



The Cathedral Connection



15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vol. 6 Issue 19

16 July 2017

EUTHANASIA?

The Parliamentary Select Committee that investigated into ending one's life in New Zealand has yet to make its report, but New Zealanders have made it abundantly clear that they are not in favour of legalising euthanasia. An unprecedented number of submissions rejected the idea by 4 to 1.



Nevertheless, an "End of Life Choice Bill" has been drawn from the Ballot and will be debated in Parliament later this month. It is important that the voice of the people be heard, and a law that will not be able to avoid unintended consequences be roundly defeated.

Opening the door to a death-on-demand policy, however tightly restricted the option might be, increases the possibility of manipulation, whereby the elderly or terminally ill could be made to feel obligated to seek a medically assisted death. Just as no one wants to see their loved one suffering, or awaiting death through a protracted illness, nobody wants to be a burden on others. A request for a medically assisted death from a patient may present as a rational and conscious decision while, in reality, because of pressure or a sense of duty is not a completely free choice. No legislation should enable such an unjust situation to arise.

Nor can our lawmakers expect the medical profession to abandon the commitment to heal and preserve life by making them collaborators in the termination of life.

Our Bishops ask us to become well-informed on this issue, and invite us to send postcards to our MPs urging them to vote "No" to this Bill. Please do so.

I was reminded recently of words of St Augustine: *what's right is right, even if no one is doing it; and what's wrong is wrong, even if everyone's doing it.*

Fr James

Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish is a partner in the Wellington Central Pastoral Area with St Mary of the Angels (CBD), and the Catholic Parish of Otari (Wilton and Karori)

Sacred Heart Parish

22 - 30 Hill St, Thorndon
PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140
Ph: 0-4-496 1700
e: cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz
w: www.mcshwellington.org

Parish Priest: Fr James Lyons
Lay Pastoral Leader: Fiona Rammell
Director of Music: Michael Fletcher
Secretary: Frank Doherty 8.30am - 4pm
Parish Office is in Catholic Centre, Hill St
Hall Bookings: Frank Ph: 496 1700
Parish Council Chair: Nicholas Burley

Sacred Heart Cathedral School
Guildford Tce, Thorndon
Principal: Bernadette Murfitt Ph: 472 4047
DRS: Jane Regan

Mass Times:
Saturday 5.30pm
Sunday 10.30am, 7pm
Monday to Friday: 8am, 12.10pm
Saturday 8.30am in Cathedral Chapel
If a Requiem is scheduled, the 12.10pm Mass may not be celebrated on that day.

Reconciliation: 11:50am to 12:05pm
Monday to Friday (Not Public Holidays)

Baptism: By Appointment
Deadline for newsletter material is Wednesday midday.
Frank ph: 0-4-496 1700
cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz

Activities:



Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 7.30am prior to 8am Mass Thursday and Friday

Rosary Mondays 11.30am in Cathedral Chapel

Music Group plays on 2nd and 4th Saturdays of month at 5.30pm Vigil Mass

Liturgy Committee meet 1st Tuesday of every month

Finance Committee meet 2nd Thursday every 2nd month

Parish Council meet 1st Thursday of every month

Bible Study Group Wellington Sacred Heart Bible Study Group
Contact: Elisapeci Waqanivalu
ph: 021 207 6978

Divine Mercy Devotions every Sunday at 6.30pm

Prayer Group Meeting 1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays, Connolly Hall 7.30pm

Holy Hour 4th Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm

Readings for the Week



Sunday 16th – 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:10-11; Rom 8:18-23; Matt 13:1-23

Monday 17th – Exodus 1:8-14,22; Matt 10:34 - 11:1

Tuesday 18th – Exodus 1:1-15; Matt 11:20-24

Wednesday 19th - Exodus 3:1-6, 9-12; Matt 11:25-27

Thursday 20th – Exodus 3:13-20; Matt 11:28-30

Friday 21st – Exodus 11:10-12, 14; Matt 12:1-8

Saturday 22nd – St Mary Magdalene

Song of Songs 3:1-4; 2 Cor 5:14-17; John 20:1-2, 11-18

Sunday 23rd – 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 12:13, 16-19; Rom 8:26-27; Matt 13:24-43



**LET'S TALK
ABOUT IT!**

CATHEDRAL PARISH AGM

On **Sunday 6th August at 11.45am**, we will be having our parish annual general meeting in Connolly Hall. Come and hear what has been going on and what lies ahead in the life of our parish.

