



20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Vol. 8 Issue 30

18 August 2019

### Jesus – Bringer of Peace or Division

At first sight, today's Gospel is confusing. This doesn't seem to be the Jesus we all know! Preachers and people alike find it hard to reconcile these passages with other passages of scripture.

One explanation is that the language of Jesus' time was not as 'robust' as modern languages and nuances get missed. So, in those days, in order to say, 'I like Mary more than Jane' I would have to say, 'I love Mary, I hate Jane.' Hearers and readers would understand, but we would say it differently as our languages are more developed.

There has also been unnecessary division amongst the followers of Christ, and even Christians relationships with those of other faiths. This goes against the words of Jesus in John 17/21 – 'Father, may they all be one, as I am in you and you are in me!' Yes, some of our divisions have been both unnecessary and unjust, and often a scandal.

But I think Jesus' message here is really about passion. From the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, we follow Jesus' journey from his Galilean home towards his death in Jerusalem (Luke 9:51-19:27). There is an urgency about Jesus' message. In numerous passages about discipleship and judgment day, Jesus warns against stocking worldly wealth, as we read a fortnight ago about the rich fool building barns for a retirement that he did not have. The decision to follow Jesus or not will separate people.

So, the real point of the gospel is the decision to follow Jesus completely now – Yes or No. Some points for reflection — Is there an urgency and passion in my life? If so, what is it for? What are the costs to follow it: peace, money, time, relationships, etc.? What would be the cost if I do NOT follow that passion now?

Fr Ron Bennett, Moderator.

*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).*

**Sharing our Catholic Faith** - If you are interested in sharing our Catholic faith tradition, as a sponsor accompanying and supporting others learning about the Church; or you are interested, or know someone interested, in entering the Catholic Church, please come to a meeting at 5.30pm on Wednesday 28th August in the Catholic Centre, where you will learn about the RCIA programme (Rite of Christian Initiation) beginning in September and what is involved. Enquiries to Trish McAloon (021 2231987, [trish.mcaloon@gmail.com](mailto:trish.mcaloon@gmail.com)) or Nick Polaschek (020 4797956, [nandlpolaschek@gmail.com](mailto:nandlpolaschek@gmail.com))

The Friends of Music at the Metropolitan Cathedral invite you to their movie fundraiser -

**Downton Abbey**, the movie. Friday 20 September, at 8:00pm for a complimentary drink. Movie begins at 8:30pm. Penthouse Cinema, 205 Ohiro Rd, Brooklyn. Tickets \$20:00 from Parish Office.



**Christian Meditation Group** - an ancient form of contemplative prayer, every Monday 7:00pm-8:00pm, and every Thursday 11:00am-12noon. Our Lady of Compassion Chapel, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay. All welcome.



**Saturday 24 August** is the sixth anniversary of Fr Doug's ordination as a priest. All are welcome to join him after the 5:30pm Mass at St Thomas More for a drink and nibbles to celebrate.

**Proclaimers of the Word** — and anyone who is interested in this ministry are invited to a session of formation and renewal, Sunday 25 August, 2:30-4:30pm, Cathedral Chapel. Fr Doug has promised afternoon tea.

**Suffrage in Stitches** — during August this 300 metre textile work, by many hands, will be on display. It commemorates the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of women's suffrage and honours the 'ordinary' woman and men who signed the 1893 Suffrage petition. The project was open to anyone regardless of age or experience. The project was devised by Caroline O'Reilly, at Vinnies Re Sew, a sewing space funded by St Vincent de Paul, Wellington to up-skill marginalised members of the community. Open every day at Wellington Museum, 3 Jervois Quay, 10:am-5:00pm.

God has a real face, he has a name: God is mercy, God is faithfulness, he is life which is given to us all. For this reason Jesus says "I came to bring division". It is not that Jesus wishes to split people up. On the contrary Jesus is our peace, he is our reconciliation! But this peace is not the peace of the tomb, it is not neutrality, Jesus does not bring neutrality, this peace is not a compromise at all costs. Following Jesus entails giving up evil and selfishness and choosing good, truth and justice, even when this demands sacrifice and the renunciation of our own interests.—Pope Francis, [Angelus](#) 18 August 2013

**The Cardinal's Lunch** will be held at The Intercontinental Hotel on Wednesday 28 August at 12 noon. Cardinal John will share his vision for the future of the church. Tickets \$115. To register: <https://cl2019.lilregie.com>. For more information phone Robyn 027 2018766.

