

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Vol. 7 Issue 32

23 September 2018

A LOSS CAN BE FOR THE GOOD

When the All Blacks lost last Saturday night, reaction came quickly. Some criticised the players and coaches. Others took a more philosophical view. It was a great game; we lost to a great team. Perhaps the loss will be good in the long run. It's what happens after a loss that matters. That describes some of my feelings following a gathering of 185 diocesan priests in Christchurch last week. It was a great sharing in the joy of the sacrament of priesthood. We totalled 4842 years of priestly service! I was able to renew friendship with priests I have long admired, many now growing old gracefully. Then there were the young shoots, many from the Philippines and India, full of energy and a great blessing for our Church. The keynote speakers echoed our own experience that the Church is facing severe difficulties. These are not so much from outside forces but more directly from within. We have suffered a big loss. Now we must take stock and plan ahead. Perhaps this period of time will be good for us. Pope Francis is indeed a Pope for our times. He sees the difficulties and he is challenging us to live the gospel in a new way.

The danger of clericalism. Here priests are treated in a deferential way; they make arbitrary decisions and 'run the show'. They control what happens. 'Servant Leadership' goes out the window. Priests live in a world apart, not smelling like the sheep.'

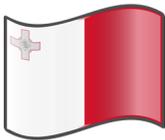
We must reach out to the peripheries, and not look in on ourselves. Francis sets an example as he meets the refugees at Lampadozza; he washes the feet of women and men of all religions (and none) in prison. Is this not also what Jesus teaches, to reach out to those neglected and ignored, even hated by others.

To remember Paul's image of the Body (1 Cor 12/ 18-22.) Through baptism, each of us becomes part of the Body of Christ. Each a different and limited part, but once we are joined to, and work with the whole body, we become Christ in action, and can change the world.

We carry on, like the disciples in today's gospel, having learnt a hard lesson, but determined to be better for it.
- Fr Ron Bennett

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).

The members of **Teal Voices Choir from Wellington Girls' College** have organised a fundraising concert in aid of our earthquake strengthening work of the Cathedral. There will be music performed by the choir, soloists and instrumentalists and it promises to be fun evening. The concert will be held Tuesday September 25th at 6:00pm in the Hall at Wellington Girls' College, Pipitea Street. Please support them as they support us.



MALTA NATIONAL DAY

Our 10.30am Mass today will honour the Maltese community as they celebrate their national day. We welcome Fr Michael Bellizzi as homilist. He will also proclaim the Gospel in Maltese

Please continue to support the food bank

with donations of non perishable food items, or toiletries (soap, toothpaste etc.) or laundry items (washing powder, cleaning products, nappies, etc.). Collection boxes are beside the doors in the foyer of St Mary's College Hall. Thank you.



Marriage Preparation — The archdiocesan Marriage Preparation Course 'Love is a Decision' will be run in Wellington on October 7 & 14 and November 18 & 25. Courses for 2019 start again in March. Please contact Felicity Giltrap at the Family and Young Church Office (04) 496 1719 or marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz for more information or to book for a course.

Passionist Family Groups - You can still join a Passionist Family Group. Our next meeting follows the 10.30am Mass this Sunday. We will go to the Botanic Gardens for Tulip Sunday and a shared picnic on Puriri lawn (near the duck pond). Everybody is welcome whether it's just you or you're a family of 10. We have a wet weather alternative. Please email Nicholas or Linda for details at burleys05@gmail.com.

College Hall Access

Unfortunately, access to the college hall is challenging on many levels. Please remember to take care once inside the foyer as that small step into the hall is catching many of us out. Please use the ramp access on the left-hand side of the college hall if you prefer.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC PRIESTS ASSEMBLY PASS ON THEIR THANKS

190 Catholic priests from throughout New Zealand met in Christchurch last week for their five-yearly national assembly. The assembly provided priests with an opportunity for them to renew their commitment to priesthood in an informal gathering. In a real spirit of collegiality, the week's programme gave the priests a chance to spend time together and to openly reflect on and discuss their own experiences in ministry and pastoral life. Thank you to you, our parishioners, for your prayers and support for what was an invigorating and inspirational week.

Vinnies Book Fair — Saturday 29 September 8am – 4pm, Sunday 30 September 9am – 3pm, St Anne's Church Hall, 22 Emmett Street, Newtown. All books are \$2; proceeds support the St Vincent de Paul Society Welfare services. If you are interested in lending a helping hand or would like additional information, please contact info@vinnieswgtm.org.nz or call 04 389 7122.

