



# The Cathedral Connection



12 December 2021  
Vol. 10 Issue 46  
Third Sunday in Advent

## Third Sunday of Advent – Gaudete Sunday



Today, I came across this quote:

*“Everyday, we are engaged in a miracle which we don’t even recognise: a blue sky, white clouds, green leaves, the black, curious eyes of a child, our own two eyes. All is a miracle.”*

### Thich Nhat Hanh

It reminds me of how children, especially the very young and babies, are captivated by wonder, newness, surprise, and joy, and how as we grow older everything becomes so-so, mundane, even boring.

Today’s readings are meant for those with childlike eyes and hearts!

It is called ‘Gaudete Sunday’ – a call to rejoice and celebrate! St Paul is emphatic in the very positive tone in this part of his letter to the Philippians. For believers the coming of the Lord is a cause for great rejoicing.

That is very much the tone of the passage from Zephaniah too: exult for joy because God has repealed the sentence of judgement and instead tells his captive and broken people that there is no need for fear: the wonderful image of God dancing with shouts of joy for you is remarkable.

But if the coming of the Lord is a cause of great joy – which of course it is – it is also a cause of challenge. The crowds ask John the Baptist: ‘What must we do?’. It is our question also. How do we respond to this great news that the Lord is approaching?

John offers very careful guidance to the crowds, specific to each group – it is always a matter of practical justice. That is the great challenge. John the Baptist comes as the great herald of hope, but also as the one who challenges every believer to respond to the joyful news by a life of justice and concern for others – that indeed is the sign of the Messianic age that is being ushered in.



**Fr Ron, Parish Moderator**

## Readings For The Week

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday in Advent

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

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>** – Numbers 24:2-7,15-17; Matthew 21:23-27

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>** – Zephaniah 3:1-2,9-13; Matthew 21:28-32

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>** – Isaiah 45:6-8,18,21-25; Luke 7: 19-23

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>** – Isaiah 54:1-10; Luke 7:24-30

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup>** – Genesis 49:2,8-10; Matthew 1:1-17

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>** – Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1: 18-24

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday in Advent

Micah 5:1-4; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

**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 to the Catholic Centre Reception Staff 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



Do you want to do something new in life? Do you want to stay youthful? Then don't settle for posting a few tweets. Don't settle for virtual encounters; look for real ones, especially with people who need you. Don't look for visibility, but for those who are invisible in our midst.

Pope Francis: [Meeting with Young People in Athens](#), 6 December 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. In person – 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 My Vaccine Pass event. Entry by My Vaccine Pass only.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** Every Thursday. To request a time slot, please contact Sr Marie (04) 819 8323 or 022 639 0240 or email [mariegore023@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE



**Rite II Reconciliation** - Sunday 19 Dec 2.00pm at St Teresa's Church, Karori. Restricted number event, open to all (My Vaccine Pass optional)

### My Vaccine Pass Masses

Christmas Eve – 10.00pm at St Teresa's Pro-Cathedral  
Christmas Day – 10.00am at St Thomas More

**Restricted numbers Masses** - open to both unvaccinated and vaccinated. Please contact the respective parish for reserving your seat.

Christmas Eve – 5.15pm St Mary of the Angels  
Christmas Day – 7.00am St Mary of the Angels  
– 8.00am St Teresa's, Karori

## CATHEDRAL RESTORATION FUNDRAISING DINNER

The Cathedral restoration fundraising dinner is due to take place at the Wellington Club on **9 February 2022** (originally scheduled for 2021 but had to be postponed because of COVID-19 restrictions). Vaccine passes will be required. Tickets are \$250 each. We have a small number of places still available. If you are interested, please contact [cathedralrestorationdinner@gmail.com](mailto:cathedralrestorationdinner@gmail.com).



## PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP SOCIAL EVENT

**Sunday, 12 December at 5:30PM.** We are meeting Nando's on Courtenay Place to enjoy a meal together before Christmas. Please let Kaye-Maree know if you are interested in joining us via Frank at the parish office. Everyone welcome, would love to see some new faces.

## ADVENT JOURNEY

This is then the journey from the head to the heart;  
from the city of learning;  
to the field wide open to the sun;  
from the meaning of the words, to the knowledge behind them;  
from the music notes on paper, to the sound of the Chopin nocturne;  
from the smallest of the manger, to the Love that holds the Universe in being.



- Joy Cowley

## MASSES UNDER THE NEW COVID "TRAFFIC LIGHT" FRAMEWORK

Wellington is now in the "Orange setting" and under these restrictions, and [as previously advertised](#), 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. Sanitise on your way into the church and wear a mask whilst inside the church.

