



The Cathedral Connection



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vol. 6 Issue 23

20 August 2017



At home we have a golden retriever called Kobe. He is nearly two years old and his favourite place to sit at dinner time is under the table. The rule in the house is to not feed him but somehow this seems to be a rule in name only as those around the table all seem to find something on their plates that they are willing to give him.

In today's Gospel Jesus says, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." In Jesus' time the word "dogs" was a common colloquial expression among Jews for Gentiles. In this story, Jesus is on one of his few visits outside Jewish territory. The woman who speaks to him is non-Jewish. Her reply to Jesus is, "Even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their master." Jesus responds by telling her she has great faith. Why?

Because even though she is an outsider, someone who on the face of it did not qualify to be in Jesus' company, let alone hear anything he had to say, through her great suffering she is determined to access the power of this person she has heard about. She will take whatever scraps she can get. Her first thought was not am I deserving of this. She was just persistently determined to be open to receive whatever this man Jesus could give her.

Just like Kobe sits under the table and is open to anything we give him, we too are invited to be open to receiving God's grace and mercy, totally unearned and complete gift. We don't receive it because we are good but because God is good. What's more, the underlying theme running through all the readings today reminds us that this is freely available to everyone, all peoples, all nations, the world.

With every blessing
Fiona Rammell, Lay Pastoral Leader

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: 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 20th – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 56:1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Matt 15:21-28

Monday 21st – St Pius X - Judges 2:11-19; Matt 19:16-22

Tuesday 22nd – The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Judges 6:11-24; Matt 19:23-30

Wednesday 23rd – St Rose of Lima - Judges 9:6-15; Matt 20:1-16

Thursday 24th – St Bartholomew, apostle

Apoc 21:9-14; John 1:45-51

Friday 25th – Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14-16, 22; Matt 22:34-40

Saturday 26th – Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Matt 23:1-12

Sunday 27th – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Matt 16:13-20





This week's reflection from the NZ Catholic Bishops' statement on the 2017 General Election.

Care for our common home, mother earth is a centre stage global challenge. Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* has become an authoritative reference point in this quest. New Zealand's export-based economy has started to show its environmental limits, with increased greenhouse gas emissions, diffuse freshwater pollution and threats to biodiversity. Are we, as a nation, really pulling our weight on climate change when we plan to meet our commitments in this regard by simply buying carbon credits from other countries?

MASSES OFFERED FOR:

- Fr Michael Sweere
12 August
- David Shroff, 12 August,
husband of Judith
- Sr M Josephine dolc
Auckland, 26 July



Requiescant in pace

MUMPS WARNING

A letter from Regional Public Health this week advises that – “*An individual who attended the 10.30am service at Sacred Heart Cathedral on Sunday 6th August has since been diagnosed with mumps.*”

The letter describes the virus, which is infectious, and the steps that can be taken for its prevention. The letter is published on the Foyer noticeboard and is available on the cathedral website.

MĀORI PASTORAL CARE COLLECTION August 27th

This collection is taken up to support the work of the Māori Pastoral Care team of the Archdiocese. The team supports Māori Catholics in their participation in the Church as Māori, advises parishes and schools on these matters, and helps to develop bicultural awareness and practices throughout the Archdiocese. Your koha to this work is welcome. Tēnā koutou katoa.

Mons. Gerard Burns, Vicar for Māori

RCIA - WOULD YOU LIKE TO...

-learn about Catholicism?
-know what Catholics believe?
-consider becoming Catholic?

A progressive series of discussions and reflections is available to support your interest. RCIA – the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults – offers a guided journey through beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church. Our Cathedral Parish opens its 2016-17 course on Wednesday **27 September**. It will run fortnightly over two “Terms”, with a break during Christmas-January, concluding at Easter. Invite someone you think might be interested in the Church and bring them along.

All are welcome, including Catholics who wish to revise their own understanding of their Faith. For more details please contact the parish office 0-4-496 1700 or

cathedral.pariah@wn.catholic.org.nz





Maria, Emma, Annabelle and Oliver, pupils at Sacred Heart Cathedral School, competed with students from five other Wellington schools with prepared speeches on Tuesday at Mt Cook school. They won three second placings in what judges described as "an exceptionally high standard" competition. Congratulations!

Retreat Day: Fr John Rea will conduct a Retreat Day in Sacred Heart Cathedral chapel, Saturday **26 August** on the theme of the Song of Songs. This is open to all and will include the Mass of the day. Beginning at 9.30am with morning tea and finish at 3.30 pm. Please bring something to share for lunch, a bible and pad.



Social Justice Week: As a part of Social Justice Week 2017 and in response to Pope Francis' call to weave bonds of belonging in our local communities, Challenge 2000 is running a week of fun and interactive activities for young people, children and young adults.

These will take place between **Sunday 10th and Saturday 16th of September**. All events will be based at 1 Wanaka Street,

Johnsonville. To sign up, check out the flyer in the foyer for more information, or call Nicole on 021 655 697 or Keeley on 477 0045. All are welcome.

The Boulcott Seminar with Sara Miles: The Boulcott Seminar with Sara will be held at Central Baptist on Saturday **23rd September** (it's election day so vote and then come along!), from 10:00 am -4:00pm. The day costs \$60 and includes morning tea and lunch. For more information and to register visit <https://www.central.org.nz/the-boulcott-seminar/> Sara Miles [www.saramiles.net] is the author of *Take This Bread: A Radical Conversion*; *Jesus Freak: Feeding Healing Raising the Dead*, and *City of God: Faith in the Streets*. She is the founder and director of The Food Pantry [www.thefoodpantry.org] and served as Director of Ministry at St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church [www.saintgregorys.org] in San Francisco for ten years.

Quiet Day with Suzanne Aubert: An invitation to spend time resting and reflecting on an aspect of the life and vision of Suzanne Aubert. **7 September**, 10.30am - 2.30pm, Our Lady's Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay, Wellington. Suggested offering \$30 includes lunch. Register at Ph 04 383 7769 or retreat@compassion.org

To all people of good will who are working for social justice: never tire of working for a more just world, marked by greater solidarity! *Pope Francis*



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.