



The Cathedral Connection



22 August 2021
Vol. 10 Issue 30
Twenty-first
Sunday of the Year

Be Reconciled

Today's readings are challenging.

The passage from the Book of Joshua talks about choices. Now finally in the Promised Land, Joshua challenges the people to be faithful to God, and the people respond with a firm Yes. Although well meant, they will fail again and again.

Paul's letter to the Ephesians talks about the mystery of marriage and likens it to the relationship between Christ and the Church. What an amazing description of married love, comparing it to Christ's love for his Church.

The Gospel continues John Chapter 6. As last week was the Feast of the Assumption, we missed a crucial reading from John 6. There Jesus said, 'Unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood you will not have life in you.' This is too much, even from Jesus' own followers. 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' They are tested but Peter stands firm.

Life is a journey. None of us are perfect. We will all make mistakes. It is how we handle the mistakes that is important. Part of that is how we see ourselves. Are we so perfect that we can reject criticism, or can we 'own up' to our faults?

In August 2013, Antonio Spadaro SJ, editor in chief of La Civiltà Cattolica, the Italian Jesuit journal was given an interview with Pope Francis. In his own words,

"I have the first question ready, but then I decide not to follow the script that I had prepared for myself, and I ask him point-blank: 'Who is Jorge Mario Bergoglio?'"

The Pope stares at me in silence. I ask him if this is a question that I am allowed to ask.... He nods that it is, and he tells me: 'I do not know what the most fitting description might be.... I am a sinner. This is the most accurate definition. It is not a figure of speech, a literary genre. I am a sinner.'

Part of growth is to change, and true growth is to change often. For Catholics one of the important ways of 'owning up' to our failings and being restored to Christ is in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

He we meet a loving God wants to restore us to our true self and what we are meant to be.

It is often difficult to go to **Reconciliation**, especially while we are out of our Cathedral. In the coming months, once we are able to gather again there will be an opportunity to celebrate this sacrament after all parish Masses.

Fr Ron



Readings For The Week

Sunday 22nd – Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joshua 24:1-2,15-18; Ephesians 5:21-32; John 6:60-69

Monday 23rd – 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8-10; Matthew 23:13-22

Tuesday 24th – Revelation 21:9-14; John 1:45-51

Wednesday 25th – 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:27-32

Thursday 26th – 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13; Matthew 24:42-51

Friday 27th – 1 Thessalonians 4:-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Saturday 28th – 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11; Matthew 25:14-30

Sunday 29th – Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8; James 1:17-18,21-22,27; Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Psalm Response: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

OUR MISSION & VISION
To joyfully share God's
love. To be a missionary
people united in the
hearts of Jesus and Mary.



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)

Quote of the week

'God is eternal newness. He impels us constantly to set out anew, to pass beyond what is familiar, to the fringes and beyond.'

Pope Francis: [Gaudete et Exsultate](#) (paragraph 135).



COVID-19

At the time of writing, the whole country is in Alert Level 4. Cardinal John has reminded us that in Alert Levels 2, 3 and 4 **there will be no Masses or parish gatherings**. This means that some of the events advertised in this and previous weeks newsletters might be postponed or cancelled.

When we go back to Level One **please remember** what is necessary to keep everyone safe:

Holy Communion in the form of bread only (no communion from the chalice) - Holy Communion to be received on the hand only — No physical contact at the Sign of Peace — No holy water in the water fonts — Track and trace everywhere, with the tracer app if at all possible — Sanitise on the way into Churches and on the way out.

ORATIO IMPERATA—A prayer for this time of pandemic

God our Father, we come to you in our need to ask your protection against COVID19 that has disturbed and even claimed many lives.

We pray that you guide the people tasked to find cures for this disease and to stem its transmission.

Protect the medical experts that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion.

We pray for those afflicted. May they be restored to health soon. Protect those who care for them. Grant eternal rest to those who have died.

Give us the grace in this trying time to work for the good of all and to help those in need. We implore you to stop the spread of this virus, and to save us from our fears.

Grant all these through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL ADVERTISED EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO COVID-19 ALERT LEVEL RESTRICTIONS.
Please check with event organiser to confirm details.**

Parish On-line opportunities this week

On-line Rosary - Monday

Monday 11:30am—12.00noon <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82511950838?pwd=S1NqSGtzeUJyNkREeUFxUkxPM0RmUT09>
Meeting ID: 825 1195 0838 Passcode: CnRi95

On-line Scripture Reflection - Tuesdays

Tuesday 5:00pm - 5:30pm by Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/94186740914?pwd=WlqwbkYyT2pvbGhKdHBLZDFYSIRBZz09>

Children's Sacramental Programme 2022

The Sacramental Programme for this new year is about to commence and registration is now open. The programme covers 3 sacraments: Confirmation in Term 4 this year, Reconciliation and First Communion in Term 1 and 2 of 2022 respectively. To be eligible, your child/ren must already be baptised and currently in Year 3. The first parents' meeting is on 23 September 2021, 7pm at St Thomas More Church in Wilton.

If you would like to enrol your child/ren, please contact your parish coordinators:

Bede Clarke for St Mary of the Angels at bedeclarke@xtra.co.nz

Lei Encarnado for Otari Parish at babylei@xtra.co.nz

Angela Helbano for the Cathedral Parish at angela.nzet@gmail.com

PARISH SOCIAL 14 AUGUST



Last Saturday evening the 5:30pm Vigil Mass was followed by drinks and snacks. It was a very happy time of friendship and catching up with each other, as well as honouring the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary. Thank you for the generosity of the benefactors who provided the drinks and nibbles.



