



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Vol. 8 Issue 32

1 September 2019

OUR COMMON HOME

One of the important measures currently being considered by Parliament is the Zero Carbon Bill, which sets out a way forward for this country to reduce its net emissions of carbon dioxide to zero by 2050. There is no doubt of the importance, and urgency, of action to address climate change, and the Archdiocesan Commission for Ecology, Justice and Peace made a submission to the Select Committee considering the Bill, representatives appearing before the committee last Monday.

In preparing its submission, commission members were very much guided by Pope Francis's 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si': On care for our common home*. *Laudato Si'* is a rich and rewarding document, readily available online. In his usual plain language, Francis reminds us that environmental issues are ethical and spiritual issues. The whole universe 'speaks of God's love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God... When we can see God reflected in all that exists, our hearts are moved to praise the Lord for all his creatures and to worship him in union with them'.

We need to remind ourselves that 'the world is a gift which we have freely received and must share with others', including future generations. In urging action to deal with climate change, pollution, and the extinction of species, the pope stresses that technology alone will not be enough. He encourages politicians and diplomats to work co-operatively for a global consensus.

Francis encourages us all. 'For all our limitations, gestures of generosity, solidarity and care cannot but well up within us, since we were made for love'. These themes have been evident in our recent parish discussions. With the coming of spring, may we continue to give thanks for the earth that sustains us and continue to care for it and for each other.

Jim McAloon, Chair, Parish Pastoral Council.

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).

Congratulations to Thomas & Nicholas Dyne who are to be confirmed at our 7pm Sunday Mass this weekend.

To all Fathers - and 'father figures' - **HAPPY FATHER'S DAY** and may the Lord guide you, bless you and keep you.

Beads of Contemplation. Led by Fr James Lyons. is a prayer series inviting us to explore the joy, anticipation, sorrow and triumph of the missionary journey through the eyes of faith and heart of Mary. Wednesdays 9, 16, 23, 30 October, 10:00 am or 7:00pm. Our Lady of Compassion Chapel, 2 Rhine St, Island Bay, Wellington. Please register ph 3837769 or email spirituality@compassion.org.nz.

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 Ohio Rd, Brooklyn. Tickets \$20:00 from Parish Office.



The Future of the Church

Last Wednesday 28th August, at the "Cardinal's Luncheon", Cardinal John shared his thoughts on the future of the Church. The script from his presentation is available on our website and well worth reading: <https://mcswhellington.org/2019/08/cardinal-john-shares-his-thoughts-on-the-future-of-the-church/>

The latest parish consultation update is included with this newsletter

'Jesus says: "But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you". This means choosing gratuitousness rather than self-seeking and calculating to obtain a reward, seeking interest and trying to increase your wealth... the poor, the simple, those who 'don't count', can never reciprocate an invitation to a meal. In this way Jesus shows his preference for the poor and the excluded, who are the privileged in the Kingdom of God.' - Pope Francis, [Angelus 28 August 2016](#)



Parish Gift Discernment Workshop – Each of us is a unique package from God. Do you know what your gifts are? Come and explore the concept of giftedness; discern where your giftedness lies and how you could use your gifts in service in our parish community. Please register with the Parish office for this workshop on Sunday 8 September 2:00-4.30pm at Connolly Hall.

'Thank You Volunteers' Afternoon Tea - The Pastoral Leadership team and Pastoral Council invite all who volunteer in any capacity within the parish to a chance to mingle with others at a Thank You afternoon tea to acknowledge the invaluable commitment and service volunteers make to the parish community. Please join us in Connolly Hall, 2:00-4:00pm on Sunday 22 September. For catering purposes, it would be helpful if you let the parish office know you are coming!

Fantastic Opportunity — On Saturday 7 September our very own Cathedral Boys Choir which is led by our Director of Music, Michael Fletcher, will be joining with The Orpheus Choir of Wellington in Carmina Burana Marimba Concerto No. 1 by Ney Rosauero at the Michael Fletcher Centre. We congratulate them and wish them well for this performance.

Archdiocese of Wellington Social Justice Week - Come join us this Social Justice Week, as we explore fairness and unfairness in our Diocese. This is an opportunity to learn about the experiences of Wellington Filipino healthcare and construction workers, and the courageous and practical response of the Barangay Assumpta (Kapiti) Servant Team/Filipino Chaplaincy. Speakers include representatives of the Barangay Sta. Maria Assumpta/Filipino Chaplaincy Outreach Ministry; Cardinal John Dew; Hon. Iain Lees-Galloway, Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety. Date —

Wednesday 11 September, 6.00-7.30pm, Connolly Hall. For more information, please contact Lisa Beech l.beech@wn.catholic.org.nz.

WelCom The September edition of the Wellington-Palmerston North combined diocesan newspaper is available today. Take a copy with you – it's free, with much good reading, news and opinion and notices.

