



The Cathedral Connection



3rd Sunday of Lent

Vol. 7 Issue 4

4 March 2018

WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS

Last Sunday we said goodbye to Fiona Rammell, our Lay Pastoral Leader over the past year. Fortunately, all is not lost. The parish is blessed to gain a replacement LPL, Debbie Matheson, who formally began her service last Thursday, 1 March. She will be commissioned by Cardinal John at the 5.30pm Vigil Mass on Saturday 7 April.

Letting Fiona go was not easy for me, or for the many people she had served during her time with us. Her pastoral skills are very rich and reflect her commitment through several years of study and formation. Others will surely benefit from her ministry as new opportunities arise for her. So, we bid Fiona farewell, with grateful hearts.

Our gratitude must also extend to the Archdiocese and the vision of Cardinal Tom Williams who, following our 1998 Synod, devised the “Launch Out” programme to bring lay people into pastoral leadership positions.

The Lay Pastoral Leader is qualified to lead a parish in the absence of a priest, and to work alongside a priest as an equal in pastoral responsibilities. Debbie will assume that role as I prepare to step aside as parish priest. From now to July, she will “discover” the Cathedral Parish, get alongside the various committees and become familiar with the school programme. Families preparing for the sacraments will also be her territory and we will work together as the parish seeks to help implement the decisions of last year’s Archdiocesan Synod.

Lay Pastoral Leaders are integral to the life of our Archdiocese. While currently serving in only a few parishes, their ministry is encouraging parishioners generally to take more responsibility for parish growth. This is Stewardship in action. The more you accept a stake in your parish, the sense of ownership will expand and God will be able to do marvellous things through us.

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: Debbie Matheson

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: Mass or Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion: 8am (8.30 during January), 12.10pm, Saturday 8.30am in Cathedral Chapel

If a Requiem is scheduled, the 12.10pm Mass or Liturgy may not be celebrated on that day.

Reconciliation: 11:50am to 12:05pm

Monday to Friday (Not Public Holidays)

If a Liturgy of the Word is scheduled at 12.10pm, Reconciliation may not be available that day.

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. Next meeting 6 March.

Finance Committee meet 2nd Thursday every 2nd month. Next meeting 12 April.

Parish Council meet 1st Thursday of every month. Next meeting 5 April.

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 4th – 3rd Sunday of Lent

Ex 20:1-17 ; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

Monday 5th – 2 Kings 5:1-15; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday 6th – Dan 3:25,34-43; Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday 7th – Deut 4:1,5-9; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday 8th – Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-2

Friday 9th – Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday 10th – Hos 5:15-6:6; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday 11th – 4th Sunday of Lent

2 Chron 36:14-16; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21





FOOD BANK

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.



If you or someone you know is sick or housebound and would appreciate receiving holy communion,

then please contact the parish office on 496 1700.

WelCom

WELCOME TO CATECHUMENS

Since last year several adults have been meeting to learn about Catholicism and have discerned the call to join our Catholic community. They are formally welcomed at the 5.30pm Vigil and 10.30am Masses this weekend. The anointing they receive is with the Oil of Catechumens, the title given to candidates for Baptism which will be celebrated during the Easter Vigil on 31 March. Our Catechumens are: Catherine Lam, Erwin Ricketts, Nicholas Sutcliffe, Victor Tipple, Morgan Utting, Claudia Wakefield, Charles Williams. Please keep them in your prayer.

JOSHUA CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP WELLINGTON

Come and join us on Thursday 15th of March 2018 at 7:30pm for fellowship and prayer in Connolly Hall., Guildford Terrace, Thorndon. Speaker: Fr Kevin Connors, breaking open the Joshua theme for 2018: "Stay Connected to Christ". For information ring Steve Ready (04) 970-7715 or 027-356-9555 or email: scjready@gmail.com

WelCom March 2018 is out .

Contents include

- Pope Francis sends message to international Pacific Climate Change conference in Wellington
- Cardinal John – "Lent is a time..."
- New Bishop for Dunedin Diocese
- Joy Cowley, 'The Image of God'
- Salvation Army State of the Nation Report 2018 says more people in Poverty
- Holy Week reflection 'Living the Drama' – Fr James Lyons

GUARDIANS

So that the Cathedral can be kept open for visitors, we need volunteers for three-hour shifts: 10am-1.00pm; 1.00pm-4.00pm each weekday - and at weekends during the Cruise Ship season. Preferably two people for each shift. Team up with a friend, or come and meet a new one. A wonderful way to serve our community and a sacred environment. Contact the Parish Office for details, 496 1700 or speak with Fr James.

A Caring Space: We offer this breathing space for all who care for a loved one, a chance to step away for a few hours. It is an opportunity to gently explore, together with God, the way this role is changing your life, hopes, dreams and perspectives and above all the relationship with the one you care for. Led by Gill Schaap and Veronica Parton at the Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine St., Island Bay, Wellington on Monday 19th March Time: 11am - 2pm. Cost \$10. Please register with Veronica Parton 021 238 6675 or email vjpdap@gmail.com

24 Hours of Prayer for the Lord “With you is forgiveness,” (Psalm 130:4)
This year's 24 Hours of Prayer for the Lord will take place at the Church of Sts Peter and Paul, Lower Hutt from 6pm Friday 9th March until 6pm Saturday 10th March. Priests will be available during that time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. All are invited to participate in this initiative requested by Pope Francis. He refers to this as a “**moment of grace**”.

The **Prison Chaplaincy Ministry** is currently looking for volunteers who can join a team, or groups from churches who can form their own team, to conduct small interactive church services with the inmates. The types of roles we are looking for are:

- **Team leaders** – someone who can be a team leader, and take the discussion
- **Musicians** – who can lead singing
- **Prayer warriors** – happy to sit and pray throughout a service
- **Support team** – those who can join in and support whatever the leader needs.

There are flyers available in the Cathedral foyer or email Dr Sylvia Pack, on sylviapack@gmail.com

Give and Get Back With the end of the financial year fast approaching, a reminder that any donation you may give to the parish by 31 March is eligible for a tax rebate of up to a third, providing you are a tax payer. Please contact Frank Doherty, the parish secretary, for further information or to set yourself up on our planned giving programme (which will enable us to provide you with the necessary receipt to make the claim).

Today, Sunday 4 March, is the Church's **Day of Prayer for Children.**

Our Family Mass at 10.30 today celebrates the gift of children.

“Father in heaven we thank you for the gift of children.

We pray for all the children of the world. Especially we pray for children in distress – that you would comfort and protect them. We pray for all neglected, abused and impoverished children in New Zealand and around the world, that you would provide for their material, emotional and spiritual needs. We pray for children who feel excluded due to background and ethnicity, or who face extra physical, emotional or mental challenges – that they may be encouraged, welcomed and appreciated for who they are as one of your children.

We pray grace for all parents and guardians in supporting, loving and protecting their children. Amen.”

Above all, I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.

Pope Francis: Message for Lent 2018