



Kia tau te rangimārie ki a koutou

“I Am who I Am. I Am has sent me to you.” Exodus 3:14-15

Last Thursday at Mass we heard the story of God meeting Moses. Moses asked God what he should say to the people who asked him about meeting God. God said to Moses, **“this is what you are to say, I Am who I Am...I Am has sent me to you.”**

Before Mass I had exposed the Blessed Sacrament at the temporary Chapel we have in Connolly Hall. The men who are working on the Cathedral came in to remove one of the Connolly Hall windows for repairing. They had drills and saws and hammers which they used to take out the window and replac it with plywood. They were incredibly respectful of the few people who were there praying as they worked on getting the window out before the 8am Mass.

As I was reflecting on the Reading from Exodus and God saying, **“I Am,”** my thoughts turned to the way people today say, when there is a situation or some circumstances, they are unsure of, “well, it is what it is.” There were a few of us in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, about three yards away two men were working on a window, and God was present saying to us as was said to Moses “I Am.”

“I Am,” was present to us, God was present, God was with us as he was with Moses, and with the two men working on the window. My prayer became “God is!” “God is here!” “God is with us!” “God is still being made known to us today!”

The fact is that God is a wonderful mystery; if we spend every hour we have mediating and praying we will still not know very much about God, however God says, “I Am!”

God is! Are we content with the mystery of God? Are we happy just to be in God’s presence knowing that “God IS!”

We pray for the grace to see God more clearly in our lives.

Nāku noa. Nā

John

With the publication of Pope Francis’s **Motu Proprio, *Traditionis Custodes*** the Mass which was authorized by Pope Benedict 14 years ago under *Summorum Pontificum* known as the “Extraordinary Form” or Tridentine Mass cannot be celebrated without the permission of the bishop of the diocese.

Pope Francis has taken this step because the ability to have the Tridentine Mass has caused division in the Church. Many, but not all, of those who attended promoted it as “the real Mass” or as “better than the *Novus Ordo* Mass” which we celebrate.

As from now, priests who have been celebrating the Tridentine Mass must ask their bishop’s permission to continue to do so. It cannot be celebrated in a parish church.

To this day I believe we are here on Earth to live, grow, and do what we can to make this world a better place for all people to enjoy freedom.

Rosa Parks

NOTICES

- Please continue to pray for the **sick and frail clergy**, especially Monsignor John Carde, Frs Maurice Carmody, Don Morrison, Colin Durning Frank Whitaker and Peter O'Connell. Please also pray for **Fr David Gledhill SM** (Ōtaki) who suffered a serious stroke on Sunday 18th July and has been admitted to Palmerston North Hospital.
- After 15 years of service, **Jenny Gordon** has resigned from her position as Vicar for Education for the Archdiocese of Wellington. Jenny leaves tomorrow, 23 July 2021. I thank Jenny for her contribution to Catholic Education over this time and wish her well for the future. **Kelly Ross** has been appointed my new Vicar for Education and Director, Catholic Schools Education Services effective 26 July 2021.
- The people of **Westport and Marlborough** are facing a difficult future cleaning up after the floods of last weekend. The damage to homes in Westport is heart-breaking, especially as it is an area with economic difficulties and many families who now need alternative accommodation. If you wish to donate money to help people in Westport you can do so to the Buller Mayoral Relief Fund bank account number 03-1354-0583471-00, or to the Archdiocese of Wellington bank account number 02-0536-0003306-13 with code "Westport". We will make sure that donations made through the Archdiocese get to people in need. Please email adw.accounts@wn.catholic.org.nz if you would like a receipt.
- **Season of Creation** is a worldwide movement of Christians, including Catholics, acting for our planet's future. This takes place from 1 September and concludes on the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, 4 October. In my last newsletter a link showed what Christian communities did in 2020. The following link has ideas and resources for 2021. <https://seasonofcreation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021-SOC-Full-Guide.pdf>
- A reminder to all as we are still in **Alert Level 1** of the **Covid19 pandemic** to
 - If you are unwell, stay home and seek advice from your medical centre or the Ministry of Health Covid19 Healthline 0800 358 5453
 - Sneeze into your elbow
 - Wash and sanitize your hands and work spaces constantly
 - Use the Tracer App

Te Ara a Maria : Mary's Way

Rededication of Aotearoa New Zealand to Mary Mother of God Assumed into Heaven

On Sunday 15th August, the Solemnity of the Assumption there will be a special Mass at St Mary of the Angels when Aotearoa New Zealand will be rededicated to Mary, Mother of God, Assumed into Heaven. The country was first dedicated to Mary under that title in 1838.

This will be a National celebration with representatives from the six Dioceses of New Zealand present with the Apostolic Nuncio and the New Zealand Bishops.

A new artwork honouring this occasion has been commissioned and will be presented that day. The next day the artwork will begin a Hikoī of the country to significant places (with especially Marian connections). The artwork will be brought back to St Mary of the Angels on the Feast of the Annunciation next year,. The hikoī will also coincide with the Centenary of the Opening of St Mary of the Angels Church.

All are welcome at St Mary of the Angels on **Sunday 15th August at 1.30pm.**