**St Catherine's College** Enrolments are now open; closing 30 August. For information and late enrolments please phone 04 9398988 or email [office@scc.school.nz](mailto:office@scc.school.nz). St Catherine's College aims to nurture and empower our young women to be active and creative learners.

**Please continue to support the food bank**, with donations of non perishable foods or toiletries and sanitary or laundry items. Collection boxes are beside the doors in the foyer of St Thomas More and the Cathedral Chapel. Thank you. If you know of someone who needs a delivery, please contact the parish office.



The government has proposed to amend the law relating to abortion; the Bill has been referred to a select committee and public submissions are invited until Thursday 13 September. You may be interested in the Bishops' initial statement, available at <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/abortion-is-both-a-health-issue-and-a-justice-issue/>. If you would like to make a submission on the Bill, the process is explained at [https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/52SCAL\\_SCF\\_BILL\\_89814/abortion-legislation-bill](https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/52SCAL_SCF_BILL_89814/abortion-legislation-bill) and the Bill itself can be read at <http://legislation.govt.nz/bill/>

**The Wellington Theological Consortium's** annual conference on "Lament, Listening, Healing, in response to the sexual abuse crisis in our Church Communities" will be held on September 13-14 at St Joseph's Church, 154 Brougham Street, Mt Victoria. Learn about Restorative Justice and The Circle Process to Restorative Justice. For more information see <http://wellingtontheology.org.nz>.

**'Exploring the true meaning of loveableness'** - a talk by Fr Kevin Connors. In his recently completed thesis on the Eucharist, Fr Kevin seeks to unveil the kindness of God's face in the Eucharist and in each other, and explores the true meaning of 'loveableness'. Tuesday 20th August, at 7pm at St Anne's Church, Newtown. All welcome.

**Parish Smartphone App** - Recently we changed the company providing our smartphone app. To get the latest app, please delete the old one from your phone completely. The new app can be downloaded from the links on our website: <https://www.mcshwellington.org/parishapp/> - select either the Apple App Store or the Google Play App Store logo depending on your phone type. Then install the "infoodle" app and then once installed search for and select Sacred Heart Cathedral. You will then be prompted to allow notifications. I encourage you to select "Yes" so you can receive important parish information, and updates. If you have any problems then please contact me, Frank, in the Parish Office and I will do what I can to help you.

**Mass offered for:**  
Robin Adair (Anniv. 21/8/15)



# Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish

22-30 Hill St, Thorndon  
PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140  
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www.mcshwellington.org

**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, in the Catholic Centre, 22-30 Hill St.  
**Parish Council Chair:** Jim McAloon

**Sacred Heart Cathedral School**  
Guildford Tce, Thorndon Ph: 472 4047  
**Principal:** Bernadette Murfitt  
**DRS:** Jane Regan

## Mass Times

### MONDAY-FRIDAY

8:00am & 12:10pm

Cathedral Blessed Sacrament Chapel

### 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:** Weekdays 11:50am-12:05pm; Saturday after 8:30am Mass, or by appointment. **Baptism** by appointment.

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

**Liturgy Committee** next meeting Tuesday 3 September.

**Finance Committee** Next meeting Thursday 5 September.

**Parish Pastoral Council** Next meeting Thursday 29 August.

**Rosary** Monday 11:30am-12:00pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Thursday & Friday** 7:30am until the 8:00am Mass.

**Prayer Group** 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Mondays, 7:30 pm in Connolly Hall.

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

*Newsletter items should be sent to [cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz) by Wednesday midday.*

*The Parish Smartphone App can be downloaded from:*

[www.mcshwellington.org/parishapp](http://www.mcshwellington.org/parishapp)

## Readings for the Week

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup>** – Judges 2:11-19; Mt 19:16-22

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>** – Judges 6:11-24; Mt 19:23-30

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>** – Judges 9:6-15; Mt 20:1-16

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Judges 11:29-39; Mt 22:1-14

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14-16, 22; Mt 22:34-40

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> – St Bartholomew** - Rev 21:9-14; Jn 1:45-51

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 66:1-18-21; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30



**Psalm Response Today:** 'Lord, come to my aid!'