



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

Where heaven and earth come together

Fifth Sunday of Easter – 3 May 2026, Year A
Readings: Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12

Parish Priest

Msgr Gerard Burns
g.burns@cadw.nz

Assistant Priest

Fr Alfred Tong
alfred@stfrancisoahariu.nz

Parish Office Hours

04 478 7137
Mon to Thurs : 9am to 2pm
office@stfrancisoahariu.nz

Reflection

The response to the psalm today is "Lord let your mercy be upon us as we put our trust in you."

This response is reflected in the lives of the early disciples as outlined in the reading from Acts. After prayer, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the apostles called others into service of the poor so they could concentrate on prayer and preaching the Good News of Jesus. There was a deep trust and faith that God, through them, would choose the needed extra disciples to advance the Kingdom of God.

The second reading from Peter has the same theme of deep trust in Jesus. Jesus is the Cornerstone, a stumbling block to unbelievers, but a precious Cornerstone to those who believe. The scripture reads " the person who rests his trust on the Cornerstone will not be disappointed." In fact through this belief and trust in Jesus they are called "chosen, a royal priesthood, a people set apart." As disciples of Jesus we too are set apart and become members of the royal priesthood of all believers.

The Gospel starts with Jesus saying: "Do not let your hearts be troubled, trust in God and trust in me." The strong call of Jesus is to believe and trust in Him. If we do this we are following the Way, the Truth and the Life which ultimately leads us into the heart of God the Father. It is from this place that we are empowered by grace to undertake the same works as Jesus did - a truly remarkable outcome.

Lord Jesus, with all our heart we put our total belief and trust in you. Amen.

Ewen Laurenson



Mass/Liturgy Times

For the coming week

Sat: 5.00pm Vigil Mass

Sun: 10am Sunday Mass

Weekdays Mass Time

Tue : 5.00pm Reconciliation
5.30pm Mass

Wed: 10.30 am Reconciliation
11.00 Mass followed by morning tea

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

Holy Hour /Adoration of the

Blessed Sacrament : Every
Wednesdays 7.00 pm

Important Dates

2 May 2026

Parish Youth Group Consultation Workshop at 2.00 pm

13 May 2026

Parish Property Consultation Workshop after 11 am Mass

17 - 22 May 2026

Retreat in Daily Life

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased :

Anniversary: Derek Bunting , Liam Meachem

Prayers for the sick: Vaeluaga Aspinall , Mrs. Theresa Peteli, Patricia Keane, 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, Delia Flores Fabreag



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

Parish Property Consultation Workshops

The Parish Property Committee invites parishioners to take part in consultation workshops to help shape the location and design of our future church. **A Youth-Workshop** will be held on **Saturday, 2 May 2026 from 2:00–3:00 PM** for those involved in parish youth groups. **Parish Ministry Workshop** will take place on **Wednesday, 13 May 2026 after the 11 am Mass**; please note this date has changed and we apologise for any inconvenience. Please RSVP to pv@stfrancisohariu.nz with your name and the names of anyone attending. Everyone is welcome, and your views are important to us.

Listening to the Spirit - Retreat in Daily Life, May 17-22, 2026: For the year of St Francis the parish is offering various opportunities for faith development. A retreat in daily life involves taking some time each day to pray with a biblical text or some aspect of your life and then gathering each day with fellow retreatants to share something of your prayer. The groups will be guided by experienced spiritual directors. If desired, a time for an individual direction session can also be sought. **Directors: Sr Judith Moroney RSM, Fr Chris Skinner SM Fr Gerard Burns.** Please indicate your interest as soon as possible so we can arrange times and meeting spaces. For more information contact the parish office: office@stfrancisohariu.nz

Parish Office Notice

The Parish Office will be **CLOSED** on **Tuesday, 5 May** as both Susan and Bel will be attending the Parish Administrators and Parish Secretaries Formation Day at the Archdiocese. Thank you for your understanding.

Planned Giving Envelopes & Tax Receipts

New planned giving envelopes are available for collection in the church foyer on 25–26 April. Donation tax receipts will be available in May 2026. Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity. If you have any questions, please contact Bel at the parish office: bel@stfrancisohariu.nz

Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation : Love is a Decision & Commit. Online registration is available via the Archdiocese of Wellington [website](#). The next course runs on **Sundays 7 & 14 June, 10am–4pm at St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie** (attendance at both sessions required). For overseas marriage information and required documents, see the website or email marriage@cadw.nz

Sacramental Programme 2026 – Enrol Now!

Enrolments are now open. See full details and download the application form from our website [here](#) or email: sacramentalprogramme@stfrancisohariu.nz
Enrolments close 1 July 2026.

ANZAC DAY SERVICE at St Francis of Assisi Ohariu

A large gathering of parishioners, children, community members, and our Turkish brothers and sisters came together to honour the past and reflect on unity and peace. Tihei Maihi gave the mihi, Ilknur opened in prayer, and Fr. Chris Skinner sang Sons of Gallipoli. Yaşar shared reflections, and children Eve Robinson, Emme Poutasi, Cadence Harrison, and Thea Jones led prayers with Fiona



de Souza and Sister Cyprian. Kitty and Helen Robinson contributed readings, Phil Henty and Sergeant Ngahua Harrison read the Odes, and Eddie Condra closed with a blessing. Thanks to all who assisted, especially Elizabeth Kennedy, Fr. Alfred, Jacob Bang, and Naia Agafili. We will remember them, Ka maumahara tonu tātou ki a rātou.



An African Experience of Parish Life in New Zealand - Calling all our African parishioners. There will be a fellowship and formation day on **Saturday, 23 May 2026 from 2.00 – 3.30pm at the Connolly Hall of the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street, Wellington.** Fr Patrick Bridgman, ADW Liturgy Advisor, will give a formation session on Proclamation of the Word, followed by reflection and fellowship. Bring the family and bring some food to share. Email: dr.bangure@gmail.com or 021 134 8476.

Quote :

'From the beginning of the world, but particularly through the incarnation, the mystery of Christ is at work in a hidden manner in the natural world as a whole, without thereby impinging on its autonomy.'

Laudato Si' #99

Action: *In conjunction with the mystery of Christ being hidden within the natural world, we are asked to believe in God's presence here on earth and beyond and to have no fear of the unknown as Christ is with us always.*

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**

