



Third Sunday in Lent

Vol. 9 Issue 8

15 March 2020

BALANCE

Our archdiocesan Mission Expo took place yesterday, and it was organized to showcase the wide range of mission activities and opportunities within our communities. The joint cathedrals' Lent programme is also featuring a number of speakers reflecting on the theme of mission. In his Lenten message this year, Pope Francis reminded us that if Easter is at the centre of our lives, we must feel 'compassion towards the wounds of the crucified Christ present in the many innocent victims of wars, in attacks on life... and various forms of violence... in environmental disasters, the unequal distribution of the earth's goods, human trafficking in all its forms, and the unbridled thirst for profit'. The Pope reminds us, too, that compassion must lead to action, working with all people of goodwill.

So we are all called to mission, and to loving service. I have been thinking, though, that it is also important to remember another aspect of the mission of the People of God, and particularly of the great majority who are not ordained or in religious vows. The Second Vatican Council pointed out that this mission includes our ordinary lives, in our families and neighbourhoods, in our community organisations and in our occupations as well.

I think it is also important to remind ourselves of the need for balance in our lives. More than fifty years ago, the monk Thomas Merton wrote of the temptation 'to which the idealist most easily succumbs: activism and overwork... To allow oneself to be carried away by a multitude of conflicting concerns, to surrender to too many demands, to commit oneself to too many projects, to want to help everyone in everything, is to succumb to violence. The frenzy of our activism neutralizes our work for peace. It destroys our own inner capacity for peace. It destroys the fruitfulness of our own work, because it kills the root of inner wisdom which makes work fruitful.' Times of recollection, contemplation, creativity and prayer – however brief - are never an optional extra in our mission.

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).

Coronavirus & Liturgy - Important

Last Friday 13 March, Cardinal John sent out a message to all Parish Priests and Lay Pastoral Leaders in the Wellington Archdiocese with the following:

"I would like consistent practice across the Archdiocese and so these changes are to be implemented from this weekend until further notice:

- At the Sign of Peace people should avoid shaking hands or other contact with one another, and instead smile, nod or bow to one another.
- Holy Communion is not to be distributed from the chalice.
- Communion is only to be distributed in the hand, not on the tongue.
- Holy water is to be removed from stoups and containers at the church door.

Ministers of the Eucharist are to be reminded of the need for good hygiene, using hand sanitizer and ensuring that they do not contact people's hands when distributing communion. Parishes should review and upgrade their hygiene and cleaning practices in all the circumstances where parishioners are involved.

At this point there is no community transmission in New Zealand, and the Ministry of Health is not asking us to take these precautions. They are a response to the concerns of parishioners and their need to feel safe when they are involved in Church activities.

Please remind parishioners that if they are feeling unwell they should stay at home."

If you have any questions or concerns about the above then please feel free to contact Fr David or Debbie.

New to this parish?

Nau Mai Haere Mai - Welcome

If you would like to become a member of our parish then please complete the form at: <https://mcshwellington.org/join-the-parish/> or contact the parish office Ph. 496 1700. You and Your Parish - Working Together.

Samaritans, "Walk With Me"

Saturday 28 March, 6pm (Wet weather postponement date 6pm, Saturday 4 April 2020) - 10km walk from Civic Square to Cog Park (Hataitai) return. The vision of Samaritans NZ is that fewer people die by suicide. Please support our fellow parishioner and Samaritans volunteer, Mary-Jane Monaghan as she walks 10km to raise money for the Samaritans and raise awareness about the helpline. Donations can be made here:

<https://give.everydayhero.com/nz/mary-jane> Further information about The Samaritans is available at www.samaritans.org.nz

Christian Meditation Group - All

welcome to join in this ancient form of contemplative prayer. Mondays 7:00pm-8:00pm, Thursdays 11:00am-12noon at The Chapel of Our Lady of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay.

Please keep in your prayers:

Fr Justin Taylor SM
Anne Kelly
Judy O'Connell
All those affected by the CoVID-19 virus.



Mass offered for —

Sr Catherine Hannan DOLC
Fr Bill Clancy
Both who died this past week.



Interfaith Commemoration of March 15, 2019, attacks on the mosques in Christchurch. The United Nations Association of New Zealand, with various faith communities, has organized an interfaith service to commemorate those who were killed in the Al Noor and Linwood mosques last year. Participating will be representatives of the Muslim, Jewish, Catholic, Anglican and Bahai communities as well as the Office of Ethnic Affairs and UNANZ. Monday, 16th March, in the Anglican Cathedral of St Paul. Gathering from 5.30pm; service 6:00pm-7:15pm. All welcome.

Prayer Requests - please give them to the parish office or send via the parish website: <https://mcshwellington.org/prayer-requests/>

Theology, Poetry, and Reconciliation — St John's Presbyterian Church, Dixon St, has a Visiting Scholar programme. This year's Scholar is the Irish poet and theologian [Pádraig Ó Tuama](#). He is the former leader of Corrymeela, in eastern Ulster, Ireland's oldest peace and reconciliation organisation. Pádraig's programme this week includes two public lectures, both from 7:30-9:00pm in the *Hunter Council Chamber, Victoria University, Kelburn Parade*. On Wednesday 18th: 'Telling the Truth about Power'. On Thursday 19th: The Complicated Art of Reconciliation. On Friday 20th from 3:00-4:30pm, there will be a poetry exchange, 'Spirited Words: Grief, Protest, Hope' - readings and conversation about the pleasure and perils of crafting religious poetry today with Pádraig, John Dennison, and Gregory O'Brien. Everyone is welcome to all events.