COURSES AND RETREATS

Theology and Care for Creation

The Wellington Theological Consortium will —Covid alert levels permitting — present a seminar **Caring for Our Common Homeland**. Friday evening 27 August and Saturday morning 28 August at The Salvation Army, 4 Normanby St, Newtown. Speakers include theologians and writers from New Zealand and Australia. Cost \$10 per day. Links to speakers' biographies can be found [here](#).

Notices from Titipounamu

The Eucharist – a Gospel event and Sacrament with Professor Thomas O'Loughlin and Brother Kieran Fenn fms.
Monday, 23 August, 7-8.30pm. Free. ZOOM.

See for details:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2021/07/27/the-eucharist/>

For more information and registration: info@studyjoy.nz



Pa Maria Marist Spirituality Centre. "Revelation – the First and the Last": a spiritual theology course presented by Michael Young SM. Begins Thursday 9 September at 7.30pm and runs for 10 weeks. Cost: \$50.00. For more information and/or to register please contact Brian Cummings SM at bqcummings@xtra.co.nz

Seasons for Growth:

Catholic Social Services is offering a weekend programme to adults who have been touched by change, loss, bereavement, separation, divorce, redundancy, this provides an opportunity to process what has happened and gain skills to respond well to such experiences. Friday 22-Sunday 24 October. Cost: \$40. Registration at seasons@wn.catholic.org.nz closes Monday, 4th October. Details of the venue will be confirmed on registration.



Fathers' Retreat Day— With Chris Duthie-Jung

A day of reflection based on Pope Francis' letter *Patris Corde* in the year of St Joseph. Date: Saturday, 4 September, 10.00am—3.30pm Venue: Home of Compassion, Island Bay. Please register by Friday, 27 August. Contact Family Ministries, Church Mission. l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz 021 164 5800.

Prayer Requests - please give any requests for prayer to the parish office or send via the parish website:

<https://mcshwellington.org/prayer-requests/>

Donations for Sacred Heart Cathedral strengthening, and restoration campaign can be made to bank account number: **02-0506-0138488-025**

Particulars: Your surname & initials **Code:** Your phone number. **Reference:** REOPEN.

Check the Cathedral Fundraising Campaign website: www.cathedralcampaign.org.nz and please mention it to your friends too.

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PARISH

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

Parish Leader / Lay Pastoral Leader:

Debbie Matheson

Parish Moderator:

Fr Ron Bennett

Secretary:

Frank Doherty

Office Hours:

12:30pm to 4:30pm Tue-Fri

Parish Council Chair:

Randy Reyes

Sacred Heart Cathedral School

Guildford Tce, Thorndon

Ph: 472 4047

Principal: Bernadette Murfitt

DRS: Jane Regan

MASS TIMES

SUBJECT TO COVID-19 ALERT LEVEL

Weekdays

(Except Public Holidays)

8:00am Monday to Friday

12:10pm Tuesday to Friday

12:10pm Monday Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

All in the Connolly Hall Chapel

Saturday

8:30am – Connolly Hall Chapel

5:30pm (Vigil for Sunday) -

St. Thomas More, Wilton

Sunday

10:30am - St. Thomas More, Wilton

7:00pm – Connolly Hall Chapel, Thorndon

Reconciliation: Saturday after 8:30am Mass, or by appointment.

Baptism: by appointment. Contact Parish office.

Please keep in your prayers

Gabrielle McLeavey
Brian and Moira Dunn
Ken Matheson
Nicholas & Thomas Dyne (Graham & Rosaleen Taylor's grandsons)
Simon Lai
Ron Blackwell



Mass will be offered for

Fr Don Morrison (RIP
15 August)



We Choose to Follow Jesus



Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

In today's first reading, Joshua told the people that they had to choose between the false gods and the true God. Joshua and the people chose to worship the true God.

In the Gospel today we hear that many people stopped following Jesus because they couldn't understand what He was teaching. But the Apostles chose to stay with Jesus. Like Saint Peter said, they knew that He was the Holy One of God.



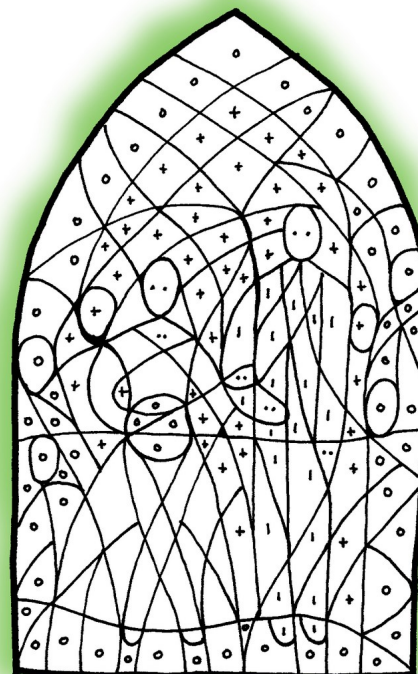
Do you ever have a hard time understanding what Jesus tells us? We need to be like the Apostles and choose to follow Jesus even when it's hard, especially when other people don't follow Him.



Answers to Word Puzzle:
twelve, you, Simon,
answered, him, go, you,
words, eternal, life,
believed, come.
HOLY ONE OF GOD.

The Kids' Bulletin

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 22nd, 2021



Saint Paul tells us how much Jesus loves the Church. What does he say that Jesus and the Church are like? Use the colour code to colour the picture and find out!

- o Red
- + Blue
- ! Black
- .. Skin colour

Ephesians 5:21-32

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