



The Cathedral Connection



5 December 2021
Vol. 10 Issue 45
Second Sunday in Advent

STOP LOOK AND LISTEN

The last two years have brought all of us many new challenges. Covid has brought new stresses to our everyday lives with confusion and uncertainty about where the world might be going. But Christmas is coming, summer has arrived and we have so much to be grateful for and joyful about.



So make this Advent a time to stop and listen and once more find the space for hope and joy as we wait with anticipation for the birth of Jesus. This weekend the first reading is from Baruch (5:1-9). It is a beautiful poem offering comfort and consolation to God's people with a commitment to mercy and justice. We are urged, 'take off your dress of sorrow and distress, and put on the beauty of the glory of God'. We can only be empowered by the words, 'wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven'. How can we remain despondent and fearful when we hear that 'God will guide in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort'. We are his beloved and he will protect us. But these words also call us to go out and act with justice and mercy using the power of his glory. Throughout the reading the imagery created is extravagant and joyous, an exultant litany of good news – a reminder to be joyful when it has been difficult to find much joy in our world.

Wishing you a joy filled Advent season.

Jane Kelly
Liturgy Committee Chair

Sacred Heart Cathedral School: A couple of days ago the Principal from Sacred Heart Cathedral School (Bernadette Murfitt) and two students from the school's Young Vinnie's group dropped off to the Parish Office two large boxes of new toothbrushes and packets of toothpaste that they had been collecting for some time. This donation has been passed on to the Wellington Soup Kitchen and the Missionary Sisters of Charity in Porirua for distribution to those in need. Thank you Sacred Heart Cathedral School. What a beautiful example of love in action.



The latest Sacred Heart Cathedral School eZine is available here
<https://sacredhcs.schoolzineplus.com/schoolnews?nid=143>

Readings For The Week

Sunday 5th – Second Sunday in Advent

Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

Monday 6th – Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday 7th – Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday 8th – Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38

Thursday 9th – Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15

Friday 10th – Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday 11th – Ecclesiasticus 48:1-4, 9-12; Matthew 17:10-13

Sunday 12th – Third Sunday in Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-18; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

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)

The Cathedral Parish Office is open to receive visitors. Please note that you must have and show your My Vaccine Pass before entering the Catholic Centre Building. You will be required to either scan the Covid-19 Tracer App QR Code or use the manual sign in system. Office Hours are on the back page. Otherwise please phone the Parish Office on (04) 496 1700.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'During Advent, we could make a habit of saying, "Come, Lord Jesus." Only these words, but repeating them: "Come, Lord Jesus". This time of preparation leading to Christmas is beautiful: we think of the nativity scene and Christmas, so let us say from the heart: "Come, Lord Jesus".'

Pope Francis: [Angelus 28 November 2021](#)



YOUR PARISH NOTICES AND EVENTS

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION: To accommodate as many people as possible there will now be two separate options for joining in this Devotion.

1. For those with a My Covid Vaccine Pass (Please show on arrival) - Every Sunday 6:00pm to 6:30pm at the Connolly Hall Chapel.
2. Open to all - Online meeting via Zoom: Every Sunday 3:00pm.
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79969189260?pwd=Qzl3UIMva3lUTWwyeFhHZGFoaVk5UT09>
Meeting ID: 799 6918 9260 Passcode: hra2h3

WEEKLY ROSARY: Our weekly rosary group meets in our Connolly Hall Chapel, Thorndon on Mondays at 11.30am. This is a Vaccine Pass event. Entry by Vaccine Pass only.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Every Thursday. To request a time slot, please contact Sr Marie (04) 8198323 or 022 639 0240 or email mariegore023@gmail.com This is a restricted numbers event. All are welcome. Please adopt 1m social distancing, scanning of QR Codes or manually signing in, mask wearing and hand sanitising is required.

FUND-RAISING TEAM HIGH TEA

Recently some members of the Parish Fund-Raising Team and a small gathering of parishioners and friends met for High Tea at the Bolton Hotel. High Tea at the Bolton Hotel is authentic in its food design, service and presentation and it helped to make the gathering special. Thank you to those who came. We are grateful to have had the chance to meet you and enjoy your company.

