – “FAITH IN ACTION” on Friday, 25 September, 7–9pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa. An evening of Adoration, Reconciliation, Music, Prayer & Fellowship for teens and young adults. Come, bring a friend, and be renewed in faith!

School Holiday Programme : The parish is offering a **free holiday programme for children aged 5–13 during the Sept/Oct school holidays, on 29 Sept, 1, 6 and 8 Oct from 10am–4pm.** Donations towards the programme are welcome. Registration: Hellen : outreach@stfrancisohariu.nz or Kitty: kittymckinley@xtra.co.nz The programme is run by trained teachers, parish workers and parishioners. Senior college and university students are also welcome to join and be trained as volunteers.

Migrant and Refugee Sunday : Join us for a **Multicultural Mass at 10:00 am on Sunday, 27 September**, celebrating the diverse cultures and traditions of our parish, followed by a shared meal. Please bring a dish representing your culture. Families needing assistance to participate may confidentially contact Hellen at outreach@stfrancisohariu.nz or 022 300 7413 for a \$50 voucher. **A Multicultural Mass will also be celebrated at the Cathedral at 2:00 pm.** All are warmly welcome!

Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver Shared Spring Dinner – This fundraiser supports the missions and will be held on **Saturday, 10 October 2026 at 6.30pm at St. Anne's Hall, 22 Emmett Street, NEWTOWN.** Bring your favourite dish to share. **Admission : \$15; 6 to 12yrs: \$10; under 5yrs: Free.** For tickets, further information: peterclaver-wgtn@gmail.com

Homestay Needed – 2027 Mandarin Language Assistant
A welcoming New Zealand family is sought to host our 2027 Mandarin Language Assistant from February to December 2027. Rent is \$350 per week, with a home ideally near the Johnsonville train line. Interested? Please contact: **Tania Savage** at principal@st-benedicts.school.nz

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Huzur Music Band: Join us for an evening of Turkish music on **27 September 2026 at 6.00pm, Newlands Community Center.** All are welcome, FREE admission.

Suzanne Aubert National Centennial Mass

Join the Compassion Whānau for the National Centennial Mass celebrating 100 years since the passing of Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert, on **Sunday, 4 Oct at 2:00pm, at St Mary of the Angels Church.** All are warmly invited.

SFOA parish will mark this anniversary on 26/27 Sept as Oct 4 is our parish feast day and 800 years since the death of St Francis.



Sacrament of Confirmation 2026

Congratulations to the **55 children** who received the **Sacrament of Confirmation from Archbishop Paul Martin on Sunday, 13 September.** A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make this special celebration possible. Your time, support, and dedication are deeply appreciated.



Holy Hour for Vocations : Join us for an hour of adoration, reflection and prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life, **from 7.30–8.30pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral, on Tuesday, 22 Sept and every 4th Tuesday of the month.**

Malvina Major : Anointing Mass at Malvina Major, **Wednesday, 23 September 2026 at 2.00 pm**



Celebrating Sr Cyprian's 80th Oak Jubilee

On Tuesday, 8 September, we joyfully celebrated Sr Cyprian's 80th Oak Jubilee. It was a special occasion of thanksgiving for her many years of faithful service and dedication.

Parish visit to Ngā Hau e Whā marae Papararangi, 9/10 Oct. A time to learn about things Māori and build friendships. Contact: Fr Gerard. More details to follow.

Spring of Life Fellowship (SLF) Garage Sale — Join us **at St Anne's Parish Hall, Newtown, on Saturday, 26 September, 8am–12pm**, for great bargains on homewares, clothes, books and baked treats, with haircuts from 10am. **Donations: St Anne's parish hall, Newtown Friday, 25 September, 4–7pm (no old TVs/monitors).** Cash only. Proceeds support the Catholic Parish of Wellington South and SLF Outreach. Thank you for your support!

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**

