



4th Sunday in Advent

Vol. 7 Issue 45

23 December 2018

Displayed on the street front of a church not far from here, this poster reflects the growing concern among individuals and nations that all is not well with our world. Domestic violence and abuse of trust, homelessness, mental illness, an alarming suicide rate, charges of people trafficking and slavery in our own country, reportedly taking New Zealand “to a new low”, present images of frightening instability.



Yet, each Christmas, we are offered an image of enormous hope. From within a rustic, weather-beaten and neglected shelter, scarcely suitable for animals let alone people, a mother gives birth and another child is born. It’s been said that every new-born shows God’s trust in the world. Why else would God continue to gift new life?

The Christmas stable is our starting point towards a future that recognises and welcomes life in all its forms, that respects the dignity of every person, especially the most vulnerable, and rejoices in the wonder, the grace and the beauty that shines around us, even when what we have or see appears to be of little value.

We each have the power to be “a stable influence” in life. Imagine the difference for good if we did just that! God’s trust would certainly be vindicated.

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).

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 Mass 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.

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.

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



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 know some parishioners may need assistance with transport. Assistance options are being developed. If you think you will be requiring assistance, please contact Frank in the parish office.

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

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.

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.

Clergy Appointments 2019 –

Cardinal John has announced changes to the Parish Pastoral Leadership Team. 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.

Mass offered for Rebecca Franklin, anniversary, 24 December.



'Once Mary has received the message of the angel and said "yes" to the call to become the Mother of the Saviour, she sets out in haste to visit her cousin Elizabeth, who was in the sixth month of her pregnancy. Mary is very young; what she was told is a great gift, but it also entails great challenges... Yet Mary does not shut herself up at home or let herself be paralyzed by fear or pride. Mary is not the type that, to be comfortable, needs a good sofa where she can feel safe and sound. She is no couch potato! If her elderly cousin needs a hand, she does not hesitate, but immediately sets off'.

- Pope Francis: *Message for World Youth Day 2017*

House for rent urgently needed: former refugee family of 9 urgently need accommodation. If you can assist or know of any accommodation about to becoming available in the Wellington area, please contact Catholic Social Services at reception@wn.catholic.org.nz

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.

January Mass timetable – A reminder that from 26th December until 1 February Monday-Saturday Masses will be held at 8.30am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, with the exception of New Year's Day at 9.00am.

Buildings Closed during January – outside of Masses the Cathedral complex buildings will be closed during January while the Guardians also enjoy the opportunity of a holiday time.

Congratulations to the winner of the Cathedral Fundraising Raffle, *Elizabeth Whyte* and many thanks to our parish school for donating the prize and thank you to all of you who purchased tickets.

Cathedral Restoration Project Update

'The Cathedral restoration project is developing a head of steam. We are confident of getting Resource Consent in time for applying for major funding grants in March, thanks to the hard work of Jane Kelly.

Engineers have been commissioned to prepare detailed designs to fix the roof, taking the Cathedral to 50%+ of NBS (new building standards). This will facilitate the re-opening of the Cathedral. This is Stage One of the work to be carried out. A second phase of detailed design work has been commissioned for base isolation, with a much higher NBS figure, but this Implementation may be some time in the future.

Membership of a Project Control Group, to oversee the first stage, has been agreed and will meet in January, as does Cardinal John's fundraising team. Early in the New Year it is hoped that we will have a clearer idea of when we will be able to re-open the Cathedral.

Paul Bayliss, ADW General Manager & Project Owner'.

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 21 February 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 23rd – Fourth Sunday in Advent

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

Monday 24th – 2 Sam 7:1-5. 8-12, 14, 16; Lk 1:67-79

Tuesday 25th – The Nativity of the Lord

Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday 26th – St Stephen

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

Thursday 27th – St John, apostle and evangelist

1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:2-8

Friday 28th – The Holy Innocents — 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Mt 2:13-18

Saturday 29th – 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk2:22-35

Sunday 30th – The Holy Family

1 Sam 1:20-22; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52.