Vigil Mass for canonization of Archbishop Oscar Romero (1917-1980): Romero was noted for his defence of the poor and of human rights during times of great social conflict in El Salvador, and was assassinated while celebrating Mass on March 24, 1980. He will be canonized on 14 October in Rome. The Wellington JPD commission and Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand and local Justice and Peace groups have organized a thanksgiving Mass with Mons. Gerard Burns at the Home of Compassion chapel at 5.00 pm, Saturday 13 October. A recent documentary (75 mins) about Romero will be shown at 3pm in the same venue. All welcome. Inquiries to Mons. Gerard Burns, telephone 04-496-1737.

Bishop Viard College 50th Jubilee - 19-21 October (Labour weekend). A weekend of events starting with a Powhiri on the Friday and ending with mass celebrated by Cardinal John Dew on the Sunday will give many the opportunity to remember and give thanks for the gift of Catholic education in our community. The college extends a warm welcome to all past students, staff, board of trustees, parents and friends of Bishop Viard to join us for all or part of the weekend. Details of our programme are on the college website along with the registration form <https://www.viard.school.nz> or email viard50th@gmail.com

Rosary Aotearoa is encouraging parishes and groups to gather at different locations around the country at 3pm on Sunday 7 October to pray the Rosary. For more information and to register a group and location see www.rosarynewzealand.nz.

Holy Hour - You are invited to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 25 September beginning at 7.30 pm in Viard House, Cathedral presbytery, to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. This Holy Hour will include prayers, Scripture, times of silence, singing and conclude with Benediction. All are welcome.

Healing Service - Fr John Rea will conduct a Healing Service at St Bernadette's Church, 194 Naenae Rd, Naenae this Thursday 27 September beginning at 7.30 pm. Bring all those who need Jesus' healing. All are welcome.

Teaching Night - St Anne's Hall, Emmett Street, Newtown, Wednesday 26th September, 7:30pm. Speaker: Fr John Rea. Theme: The gift of healing. Evening includes Praise & Worship, group discussion and fellowship. Hosted by Catholic Charismatic Renewal; everyone is welcome.

'To see children looking us in the eye is an experience we have all had. It touches our hearts and requires us to examine our consciences.... Let us work together, then, so that we will always have the right, the courage and the joy to be able to look into the eyes of the children of our world.'

Pope Francis: *Address to participants in the Congress on child dignity in the digital world*, October 2017

Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish

22-30 Hill St, Thorndon
PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140
04 4961700
cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz
www.mcshwellington.org

Lay Pastoral Leader: Debbie Matheson
Priest in Sacramental Ministry:
Fr James Lyons

Director of Music: Michael Fletcher

Secretary: Frank Doherty

10:00am-3:00pm located in The Catholic
Centre, 22-30 Hill St.

Parish Council Chair: Jim McAloon

Sacred Heart Cathedral School

Guildford Tce, Thorndon

Principal: Bernadette Murfitt Ph: 4724047

DRS: Jane Regan

Mass Times

MONDAY-FRIDAY

Masses: 8:00am, 12:00pm
Viard House

SATURDAY

Mass: 8:30am
Viard House

Mass: 5:30pm

St Mary's College Hall

SUNDAY

Masses: 10:30am, 7:00pm
St Mary's College Hall

Reconciliation and Baptism by appointment

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Music Group — plays on 2nd and 4th Saturdays of month at 5:30pm Vigil Mass.

Liturgy Committee - meets 1st Tuesday of every month. Next meeting 2 October.

Finance Committee - Next meeting 4 October.

Parish Pastoral Council - Next meeting Wed 26 September.

Divine Mercy

Sunday 6:30pm-7:00pm

Meet in the foyer of the Mercy Centre (Guildford Terrace). Entry by the steps that lead up to the gate to the Mercy Centre – not the first set of steps but the ones closer to St Mary's College.

Rosary - **Monday 11:30am-12:00pm** in the "Weekday Mass Chapel" in Viard House.

Prayer Group - 1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays, 7.30 pm in the Catholic Centre lecture room 1st floor.

Newsletter items should be sent to cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz by Wednesday midday.

Readings for the Week



Sunday 23rd – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 2:12, 17-20; Jas 3:16-4:3; Mk 9:30-37

Monday 24th - Prov 3:27-34; Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday 25th – Prov 21:1-6, 10-13; Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday 26th – Prov 30:5-9; Lk 9:1-6

Thursday 27th – Ecc 1:2-11; Lk 9:7-9

Friday 28th – Ecc 3:1-11; Lk 9:18-22

Saturday 29th – Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, archangels

Dan 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rev 12:7-12; Jn 1:47-51

Sunday 30th – 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Num 11:25-29; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48