This occasion was not a fundraising one although we did run a small raffle. The idea for the High Tea was so that we could get together with other people, as life has been a bit hard not being able to meet as a wider group because of Covid restrictions on numbers. Our team really wanted to reach out to our community and others, and this was one way of doing it. As well as meeting people, staying visible and having human contact helps us to stay healthy and well, and extend our pathway within our community so that we don't lose touch. Who knows, if working like this (in small groups) could become an incentive to do more things, in smaller numbers so that people can come together.

We are in a different frame of 'being' with the Covid environment, however we can't let that hold us back. It didn't stop Jesus from moving among the people no matter what their status was. We just have to find ways of making our way through the mire while keeping our people safe.

Kia Tau Te Rangimarie.
Noeline Matthews



GIVE THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS: As a parish we will be partnering with Wellington City Mission to donate Christmas Gifts that will be on passed to families in need. Baskets will be placed in the Foyer at St Thomas More and the Connolly Hall Chapel to collect your donations. Suggested items can include: Single adult Christmas cakes, Fancy Biscuits/Crackers, Christmas desserts, Chippies, Salted nuts, Chocolate, Relishes/Sauces/Pickles, Vouchers (e.g. Movies/Zoo/Pool/Supermarket), Educational Toys/Books etc. Your help is greatly appreciated.



2022 Columban Art Calendars - Celebrating 100 Years — The 2022 Columban Art Calendars are once again available for purchase at \$12.00 ea. from the Parish Office. The first Columban Calendar was published in 1923 and has been a feature in Catholic homes across Australia and New Zealand. Proceeds from the sale of these calendars supports the work of the Columban missionaries among the poor communities of the world. The calendars make a wonderful gift so buy one for yourself and one for a friend!



MASSES UNDER THE NEW COVID "TRAFFIC LIGHT" FRAMEWORK

Wellington is now in the "Orange setting" and under these restrictions, and [as advised last weekend](#), all Masses in our parish are now available for access only with a "My Vaccine Pass". Various other gatherings operating from parish premises will fall into both the restricted and unrestricted category. Please check advertising notices, or with the coordinators of the gatherings to ascertain their category. If you need assistance getting a pass please contact Frank in the parish office.

The changes to the new access system requires extra processes to enable us to gather, which in turn requires extra people to assist us to meet the obligations placed upon us. If you are able to offer your assistance please contact Debbie or Frank in the parish office or one of the Mass Co-ordinators.

Your co-operation, patience and help is appreciated as we settle into these new requirements. We ask that you please:

1. Arrive early for Mass to allow time for everyone to be seated before Mass begins.
2. Have ready your Vaccine Pass available for sighting/verifying;
3. Continue to scan in using the My-Covid app or manually sign in;
4. Wear a mask and sanitise on your way into the church

Restricted Masses (for people with and without a Vaccination Pass) in our pastoral area are detailed below. Further options are available and a list of these can be found here: <https://mcshwellington.org/2021/12/masses-for-those-without-my-vaccine-passes-in-the-wellington-archdiocese/>

St Mary of the Angels – Weekdays 5.15pm and Sunday 7.00am

St Teresa's Karori – Sunday 5.00pm

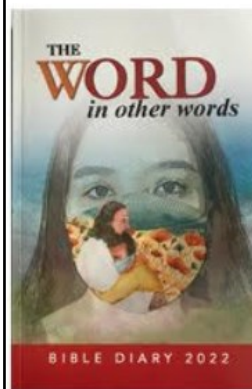
As these and future subsequent changes are bedded in please reach out and check in with our fellow parishioners who are missing from our community and may feel alienated or unsettled by the changes. During Advent as we prepare for the coming of Christ this Christmas, may kindness and understanding of our human uniqueness, beliefs and traits drive our actions and responses.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS: Fr John O'Connor offers brief daily reflections for Advent: for Advent. Sign up at www.foodforfaith.org.nz.

