



1st Sunday of Lent

Vol. 8 Issue 7

10 March 2019

LENT and PREPARATION

At Easter we will celebrate the holiest time of our Christian calendar, the Resurrection.

Now we begin Lent, a time to prepare and ready ourselves for that great feast. We are invited to let God find us where we are spiritually in both body and mind.

God asks the same question to each of us: 'Where are you my beloved sons and daughters?' During this Lent we are invited to make the time to review and reflect where we are in our Christian lives and discover God's presence anew.

We are challenged to make time to listen to his Word. We are invited to let him get close to who we are and to how we are in living out the Gospel values. To reconcile our lives to God and to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

So, may the word of God find you and nourish you this Lenten Season.

With every blessing.

Fr Doug



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).

LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Wednesday 13th March

Parish Catholic Social Teaching Workshop - "Creating a more just and caring society in New Zealand - where must we start?"

Fr Neil Vaney SM will present a workshop on the church's social teaching 7:30-9:00pm, in Connolly Hall. Christianity has a unique emphasis on treating our fellow humans with respect and love because we are all made in the image of God. We must face the question that if we live in a nation so blessed in climate and fertility how is it that so many of our brothers and sisters are living with poverty and constant stress. We need to explore root causes for this situation and ask how, as faith inspired parishioners, we should be responding.

Caritas' Annual Lenten appeal - Envelope Packs will be distributed this weekend. You can use the weekly donation envelopes or a single envelope, and return them during the parish offertory collection, or send them to Caritas; a freepost envelope is available.

Another Story Must Begin — Based on *Les Misérables* this Lent study focuses on themes of this epic narrative, exploring the grace of God, alongside our human need and opportunities for redemption. Thursday evenings 7:30-8:30pm. Venue: 14 March Central Baptist; 21st St John's in the City; 28th Central Baptist; 4 April St John's; 11th April Central Baptist. The film *Les Misérables* will be screened on Saturday 16th March at 7:00pm at Central Baptist. See [St John's in the City Facebook Page](#) for more information.

Lenten Study Groups

The Caritas Lent study theme is "Living Our Lives with Love" and is taken from "Gaudete et Exsultate – Rejoice and be glad" by Pope Francis. The themes are new beginnings, patience, compassion, mercy and love. During Lent we are called both to turn away from those things that encumber our faith journey with God and to turn towards God; the Caritas Lenten Programme can help us on the journey. The Lenten Study Groups will be on Thursday 7:30-9:00pm on the ground floor of the Catholic Centre and Thursday 10:45-11:45am in the Cathedral foyer.

Stations of the Cross – During Lent Stations of the Cross will be led in the Blessed Sacrament chapel 7.00pm on Fridays. We have leaders for March 15 and 22; we would like volunteers to lead on the following Fridays. Please contact the parish office.

Reconciliation will be offered during Lent on Wednesdays 7.00-8.00pm in the Blessed Sacrament chapel.

"Don't forget the poor!" And those words came to me: the poor, the poor.... thinking of the poor, I thought of Francis of Assisi. Then I thought of all the wars.... Francis is also the man of peace. That is how the name came into my heart: Francis of Assisi. For me, he is the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation; these days we do not have a very good relationship with creation, do we? ... How I would like a Church which is poor and for the poor! ' - Pope Francis, speaking soon after his election, 2013.

Masses at St Thomas More – It has been a month now since we moved our Masses from the College Hall. We have heard many positive comments about how pleased parishioners are to be worshipping again in a church building and how they are enjoying hearing the organ to accompany the choir. Unfortunately not everyone has made the move with us. This poses a challenge for us all, not just our Leadership groups. How do we engage with those who normally attend OUR Masses, but who for many reasons have not made the shift with us to Wilton? As a parish community, we are tasked with going out to the peripheries and in this instance those who no longer accompany us to church are those now on our peripheries. As a parish community we do feel the loss of those who find it a challenge to go to Wilton but it is more than just going to Church we are missing you. Please pray and reflect on this as we pray for you.

Sacristans – Have you ever considered being a Sacristan? It is an important service role fulfilled mainly before and after Masses. It is not an onerous role, and can be very rewarding. The parish is keen to appoint Sacristans to all Masses, and if we get several offers we can assign people on a roster. If you would like to know more about the role of a Sacristan, please contact Fr Doug or Debbie Matheson.

Official welcome to Fr Doug

On Friday 29 March at 5:30pm in the Cathedral Foyer we will welcome Fr Doug to our faith community. This will be a great opportunity to get to know him and for him to get to know us. Please bring a plate of finger food to share.

Christian Meditation — The Wellington Region of the NZ Community for Christian Meditation is holding a Community Day of Reflection about Suzanne Aubert, led by Sr Sue Cosgrove. Saturday 23 March, 9:30am-1:30pm. A Contemplative Mass will be celebrated at 2:00pm. Home of Compassion, Island Bay. Enquiries to elpeth.preddey@xtra.co.nz or ph 04 472 3369, 0274 723 369.

Mass offered for:

Casey Foo (husband of Irene), anniversary, 8 March.



Our prayers are with Rosaleen Taylor and family. Rosaleen's aunt, Nina O'Flynn passed away on 5 March.

Please continue to support the food bank with donations of non perishable food items, or toiletries or cleaning items.



Farewell to Margo and Peter Gresham – Margo and Peter are moving up to Whanganui at the end of this month and we cannot let them go without saying farewell. They have been long time and very involved parishioners. Please join with the 10.30am community after Mass at a special morning tea on Sunday 24th March to bid them farewell.

A Parish Visit: Cardinal John will join the parish on Saturday 23rd March to celebrate the Vigil Mass, 5:30pm. Do join the parish community for this Mass.

Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish

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Moderator: Fr Ron Bennett (Otari)
Lay Pastoral Leader: Debbie Matheson
Assistant Priest: Fr Doug Shepherd
Director of Music: Michael Fletcher
Office Administrator: Frank Doherty
Office Hours: 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 & 12:10pm

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
Tuesday 5 March.

Finance Committee Next meeting
Monday 11 March.

Parish Pastoral Council Next
meeting Thursday 28 March.

Divine Mercy Devotions - Sunday
6:00pm-6:30pm Blessed
Sacrament Chapel, Sacred Heart
Cathedral.

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 Connolly Hall.

Lenten Study Groups - See inside
for details

Stations of the Cross - See inside
for details

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

Readings for the Week



Sunday 10th – First Sunday of Lent

Deut 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

Monday 11th – Lev 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday 12th – Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday 13th – Jonah 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday 14th – Esther 14:1, 3-5, 12-14; Mt 7:7-12

Friday 15th – Ezek 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday 16th – Deut 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday 17th – Second Sunday of Lent

Gen 15:5-12; 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 9:28-36