Mass for those affected by Divorce or Separation —

Cardinal John extends a warm welcome to any and all who are affected by separation and divorce to join him in the celebration of Mass at Ss Peter and Paul Church, 60 Knights Road, Lower Hutt, 7pm, Wednesday 25 September 2019, followed by a glass of wine and light refreshments. For more information or if you would like to help in any way with the Mass, please contact Felicity at the Marriage, Family and Young Church Ministries Office, phone 4961719 or email f.giltrap@wn.catholic.org.nz

Anointing of the Sick — This sacrament gives grace, strength, and peace through the Holy Spirit. Fr Doug will be available after the Vigil Mass on 14 September and Choral Mass on 15 September for those who wish to be anointed.

Mass offered for:

Mike Loftus RIP 28 Aug 2019
Fr John O'Neil sm RIP 28 Aug 2019



Children's Sacramental Programme 2020 - Registration is now open for the 2020 programme which begins this coming Term 4 with the sacrament of Confirmation, followed by First Reconciliation in Term 1 and First Communion in Term 2 of 2020. For your child to be eligible, he/she must already be baptised and be at least 8 years old at the beginning of Term 4. First parent's session is on October 17, 7pm at St Thomas More Church in Wilton. For registration and/or further enquiries, please contact:

- Parish Office – cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz ph.496-1700 or
- School principal – Bernadette Murfitt bernadette.murfitt@sacred-heart.school.nz ph. 472-4047 or
- Parish coordinator – Angela Helbano angela.nzet@outlook.com Ph. 021 183-6409

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: 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 1st, 3rd and 5th 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 by Wednesday midday.

The Parish Smartphone App can be downloaded from: www.mcshwellington.org/parishapp

Readings for the Week

Sunday 1st September – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ecclus 3:17-20, 28-29; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24; Lk 14:1, 7-14

Monday 2nd – 1 Thess 4:13-18; Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday 3rd – 1 Thess 5:1-6, 9-11; Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday 4th – Col 1:1-8; Lk 4:38-44

Thursday 5th – Col 1:9-14; Lk 5:1-11

Friday 6th – Col 1:15-20; Lk 5:33-39

Saturday 7th – Col 1:21-23; Lk 6:1-5

Sunday 8th – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 9:13-18; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33



Psalm Response Today: 'God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.'



Parish Consultations - Where would we like to go?

In late July we had two parish consultation meetings, attended by nearly 50 parishioners. The meetings discussed a number of questions in view of Cardinal John's February pastoral letter. Here is a summary of the discussions.

1. **We are connected as a parish family** by our humanity, our faith, by our care and support for each other, by our common worship and the sacraments, especially Baptism and the Eucharist. Through social events and through service and working together to maintain and develop parish life. By the choice each one of us has made to be here, as well as by family custom and tradition.
2. **Being missionary disciples means** being welcoming – of everyone – aware of people's hopes and needs and being involved in our own community and in our city. Jesus taught his disciples how to live and we are sent to spread the Good News with the witness of our lives. We need to think about ways to build community – small groups perhaps – and to reconnect with those no longer involved in our parish, and to deepen our spiritual lives in ways such as reading and understanding scripture and church teaching and doing this together.
3. **We can grow, as a parish in living the gospel values by** regularly promoting parish ministries and groups and to giving everyone opportunities to join existing ones and suggest or organise new ones. The school and college offer opportunities for the parish to connect with parents and families of students. We need to encourage each other to be more willing to take initiatives to share the important things in our lives and to look out for each other. We should build on and develop our relationships with neighbouring church communities.
4. **Our building spaces** could be developed. The cathedral foyer is a good informal meeting space. The courtyard and the piazza could be made more attractive – particularly by greening the piazza, with trees, plants, meditation and prayer spaces. We could better promote Connolly Hall and the Cathedral as venues for hire and consider how better to use them to support parish activities. We could consider more daytime and evening formal and informal activities – speakers, morning tea, games. We could consider developing an upstairs space above the foyer, and making Connolly Hall multi-purpose, with office space as well as meeting space.

In thinking about our own buildings, we could think about the neighbouring buildings too – Mercy Centre, St Mary's College, Sacred Heart school, and the Catholic Centre. The whole area could be understood as a 'Catholic Precinct'. We should explore co-operation in use of space and how we might use the space for more engagement with the inner-city community, such as through food fairs, and offering activities such as tai chi and yoga to all interested. We should make much more effort with signage and displays, to welcome and inform our own people and visitors alike. We could consider a café and small shop selling books and religious wares, dependent on volunteers.

5. **Renewing and rebuilding our parish community** will be greatly helped by returning to the Cathedral. The return should be a major event, but we should not expect that everything will fall into place when that happens, nor that things will be as they were. In the meantime, we need regular updates on progress with the fundraising and strengthening. We should review our various forms of communication – newsletter, app, website, social media – and consider more news and sharing of personal faith stories. We need to make sure people have information about parish finances and parish affairs, especially in good time before parish meetings. Social functions are important, especially when they have a focus – although simply sharing time together is also important, especially while we are out of the Cathedral. We need to make sure our record keeping works for us. We should acknowledge and explicitly celebrate the diversity in our community – parish and diocesan – in terms of cultures, ages, social backgrounds and so on. We need to think about our role as a cathedral parish in the life of the archdiocese.