



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vol. 8 Issue 1

27 January 2019

Dear Parishioners...

Following on is a situation in the game of cricket when a team is required to immediately bat its second innings because it lags far behind the opposition's first innings total. But this front page effort is not about cricket, nor has it anything to do with lagging behind!!

This weekend closes my 11 years with you. Following on, is Fr Doug Shepherd. He takes up residence during this week and will be presiding at parish Masses from 1 February. You will be greatly blessed by his presence and ministry among you, and you are fortunate to actually have a priest to "follow on".

It is apparent to most that priests are in short supply. New Zealand born candidates for priesthood are all but non-existent. There are many reasons suggested as to why our Catholic men are not making a life-choice for priesthood and you have voiced most of them to me. I am not listing or debating them here, but want to make some personal observations:

Over my years with Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish, I have not been aware of any parent placing the priesthood before their son as a viable option; I have shared many family prayer times but have never heard a prayer for the family to be blessed with a religious vocation. It is easy to get the impression that being a priest is the last thing anyone wants for one of their own.

I am far from perfect and my imperfections may contribute to those negative reactions. But I wish I could let you all see how wonderful priesthood really is. Your support, your affection, the welcome place you make for me in your homes and in your lives, brings joy to my spirit and fulfills my own life. Fr Doug Shepherd and I share this same beautiful priesthood. It is not a wasted life but a treasure waiting to be found. Who will follow on...?

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).

Thank you and Farewell to Fr James –

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. Bring your own food and drink — and some spare chairs for those who don't wish to sit on the grass would be appreciated. If wet, we will have our meal in Connolly Hall.

A **retiring collection** will be taken after Masses in the next two weekends (1-2 and 8-9 February) so that anyone who wishes to may contribute to a gift for Fr James.

Back to normal — the weekday Mass timetable will resume from Friday 1 February — 8.00am and 12.10pm Monday to Friday and 8.30am Saturdays, in the Cathedral Chapel.

Please continue to support the food bank in this new year 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, and will be at St Thomas More and the Cathedral Chapel from next weekend. Thank you.



THANK YOU to St Mary's College for allowing us to use their Hall for Masses over the last six months. Your hospitality has been very much appreciated.

Debbie Matheson, our Lay Pastoral Leader, is on leave until 13 February. Please direct any parish-related enquiries to the parish office.

We Welcome Fr Doug Shepherd as Assistant Priest, from 1 February.

Liturgy Workshops:

This We Believe: Music for Sacraments of Initiation with Children. Songs for the preparation & celebration of Baptism, Confirmation & First Communion and Reconciliation for children—led by Michael Mangan, liturgist and musician from Brisbane.
Tuesday 26 February 7.00pm-9.00pm Ss Peter & Pauls Church Lower Hutt. **Please register** before Friday 22 February with Ann Williams a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz. Entry by Koha.

A 'Good Friday' Liturgical Workshop on **Thursday 14 March, 6.45pm-9.00pm at the Catholic Centre.** This will be an interactive workshop, with Fr Patrick Bridgman, Archdiocesan Liturgy Advisor. Fr Patrick will help us unpack the symbolism and rituals associated with Good Friday. Everyone welcome. **Please register** before Friday 8 March with Ann Williams a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz.

'Jesus himself was born [in makeshift accommodation], though not by chance or accident. He desired to be born this way, in order to reveal the love of God for the weak and the poor, and thus to sow in the world the seeds of God's kingdom, a kingdom of justice, love and peace, where no one is a slave, but all are brothers and sisters, children of the one Father.'

- Pope Francis, Homily, Vespers 31 December 2018.

Mass Venues and Transport

A reminder that from next weekend, 1-2 February, the Saturday 5.30pm Vigil Mass and the 10.30am Sunday Mass will be celebrated at St Thomas More Church, 36 Worcester St, Wilton—with morning tea as usual after the Sunday morning Mass. The Sunday 7.00pm Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral Chapel.

This means that we will no longer have to make the big effort to set up and pack down in the St Mary's College Hall every weekend, and there will be much better music facilities at St Thomas More for our worship.

Parking around St Thomas More includes a considerable area of on-street parking; please leave the off-street carpark by the church for those with mobility or other needs.

During February we will trial a shuttle bus from Sacred Heart at Hill St to St Thomas More. This will leave at 5.00pm and 10.00am and return directly after the Vigil Mass and at 12.00noon on Sunday. If you would like to use this service, it would be helpful if you advise the parish office to confirm your seat. If you can offer to transport a fellow parishioner, please contact the parish office.

On the first Sunday of each month, St Thomas More invites our parishioners to join them for breakfast (by koha or donation) from 9.30 to 10.15am.

School's Back! - Sacred Heart Parish School and St Mary's College resume for 2019 on Thursday 31 January. We pray for God's blessing on all teachers and students across the country as the new school year begins.

Children's Sacramental Programme begins Thursday 7 March for all children in year 4 or 8 years plus. Please register your interest with the Parish Office.

Waitangi Day, Wednesday 6 February — Mass will be celebrated at St Mary of the Angels Church, 9.00am, Cardinal John presiding. All welcome. You are invited to bring a small plate for a shared morning tea. No Mass at the Cathedral that day.

Columban Calendars — a few of these very attractive calendars are still available, after Mass at the special price of \$5.00

A Cathedral Fundraiser — A new book, gifted by the author, Fr James, to the parish as a fundraiser for our cathedral, is available for sale after Masses and through the Parish Office. *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. While this book is priced at \$40, for \$50 you can buy both this and Fr James's recent collection of prayers, *There is a Time...* All money raised will be donated to the enhancement of our cathedral, helping to return it to full strength.

Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish

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

Moderator: Fr Ron Bennett (Otari)
Lay Pastoral Leader: Debbie Matheson
Assistant Priest (from 1 Feb):
Fr Doug Shepherd
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

8:30am (8am & 12:10pm start 1 Feb)
Blessed Sacrament Chapel
of the Sacred Heart Cathedral

SATURDAY

8:30am - Blessed Sacrament Chapel
5:30pm - St Thomas More, Wilton

SUNDAY

10:30am - St Thomas More, Wilton
7:00pm - Blessed Sacrament Chapel

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.

Finance Committee Next meeting
Thursday 21 February.

Parish Pastoral Council Next
meeting Thursday 28 February.

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 27th January – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Neh 8:2-6, 8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Monday 28th – Heb 9:15, 24-28; Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday 29th – Heb 10:1-10; Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday 30th – Heb 10:11-18; Mk 4:1-20

Thursday 31st – Heb 10:19-25; Mk 4:21-25

Friday 1st February – Heb 10:32-39; Mk 4:26-34

Saturday 2nd – The Presentation of the Lord –
Mal 3:1-4; Lk 2:22-40

Sunday 3rd – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Lk 4:21-30