



The Cathedral Connection



2nd Sunday of Easter

Vol. 7 Issue 8

8 April 2018

THE NAME OF GOD

Pope Francis tells us the name of God is Mercy. He has made mercy a constant theme over the five years since his election. In an interview published last year, Pope Francis: *Jesus says to his disciples: Even if your brother (or sister) offends you seven times a day and seven times a day returns to you and asks forgiveness, forgive. The repentant sinner who sins again and again because of his weakness, will find forgiveness if he acknowledges his need for mercy. The corrupt man is the one who sins and pretends to be Christian, and it is this double life that is scandalous.*

This second Sunday of Easter presents us with Jesus at his most merciful – blessing those who abandoned and denied him, with peace! But then comes the challenge: *As the Father sent me, I also send you!* We are to be missionaries of forgiveness. Today, Divine Mercy Sunday, proclaims this mission. You and I are each empowered to be a missionary of forgiveness.

First, reflect on how much you have been loved and forgiven; you will then find mercy an easy gift to offer. To help us on our way, some more words from Pope Francis: *Mercy is the divine attribute that embraces, it is God's self-giving that welcomes, that leans down to forgive.*

What a privileged task – to be a missionary of forgiveness. To embrace, to welcome, to lean down. What a difference each of us could make to a world that yearns for wholeness but too often settles for brokenness.

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, 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 10 April.

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

Parish Council meet 1st Thursday of every month. Next meeting 3 May.

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 8th – 2nd Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday

Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

Monday 9th – The Annunciation of the Lord

Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday 10th – Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7-15

Wednesday 11th – Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday 12th – Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36

Friday 13th – Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday 14th – Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday 15th – 3rd Sunday of Easter
Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5; Lk 24:35-48



Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship meets on Thursday 19th of April 2018 at 7:30pm for fellowship and prayer in Connolly Hall, Guildford Terrace, Thorndon. **Speaker:** Fr Peter Ewart, Joshua chaplain. Sequel to "Stay Connected to Christ" entitled "The Holy Spirit working in my life more than I realise" Contact Steve Ready (04) 970-7715/027-356-9555, email: scjready@gmail.com

Living in Colour: This 8 week programme offers gentle support and help to women hurting after an abortion experience. Even if the abortion happened years ago there are benefits from taking this journey with others who understand the burden. The next programme starts in early May and will run from 11 am to 1 pm. Txt or call Lurene to register your interest or for more information on 022 193 0546. (sponsored by Family Life International NZ).

XL T (eXaLT) Youth Worship: Fri 13th Apr, St Anne's Hall, St. Anne's Hall, Emmett St., Newtown, 7pm to 9pm. Relevant Worship, Adoration, fellowship for year 9-13 students and young adults.



The April 8 issue is out now and is for sale in the foyer. Some headlines are:

- Include Church in abuse inquiry say bishops.
- Young adults want Church to take them seriously.
- Imitate St Padre Pio's life says Pope.

Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women meets Saturday 21st April 1:15pm at Connolly Hall, Guilford Tce, Thorndon. Speaker: Sr Marie Gore on Holy Spirit with baptism in the Holy Spirit. All women welcome. Contact Shura 021 072 4042, email: shuraprice@hotmail.com

Science and Faith: Dr Jennifer Wiseman, a senior astrophysicist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre presents 'Eclipsed? The Significance of Human Life in an Incredible Universe', Tuesday 10 April, St John's Centre, cnr Willis and Dixon Sts, 6pm refreshments, 630pm lecture. Dr Wiseman specialises in the formation of stars and planets in our galaxy; her lecture is hosted by Otago University's Centre for Theology and Public Issues and New Zealand Christians in Science.

Help wanted: Our parish census data needs inputting into an excel spreadsheet so it can become a living document. If you have a few hours spare this month and are willing to assist with this process please contact Frank in the parish office. Ph 496 1700 or cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz



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

MASS OFFERED FOR
Jill Clarke (anniv. 10 April)
Kathleen Lyons (anniv. 5 April)



Parish Gift Discernment Workshop Saturday 5th May.

"What you are is a gift from God, but what you become is your gift to God." (St Augustine of Hippo).

Gift discernment is a helpful process for those who would like to be involved in their church but may not know what they have to offer, or comprehend their giftedness. *"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace."*
(1 Peter 4:10).

Do you know what your gifts are? Would you like to explore this concept of giftedness, and discern where your giftedness lies? Your parish leadership teams invite you to join them from 3-5.00pm on **5th May in Connolly Hall** for a Gift Discernment Workshop run by Lorraine McArthur from the Archdiocesan Offices. Please register your interest to Frank Doherty, phone 496-1700 or email cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz

Day of Prayer for Vocations: Sunday 22 April

The 4th Sunday of Easter is a Day of Prayer for Vocations. Please pray for our seminarians Jovanie and Alfred and those discerning the call to priesthood. Could someone you know become tomorrow's priest? Pray for this person. Invite him to consider priesthood. Affirm his gifts and qualities. Encourage him to be open to the possibility of priesthood. Pope Francis: *"Today the Lord continues to call others to follow him. We should not wait to be perfect in order to respond with our generous "yes", nor be fearful of our limitations and sins, but instead open our hearts to the voice of the Lord. To listen to that voice, to discern our personal mission in the Church and the world, and at last to live it in the today that God gives us."* Fr David Dowling, Vocations Director - email: frdavidd@gmail.com

Slavery today involves some 45 million people around the world, including New Zealand. Last year the first successful prosecution in this country was taken. On Thursday 26 April, Dr. Rebecca Miller and Peter Devoy from the Ministry of Immigration will speak at St. Anne's Hall, Emmett Street, Newtown 7.30pm.

He is not here... he is risen! This is the message that sustains our hope and turns it into concrete gestures of charity. How greatly we need to let our frailty be anointed by this experience! How greatly we need to let our faith be revived! How greatly we need our myopic horizons to be challenged and renewed by this message!... To celebrate Easter is to believe once more that God constantly breaks into our personal histories, challenging our "conventions", those fixed ways of thinking and acting that end up paralyzing us. To celebrate Easter is to allow Jesus to triumph over the craven fear that so often assails us and tries to bury every kind of hope.-

- Pope Francis, Easter Vigil, 2018.