

2nd Sunday in Advent

Vol. 7 Issue 43

9 December 2018

Farewell From Our Parish School

On Tuesday the students and staff of Sacred Heart Cathedral School will gather to celebrate Eucharist and mark the end of their school year. They will also acknowledge and farewell Fr James who has spent many hours in the past 11 years walking alongside, ministering to, and supporting its students, families and teaching staff. Below are just a few sentiments written by some Year 8 students who are also beginning a new chapter in their life journey.

“Whenever I go to Mass on a Sunday I always feel that the message Father James is giving is directed at me and helping me become a better person. Thank you Father James for helping me to think deeply and reflect about myself.” - Annabelle Stirling

“Even though Father James is incredibly busy, visiting our school and people in the Parish he always has time to stop and listen to the students. Thank you Father James for the care and compassion you show towards us.” - Sam Wells

“Father James spends a lot of time at Sacred Heart Cathedral School. He visits classes each week. He shares readings and prayers with us and helps us to understand the meaning so we can all become better people. Thank you Father James for always sharing your stories and jokes with us.” - Elizabeth Whitaker.

“Father James shares personal stories to get his message across. Thank you Father James for encouraging us all to have faith during difficult times.” - Luc Boeschenstein

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

Cathedral Choirs and Orchestra Christmas Concert —

contemporary and classic carols including a newly commissioned work by past choral scholar and local composer Luka Venter - Wellington Cathedral of St Paul, Saturday December 15, 7:00pm. Tickets at Eventbrite.co.nz.

Advent Reconciliation — Rite I Reconciliation will be available in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel Wednesdays 12 & 19 December 7.00-8.00pm. Rite II will be celebrated at St. Teresa's, Karori 4.00pm on Sunday 16 December.



Christmas presents for children -

This year our parish Christmas tree is in the foyer. We invite you to put a small unwrapped gift under the tree for children supported by DCM (Downtown Community Ministry), before 18 December. Please drop your gift into the parish office, church or hall foyers. Thank you!

Christmas Crib Sets— Do you have a miniature Christmas Crib? Would you lend it to the parish for a display during the Advent/Christmas season? We hope to have several scenes creating a “visual feast” in celebration of this special time. Please contact the Parish Office.

CARDINAL'S CARE APPEAL —

Please give generous support to the Cardinal's Care Appeal. With many more refugees coming to New Zealand, we will be asked to welcome and resettle those who have nothing into our communities. But the work of Catholic Social Services goes further, looking to provide food, housing, counselling security and support to men, women and children who need our support. Together as an Archdiocese we can make a big difference in the lives of many people.

Christmas Mass Schedule -

The Cathedral Choir will sing at midnight Mass in St Teresa's pro-cathedral with the St. Teresa's choir, and at our parish Eucharistic celebration at 10.00 on Christmas morning in the college hall. There will be another parish Mass with music at 8.00 on Christmas morning in the hall. A Pastoral Area booklet with all Mass and Reconciliation options for this period is now available in the foyer, on the website and on the parish app.

Anointing of the Sick — will be offered after the 12.10pm Mass on each Monday, 10 and 17 December. This Sacrament is for all whose health is weak, those anticipating surgery, those in retirement and caregivers. Please call the Parish Office for transport assistance.

'The Kingdom of God is founded on his love and is rooted in hearts, conferring peace, freedom and fullness of life upon those who embrace it. We all want peace; we all want freedom and we want fulfilment. And how do you do this? Allow the love of God, the Kingdom of God, the love of Jesus, to take root in your heart and you will have peace, you will have freedom and you will have fulfilment.' - Pope Francis, Angelus address, 25 November 2018

Parish Office Closure—The parish office will be closed all day on Friday 14 December.

Children's Sacramental Programme 2019 begins at the end of February for all children in year 4 or 8 years plus. Please register your expression of interest with the Parish Office.

Advent Action — Challenge 2000 is a charitable trust that has served those on the peripheries of our society in this region for 30 years. On 23 December we will be delivering 120 hampers of fresh food and gifts that our children and young people really need and will enjoy. If you would like to sponsor a child, young person or family, please donate to Challenge 2000, ANZ, 01-0519-0057660-00, reference Advent Action. Or you could drop items off to our premises at 1 Wanaka Street Johnsonville or call Megan on 04 4776827 and we will collect them. Thank you!

Columban Calendars are available for sale after all Masses and in the Church foyer.—\$12.00.

Mass offered for

David Kelly (RIP 3 Dec) brother of Dan, parishioner.

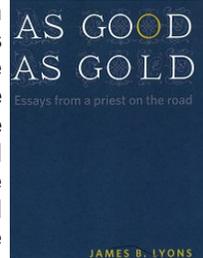


RCIA - The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults meetings are open to anyone interested: Wednesdays 5:30 -7:30pm at the Catholic Centre. The last one for 2018 is on 12 December – 'The Structure of the Mass' and 'Sin and Forgiveness'.

Monday, December 10, is the 50th anniversary of the death of the Trappist monk and renowned spiritual writer, Thomas Merton (1915-1968) —son of a New Zealand father and an American mother. He wrote this prayer in the 1950s:

'My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.'

As Good As Gold – A Cathedral Fundraiser — A new book, gifted by the author, Fr James, to the parish as a fundraiser for our cathedral, was launched this week. *As Good As Gold* is an illustrated collection of essays tracing some of the changes in the Catholic Church over his 50 years as a priest. With humour and serious reflection, Fr James records events and experiences that have helped shape his ministry both as a person and a priest. The book is prayerful and entertaining, seeking to depict the human dimension of priesthood within the context of a spiritual vocation. Priced at \$40, the total amount is donated to the enhancement of our cathedral, helping to return it to full strength. Copies available after each Mass and from the Parish Office.



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
Office Administrator: 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: 472 4047
DRS: Jane Regan

Mass Times

MONDAY-FRIDAY

Masses: 8:00am, 12:10pm

Blessed Sacrament Chapel
of the Sacred Heart Cathedral

SATURDAY

Mass: 8:30am

Blessed Sacrament Chapel
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 next meeting 29
January 2019.

Finance Committee Next meeting
Thursday 13 December.

Parish Pastoral Council Next
meeting Thursday 17 January
2019.

Divine Mercy

Sunday 6:20pm-6:50pm

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 Blessed Sacrament Chapel of
the Sacred Heart Cathedral.

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 9th – Second Sunday in Advent

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:3-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Monday 10th – Is 35: 1-10; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday 11th – Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday 12th – Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday 13th – Is 41: 13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Friday 14th – Is 48: 17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday 15th – Eccclus 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:10-13

Sunday 16th – Third Sunday in Advent

Zeph 3:14-18; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18