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

Where heaven and earth come together

Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 8 November 2026, Year A
Readings: Wisdom 6:12-16; 1Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

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
Tue : 5.00 pm Reconciliation
5.30 pm Mass
Wed: 10.30 am Reconciliation
11.00 am Mass followed by morning tea

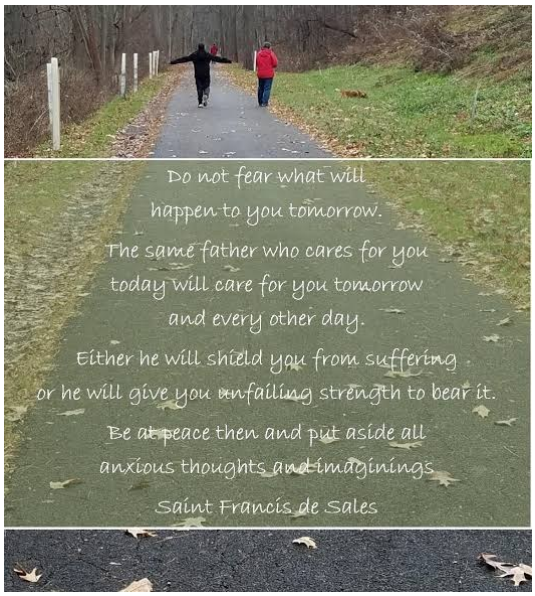
Reconciliation can also be requested by arrangement with office 04 478 7137
Holy Hour/Adoration every Wednesday at 7.00 pm

Important Dates

15 November 2026
First Holy Communion Mass at 2.00 pm

Reflection

Faith shows up most honestly not in certainty, but in how gently we treat the people sharing the room with us. In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the heavy cost of discipleship and carrying our cross. In an exhausted, divided world, perhaps the quietest cross asked of us is laying down our pride—the urge to win every argument, the rush to judge, the reluctance to simply listen. Loving our neighbor begins in those small, unheralded choices to give someone who sees life differently the grace of the doubt. It costs so little, yet it makes space for grace to breathe.



Spiritual awareness is a call to make God's grace an intentional part of our daily life. We feel that quiet tenderness as we remember our loved ones from All Souls' Day. The ache of missing them is real, but so is the comforting promise that this distance is only temporary. We are bound by an enduring love, waiting patiently for the morning when we will be reunited in God's presence. Until then, we simply keep our hearts soft, our hands open, and our spirits ready. As Saint Francis de Sales reminds us: 'Do not fear what may happen tomorrow; the same loving Father who cares for you today will care for you tomorrow and every day.'

Natasha Telles

Quote :
"Our age needs men and women who have the courage to do good even when it comes at a cost. Draw close to those who are alone, support those who are weary, and seek out those who have drifted away. Have the courage to forgive, to begin again, and to engage in dialogue. Doing good does not always receive recognition and often requires effort, but this is the daily courage of charity. Friendship with Jesus Christ gives us the strength to live this way."

Pope Leo XIV on X, 6 Oct 2026

PARISH AND ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS

Catholic Social Service Annual Appeal 2026 : help us help people feel belonging!

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

"PLANT SALE" Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver on Saturday 21 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, please contact **Sisters: 04 3838401**



MAKE ROOM

Preparing our Hearts for Christ. Join the ICPE Mission community for a peaceful day of worship, reflection and sharing in preparation for the Advent Season. **Saturday, 28 November, 9.30am to 4.00pm at St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria.** TO REGISTER: Please Email: new-zealand@icpe.org by **Friday, 20 November.** BYO Lunch, morning and afternoon teas provided. A koha would be appreciated.

Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship invites both men and women to our end of year Mass in **Connolly Hall, Guildford Terrace, Thorndon** *(not Sacred Heart Cathedral)* **followed by supper at 7:30pm on Thursday 19th November. Celebrant: Fr Peter Ewart sm, Joshua chaplain.** Want to know more? Ring **Steve Ready: 027-356-9555**

email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

Volunteers Wanted

Join Our Outreach Ministry Volunteer Team

Would you like to make a difference in our parish community? We're looking for caring volunteers to support holiday programmes, foodbank assistance, community gardens, and refugee and migrant families through English language support and conversation practice.

Training and ongoing support will be provided. No special skills are needed, just a willingness to help and a heart for service.

As part of our safeguarding commitment, all volunteers must complete Police vetting after training. If you're interested, we'd love to hear from you! Please email;

Kitty McKinley: kittymckinley@xtra.co.nz

Hellen Tusiime: outreach@stfrancisohariu.nz

Training Date: 17th & 19th November 2026

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Venue: Challenge 2000 Johnsonville

From Parish Outreach Team.

The SFOA Community Outreach Group have been called upon to set up a house for a refugee family due to arrive in Wellington in early December. We desperately need: good quality woollen blankets, single or double duvet inners, good quality used bedlinen; towels; teatowels; general kitchen supplies including crockery and cutlery; glasses. If you can help, please phone: **Hellen Tusiime** our Outreach coordinator **on 0223007413** or email her at : outreach@stfrancisohariu.nz

Christmas Hampers — Sharing Aroha This Christmas

As we prepare for Christmas, we invite you to share aroha with those in need by supporting the St Vincent de Paul and Challenge 2000 Christmas Hamper Appeal. You can place donated items in the box in the church, or make a financial contribution to: **Challenge Trust 2000 — 01-0519-0057660-46**. For ideas on what to donate, please take a gift tag from the Christmas tree. Every item and every act of generosity helps bring hope to a whānau this Christmas.

PARISH AND ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS

Being One with Earth - A Reflection Day: On Saturday, 14 November from 10.00am - 3.30pm at St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria | Led by Dr Mary-Ann Casanova rsj. A day moving through Earth, Atmosphere and Ocean - weaving scripture, science and creative reflection into one unfolding story. Bring a notebook or journal and a finger food contribution for a shared lunch. Everyone is invited to join with the members of the Ecology Justice and Peace Commission for this reflection day.

RSVP appreciated to: d.meskill@cadw.nz by **Thursday, 12 November.**

EXALT: CHRIST THE KING 2026 – "CHARIS" NZ National Event: All are warmly invited to EXALT: Christ the King 2026, a National Worship Event to be held in **Sacred Heart Cathedral Wellington** on Saturday, **21st November 2026, from 10.30am to 3.30pm**. Join people from across New Zealand for a day of worship, prayer, teaching, fellowship and the Celebration of the Eucharist, with Archbishop Paul Martin presiding, as we honour Christ our King and pray for our nation. Please save the date and join us for this special national gathering. For further information, please contact : 027 347 6327 or email: currentofgracewellington@gmail.com



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!

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.



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

Remembering the Holy Souls



Recently Deceased : Des Weakley , Aurora Claudio
Anniversary:

Prayers for the sick: Geraldine Donnelly, 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, Fr Maurice Carmody, Fr Peter O'Connell



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 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 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: Parish bank account with reference : **calendar**

Notice from the Parish Office

For newsletter notices, articles or advertisements, please email the Parish Office by **Wednesday, 12:30 pm.** Please keep submissions short and clear. Anything received after the deadline will go into the following weekend's edition. Thank you!

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