A Valuable Gift for Christmas

A PRAYER FOR THE Second Sunday of Advent

Jesus, you came among us
with the irresistible power of a baby,
requiring both our hands
and captivating our whole hearts.
Help us to cast aside the sin
and brokenness that we cling to,
so we might be ready to hold you
when you come again.
Amen.



THE WORD IN OTHER WORDS — a Bible diary containing the Daily Gospel reading and a short daily reflection penned by missionaries working in different mission places worldwide. This Bible Diary is a valuable help in prayer and meditation, especially during this time of the Pandemic.

To order: Call **MISSIO-NZ**

Office (09) 489 6549 or email : info@missio.nz or use our online www.missio.nz/donate page facility clicking Bible Diary on the dropdown window.

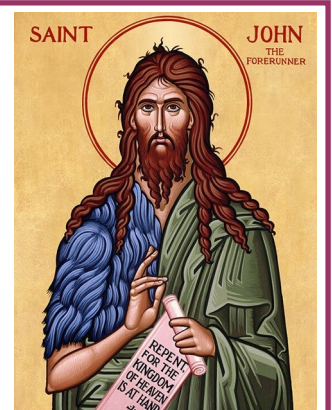
Each copy is \$20.00 (gst incl) + postage . POSTAGE \$5.10 up to 2 books / \$7.20 up to 4 books / \$27.00 for 20 books.

In today's gospel, John the Baptist comes into the story. John is a challenging saint – in Luke's account, which we hear in other years, John calls the people a 'brood of vipers' and warns them that they will be held accountable. He exhorts the people to live in justice with their neighbours – to share their goods, to fulfil the responsibilities of their jobs with integrity, and to remember that all are God's people.

Saint John's feast is 24 June, the edge of midsummer. Traditionally in Ireland, farmers would light bonfires on St John's Eve, 23 June, with the prayer: "In the honour of God and of St. John, to the fruitfulness and profit of our planting and our work, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen". Some gardeners might like this prayer: it's just as good in our midwinter when the broad beans get planted.

You can read a short discussion of today's gospel, by New Zealand Mercy sister and scripture scholar, Kathleen Rushton, here:

<https://hail.to/tui-motu-interislands-magazine/publication/ak395Yu/article/PFV7FLW>



SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PARISH

Please keep in your prayers

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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

My Vaccine Passes are required to attend these Masses or Liturgies. Masses for those without my vaccine passes are listed on the [parish website](#)

Weekdays

(Except Public Holidays)

8:00am Monday to Friday

12:10pm Tuesday to Friday

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: by appointment.

Baptism: by appointment. Contact Parish office.

Gabrielle McLeavey
Brian and Moira Dunn
Ken Matheson



Nicholas & Thomas Dyne
(Graham & Rosaleen Taylor's grandsons)

Ron Blackwell

Marie Byrne



Mass offered for

Rebecca Franklin
Anniv. 24 Dec



CHILDREN'S CORNER

We Joyfully Wait for Jesus



TURN AWAY FROM YOUR SINS!

Advent is a time of joy, when we happily look forward to the coming of Jesus. Today's Gospel reading tells about how Saint John the Baptist went around telling everyone to repent and prepare for the coming of the Messiah.

An Advent wreath is a symbol of the coming of Jesus, our Light, into the world. It has three purple candles and one pink candle. One candle is lit on the first week of Advent, and one more is added every week until Christmas. Every week it gets a bit brighter because we are getting closer to Jesus' coming at Christmas.

The purple candles stand for repentance- being sorry and making up for our sins. The pink candle represents joy. It is lit on the third week of Advent because we rejoice that the waiting is half over.



Answers to John the Baptist Word Puzzle: crying, prepare, paths, filled, mountain, straight, rough, God, A PROPHET.

www.thekidsbulletn.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday of Advent
December 5th, 2021



In Advent we hear about Saint John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, who prepared the way for Jesus' coming. He preached to the people, telling them to repent, and baptized them.

When Jesus came Saint John told the people to follow Jesus because He was the Messiah.

Can you find your way from Saint John to Jesus?