LENTEN ACTIVITIES —

A. Joint Cathedrals Lent Programme - Five thought provoking sessions on the theme of Mission are being jointly hosted during Lent by the Anglican and Catholic Cathedrals. The dates and venues are March 18 and 25 at the Anglican cathedral 7.00pm and April 1 in Connolly Hall. Speakers include Cardinal John, Anglican Bishop Justin Duckworth and Dean David Rowe.

B. Hear the cry of the earth - Laudato Si' Lenten Series - St Thomas More church from 7.30pm to 9.00pm.
Third session Thursday 26 March
What's happening locally - A series of short talks on local initiatives.

C. Stations of the Cross:
Friday 20 March at 7.00pm - Cathedral Chapel, Thorndon.
Fri 3 April at 7.00pm - St Teresa's, Karori followed by Flax Cross making.

D. Rite II Reconciliation:
Sunday 22 March at 4.00pm - St Teresa's, Karori

E. Picnic in Autumn for the Wellington Refugees.
Sunday 29 March 12.00noon to 2.00pm - Parliament Grounds. Please bring food and drinks to share.
Everyone is welcome to any or all of these events.

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

Parish Priest: Fr David Dowling
Lay Pastoral Leader: Debbie Matheson
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. **Baptisms** by appointment.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Liturgy Committee next meeting
7:00pm Tuesday 28 April.

Finance Committee next meeting
Thursday 16 April.

Parish Pastoral Council next meeting
Thursday 2 April.

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 and 3rd Mondays, 7:30 pm in Connolly Hall.

Divine Mercy Devotions - Sunday
6:00pm-6:30pm Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

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

 <https://www.facebook.com/MCSHWWellington/>

Readings for the Week

Sunday 15th – Third Sunday in Lent

Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42

Monday 16th – 2 Kg 5:1-15; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday 17th – Saint Patrick

Jer 1:4-9; Acts 13:46-49; Lk 10:1-12,17-20

Wednesday 18th – Deut 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday 19th – Saint Joseph

2 Sam 7:4-5, 12-14, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24

Friday 20th – Hosea 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday 21st – Hosea 5:15 - 6:6; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday 22nd – Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41



Psalm Response Today: 'If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts'.



Archbishop of Wellington

PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140, New Zealand

MEMORANDUM

TO: Priests and Lay Pastoral Leaders

FROM: Cardinal John Dew

DATE: Friday 13 March

RE: **COVID-19 precautions**

You will see from the attached update from the Bishops Conference that parishes are being given some freedom to implement precautions they consider necessary to respond to the concerns of parishioners about COVID-19.

I would like consistent practice across the Archdiocese and so these changes are to be implemented from this weekend until further notice:

- At the Sign of Peace people should avoid shaking hands or other contact with one another, and instead smile, nod or bow to one another.
- Holy Communion is not to be distributed from the chalice.
- Communion is only to be distributed in the hand, not on the tongue.
- Holy water is to be removed from stoups and containers at the church door.

Ministers of the Eucharist are to be reminded of the need for good hygiene, using hand sanitizer and ensuring that they do not contact people's hands when distributing communion. Parishes should review and upgrade their hygiene and cleaning practices in all the circumstances where parishioners are involved.

At this point there is no community transmission in New Zealand, and the Ministry of Health is not asking us to take these precautions. They are a response to the concerns of parishioners and their need to feel safe when they are involved in Church activities.

Please remind parishioners that if they are feeling unwell they should stay at home.

Yours sincerely in the Lord

✠ John A. Cardinal Dew
Archbishop of Wellington



**URGENT COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS UPDATE
13 March 2020**

Guidance to dioceses and parishes, issued by the NZ Catholic Bishops under the advice of Fr John O'Connor Acting Director, National Liturgy Office.

Tēnā koutou katoa friends,

The National Liturgy Office and NZ Catholic Bishops have received new important new advice today from the Ministry of Health.

This advice specifically says we should desist with “the sharing of communion cups and shared holy water, and hand shaking.”

Having received this, we are now updating our previous advice on these matters. We now ask that:

- At the Sign of Peace, people should avoid shaking hands or other contact with one another, and instead smile, nod or bow to one another.
- Holy Communion is not to be distributed from the chalice.
- Communion is only to be distributed in the hand, not on the tongue.
- Holy water is to be removed from stoups and containers at the church door.
- Priests should not touch children’s heads when blessing them and then continue to distribute Communion.

The Ministry of Health has not asked for any restrictions on public gatherings, including Mass.

We are concerned there is a significant degree of fear among some parishioners, and it is essential that the Church is a safe place for people when they gather for Mass. We therefore ask each diocese, parish and Catholic community to respond with appropriate sensitivity to the fears that exists.

We wish again to emphasise with all parishioners the importance of good practices of hygiene, including regular washing of hands, covering coughs and sneezes with elbows not hands, staying at home if sick, and trying to keep a metre away from people who are unwell.