Restricted Number 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/> Please remember you must register for these Masses between 9am Wednesday and 12.00noon Friday at <https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/mass-registrations/> or phone the relevant parish office.

St Mary of the Angels – Weekdays 5.15pm (Until Christmas) and Sundays 7.00am

St Teresa's Karori – 4.00pm Saturday 11th & 18th December

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.

### Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we move through Advent towards Christmas and the end of the year, I want to thank you all for the support you have given our organisation. It has been another really, difficult year for many and in spite of that you have continued to support us in many different ways. We are most grateful for that. The team here at CSS have prepared a little something for you all by way of a 'thank you'. It is a resource we hope you will find useful in our on-going response to Covid-19. It contains ideas and recommendations if you are supporting people who are isolating at home, plus a list of items for you, should you also need to isolate at home.

There are some hyperlinks as well that will take you to sites that specialise in wellbeing. Feel free to use this for yourself or share this link with friends, whānau or anyone in your community who might find it helpful. [https://cdn.fld.nz/uploads/sites/wn-catholicsocialservices/files/PDFs/2021/A\\_Resource\\_in\\_these\\_times\\_of\\_Covid\\_Dec21.pdf](https://cdn.fld.nz/uploads/sites/wn-catholicsocialservices/files/PDFs/2021/A_Resource_in_these_times_of_Covid_Dec21.pdf)

If you would like to discuss this resource in anyway, please contact us on **04 385 8642**. We hope you all have a safe and blessed Christmas and look forward to reconnecting again in 2022.

*Meri Kirihimete me te tau hou*

**Catholic Social Services** <https://wn-catholicsocialservices.org.nz/>



**ADVENT REFLECTIONS:** Fr John O'Connor offers brief daily reflections for Advent: for Advent. Sign up at [www.foodforfaith.org.nz](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz).

The last Wellington Vaccination Festival for 2021 will be held **Saturday 11 December 2021 from 10AM – 4PM**. Get down to the Pacific Island Presbyterian Church on the corner of Daniell and Constable street, Newtown.

**#RELAX  
GET VAX'D**

**#RELAXGETVAX'D** – Wellington Vaccination Festival is an event run by youth, for youth.

A family-friendly event with plenty of free goodies on offer! Sausage sizzle - You do not have to be youth or from the local area to be vaccinated – all are welcome.

### A PRAYER FOR THE Third Sunday of Advent

Joy-filled Giver of Life,  
let the anticipation of your birth  
fill us with overflowing joy.  
May our excitement and anticipation  
be a sign to the world  
that you are always near.  
Amen.



**Samoan Catholic Vaccine Clinic** Samoan Catholic Youths of Hutt Valley are hosting a vaccination clinic at the lower Hutt Covid Vaccination center on **12 December 2021 from 2PM to 6PM**– encouraging all to get vaccinated if you have not already. So, register at [covidregister@phshutt.co.nz](mailto:covidregister@phshutt.co.nz) or call **04 577 0394** or text **027 277 6996**.

# SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PARISH

Please keep in your prayers

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[www.mcshwellington.org](http://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

Rocky Dunmire



## Mass offered for

Sr Maryanne Cahill RSM  
RIP 8 Dec.

Rebecca Franklin  
Anniv. 24 Dec



## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### Pointing the Way to Jesus



In today's Gospel reading we hear about the people being filled with expectation for the coming of the Messiah. Saint John the Baptist told the people how to prepare for his coming- by doing good and repenting of their sins.

At first the people thought that John the Baptist might be the Messiah. But Saint John was only a messenger.

We can think of him as a sign-post pointing the way to Jesus. People came to see and hear him, and he

showed them the way to God.



How can you be like Saint John the Baptist and show other people the way to Jesus?

Answers to Crossword Puzzle:  
Across: 1: peace 3: shall 5: thanksgiving 9: near 11: all  
13: sisters 15: Christ Down: 1: petition 2: again 4: have  
6: kindness 7: guard 8: God 10: your 12: Lord 14: 15: to

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## A WORD OF APPRECIATION

# United in Prayer

Rosaleen and Graham Taylor, Eleanor, Peter, William, Nicholas and Thomas Dyne, want to thank all the Faith Community of Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish for your prayers for Nicholas and Thomas. Nicholas's 6-hour operation was on the 6<sup>th</sup> December and was a total success.

The first of two for Thomas was on 8<sup>th</sup> November and was also a success, though it took him some time to get over it fully. You really are a great community."

