



3rd Sunday in Advent

Vol. 7 Issue 44

16 December 2018

REJOICE

The third Sunday of Advent is upon us. Gaudete Sunday! Named from the first word of the Introit at Mass: Gaudete in Domino semper (Rejoice in the Lord always). The readings today again speak of preparation; remind us that 'The Lord is near'; and that joyfully we await His coming.

Experience tells us that whenever a special guest is expected to visit, we can get over excited, tense and often restless (parents can too, as they await the birth of their child). We can become anxious in preparing the best for our guest. Our preparation can be exhausting and sometimes we can lose focus.

Today, on Gaudete Sunday, I encourage you to take a moment from your preparations and busyness in expectation of the Christmas feast. Slow down, pause. Give thanks for, and rejoice in, the beauty that surrounds us in nature; the people that surround you; the memories that you carry. Rejoice knowing that you are 'infinitely loved and infinitely lovable'.

Joy is a blend of laughter and tears.

It is looking for the happiness that comes in small packages, knowing that big packages are few and far between.

It is making the most of the present,
enjoying what is at hand right now.

Joy is love bubbling over into life.

Joy is the flag we fly when Christ, the Prince of Peace,
resides in our heart.

(author unknown)

As we continue our preparation, our aim is not only to do good but to do good with joy and love. With peace in our heart we are will be able, to walk humbly, justly and mercifully bearing witness to all we meet. Rejoice!

Debbie Matheson (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).

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.



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!

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.



Parish Office Closure - from mid-day Monday 24 December until Monday 7 January the office will be closed for the holiday break. Fr James is available on 496 1790 if needed

CARDINAL'S CARE APPEAL —

Please give generous support to the Cardinal's Care Appeal, which supports the essential work of Catholic Social Services in providing food, housing, counselling, security and support to men, women and children who need our support.

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!

Mass offered for Enzo Pasquale, Anniversary 10 December, brother of Bianca Cassino.



'This Third Sunday of Advent draws our gaze towards Christmas, which is now near....The coming of the Lord must fill our hearts with joy. The prophet in whose very name — Zephaniah — is inscribed the content of this announcement, opens our hearts to trust: "God protects" his people. In a historical context of great tyranny and violence, especially by men of power, God makes it known that he will reign over his people, that he will no longer leave them at the mercy of the arrogance of their leaders, and that he will free them from all anguish.' - Pope Francis: Opening of the doors of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy at the Basilica of St John Lateran, December 2015

Volunteer wanted — We are looking for someone to assist with the morning tea hospitality after the 10.30am Mass on the second Sunday of the month. Is there anyone out there who would like to help? To offer, or if you would like more information please contact: rita.phelon@gmail.com or the parish office.

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.

Anointing of the Sick — will be offered after the 12.10pm Mass on Monday 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.

For Sale — Columban Calendars at \$12.00 and Fr James' latest book 'As Good as Gold' \$40.00, a Cathedral fundraiser will be available for purchase after all Masses this weekend and from the parish office.

Reconciliation—will be available in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel Wednesday 19 December 7.00-8.00pm.

Transport Assistance — With the change in Mass venue to St Thomas More church, 36 Worcester Street Wilton for the Vigil and Choral Masses from 2 February 2019 we recognise that some parishioners may need assistance with transport. Assistance options are currently being formulated and will be announced in the new year. If you think you will be requiring assistance, please contact Frank in the parish office asap.

Clergy Appointments 2019 — Cardinal John has announced changes to the Cathedral Parish Pastoral Leadership Team for next year. From 1 February Fr Doug Shepherd (Assistant Priest) will join Debbie (Lay Pastoral Leader) and Fr Ron Bennett (Moderator) forming the new Parish Pastoral Leadership Team. Fr James will be leaving his accommodation in Viard House at the end of February, and Fr John Pettit will be in residence.

Save the Date — A Parish farewell to Fr James will be held on Sunday 17 February. We will mark the occasion with a combined Vigil and Choral Mass to be held at 12.00 noon at St. Paul's Cathedral, followed by a picnic lunch on the lawn at Parliament. Please mark this date in your calendars now.

Come Let Us Adore Him

Come all you shepherds and shearers.
Put down your blades,
kick the fleece into a corner
and hurry on down to the birthing place.
Christ is with us.
Not in a stable this time,
but a house-truck parked down by
the creek
under a snow of manuka blossom,
Mary, the baby, two cats and a dog,
and Joseph making pancakes over a
little gas stove.
Go quietly now, for this is holy time.
Kick your boots off at the step
and go in with open eyes, ready to
be surprised by God.
Christ is with us.

- Joy Cowley

Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish

22-30 Hill St, Thorndon
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04 4961700
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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
24 January 2019.

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 16th – Third Sunday in Advent

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

Monday 17th – Gen 49:2, 8010; Mt 1:1-17

Tuesday 18th – Jer 23: 5-8; Mt 1:18-24

Wednesday 19th – Judg 13:2-7, 24-25; Lk 1:5-25

Thursday 20th – Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

Friday 21st – Song 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45

Saturday 22nd – 1 Sam 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

Sunday 23rd – Fourth Sunday in Advent

Mic 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-44