STEP OUT AND

VOTE is the title of a statement from our NZ Bishops, urging us to vote in the forthcoming General Election. Issues affecting our nation are outlined, including Migration, Housing, Mental Health, Environment and Cultural Diversity, and the Bishops offer clear leadership in their approach.

"Faith shapes our world view", they remind us, urging us to "take the duty to vote very seriously...for the common good of our nation." A copy of the statement is included with this newsletter.



CATHOLIC AND ANGLICAN HOUSING FORUM

Cardinal John Dew and Bishop Justin Duckworth are hosting a housing forum at the Anglican Cathedral on **Wednesday, 9 August** at 6.30pm. Please come and hear:

- Christian perspectives on our current housing crisis
- Stories from people in the community
- Responses from political parties

Music and light refreshments available from 5.45 pm.

Nowadays it is sad to see that land, housing and work are ever more distant for the majority. It is strange but, if I talk about this, some say that the Pope is communist. They do not understand that love for the poor is at the centre of the Gospel. Land, housing and work, what you struggle for, are sacred rights. To make this claim is nothing unusual; it is the social teaching of the Church.

Pope Francis, 2014

HOLY HOUR

You are invited to a Holy Hour on **Tuesday 25 July** beginning at 7.30 pm in the Cathedral chapel to pray for vocations to priesthood and religious life. This Holy Hour will

include prayers, Scripture, times of silence, praise and worship and concluding with Benediction followed by supper. All are welcome.



Pray
for Vocations

CONGRATULATIONS – to Peter Churchman on his recent appointment to sit as a High Court judge in Wellington. Peter, Pam and their family are parishioners of our Cathedral Parish. They have served on various committees and assisted with parish liturgy over many years. The Parish wishes Peter every success in his new responsibilities.

Don't forget to check out the Cathedral App -



Download link:

<http://get.theapp.co/2d6c>

Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship Wellington: Come along and join us on Thursday **20 July** for fellowship and prayer in Connolly Hall, Guildford Terrace, Thorndon at 7.30pm. The guest speaker is David Monastra, previous Leader of Joshua Wellington on "*Jesus Healer, make me whole*". For further information contact John Taylor jntaylor@paradise.net.nz or 0-4-389 8915 / 021 107 8538.

The **Archdiocesan Young Church Ministries** team invites all Young Adults to *The Rising Tide: The human unit - marriage, family and community* at the Catholic Centre, 22-30 Hill Street, Wellington on Monday **24 July**. Doors open at 6.30 pm and event starts at 7.00pm. Discussion will explore how to live and love the changing reality of what a modern family is. For more information contact Josh Nerona 496 1701 or j.nerona@wn.catholic.org.nz

Keeping Faith in Politics 2017 Election series: Welcoming Strangers in a World of Global Migration. Join Julianne Hickey (Director of Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand) as she reflects on global migration, Kiwi immigration policies, and the biblical obligation to welcome the stranger. Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street, Wellington on Thursday, **27 July**. Refreshments at 6:30pm, Lecture starts at 7:00pm. *Organised by The Catholic Institute - TCI on behalf of the Centre for Theology and Public Issues.*

"What is it like to be a Prophet in Today's World"? Mons. Gerard Burns will address this on Thursday, **August 3**, 7.00-8.30pm, St. Anne's Church Hall, Emmett St. Newtown. Mons. Gerard is committed to living and preaching the Gospel message of Social Justice.

A Caring Space: an invitation for those who care for a loved one, to spend a few hours creatively exploring with God what scripture says about their role as carer. The view is through a Christian lens but the material would suit any seeker of God. Led by Gill Schaap and Veronica Parton, Thursday **3 August** at the Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay, or **Monday 14 August** at St Andrew's, 11 Steyn Avenue, Plimmerton. 11am – 2pm - hot drinks provided, please bring you own lunch. Cost: \$10. For more details and to register contact Veronica Parton vipdap@gmail.com or 021 238 6675.

Interested in a challenging eConference? Gospel leadership in times of chaos: the hope of Pope Francis. Streamed live free over the internet on Thursday **10 August**, 12 noon-4.30pm (NZ time) at the Catholic Centre, Hill St, Thorndon. For more information visit www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/short-courses/eConference-2017 Register attendance by emailing a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz

Samaritans of Wellington are looking for people to help collect for their Annual Appeal on Friday **11 August** and Saturday **12 August** in Thorndon and other locations around Wellington City. For more information please contact Jo on 04 472 3676 or email marketing@samaritans.org.nz



Please remember to bring either a non-perishable food item, toiletries (soap, toothpaste etc) or laundry items (nappies, washing powder, cleaning products etc) for the food bank. There are collection boxes beside the doors in the foyer. Thank you.