



The Cathedral Connection



30 January 2022
Vol. 11 Issue 1
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

God is Love

Today's 2nd reading is used in many settings. Firstly, when a new translation of the Bible comes out – the new version is often compared to a previous translation, e.g., King James or the Revised Standard Version. This reading is one of the most beautiful in the scriptures, so it is most often used in comparing the new with the old version. Secondly, it is a favourite wedding scripture, expressing the affection of the couple.

But the Greek word Paul uses – agape – has a particular emphasis. Greek has three other commonly used word for love – eros, philia and storge – relating to sexual, brotherly/sisterly and family love respectively. Agape is used of a sacrificial, self-giving love that is totally other orientated. It may well be found in married love, but its basic use in Christian writings is when talking of the love of God. This is the thrust of Paul's letter. God's love for humankind can only be totally gratuitous as God cannot need any response, and the love of humankind for God is possible only through God's grace. When we are told 'God is love' (1 Jn 4.16), the evidence for that is the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus – the self-emptying and sacrificial death of the Lord.

That is the model for all Christian love, and Paul's language and description find their supreme example in Jesus Christ. When read at a wedding service this passage may speak of the great emotional attachment of the couple, but behind it will also be the invitation to live it out, in a conscious and active way, as the self-giving and the sacrifice that are implied in the wedding vows.

Agape as love is so much more than a warm sentiment – it is a response to the self-giving of God and that is the way of life we as Christians are invited to choose to enter into as we seek to follow the master – and while it may well be costly, it is the one thing that matters.

Fr Ron

Readings For The Week

Sunday 30th – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13; Luke 4:21-30

Monday 31st – 2 Samuel 15:13-14,30,16:5-13; Mark 5:1-20

Tuesday 1st Feb – 2 Samuel 18:9-10,14,24-25,30-19:3; Mark 5:21-43

Wednesday 2nd – Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 2:22-40

Thursday 3rd – 1 Kings 2:1-4,10-12; Mark 6:7-13

Friday 4th – Ecclesiasticus 47:2-13; Mark 6:14-29

Saturday 5th – 1 Kings 3:4-13; Mark 6:30-34

Sunday 6th – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 6:1-2,3-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

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.

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

The Word of God is the beacon that guides the synodal journey that has begun throughout the Church. As we strive to listen to each other, with attention and discernment, let us listen together to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit.
[#Synod](#) - Pope Francis, 24 January 2022



CATHEDRAL HOMECOMING PRAYER

Working towards the reopening of the Cathedral sometime in 2022, Fr James has taken the opportunity to re-affirm and re-focus the communal prayer that we, as a community, pray together at the end of the Prayer of the Faithful. Whilst contributions to the restoration are still needed the new prayer below asks God for His blessings for the Cathedral's supporters and contributors, and upon our community as we enter the final throws of the restoration and strengthening campaign. Thank you Fr James for your penmanship and continued support of our Cathedral and parish.

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PRAYER

Ever faithful God,

true to your promises, merciful and just.

Encouraged by the intercession of Mary Immaculate

for the strengthening and restoration of our Cathedral,

we renew our prayer, as we enter the final phase of this work.

Bless the generosity of our supporters,

and the hearts of those still able to contribute.

Return us to our spiritual home, a community strengthened

in faith, with hopes fulfilled and united in love.

Confident in your guidance we give thanks and praise

and commit ourselves to the service of the Gospel

for the glory of your Name.

Amen.



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. **Resumes on 6 February 2022.**

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=QzI3UIMva3lUTWwyeFhHZGFoaVk5UT09>
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.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: Every Tuesday evening from 5.00-5.30pm there is an opportunity to be nourished by the Word of God, coming together in a safe on-line Zoom gathering. All are welcome. <https://zoom.us/j/94186740914?pwd=WlgwbkYyT2pvaGhKdHBLZDFYSIRBZz09> Meeting ID: 941 8674 0914

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 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.

Welcome

Next week the Cathedral Pastoral Leadership Team of Fr Ron and Debbie will be joined by Fr Alliston Fernandes. Fr Alliston, an ICPE Mission Priest, has returned to NZ after 3 years in Malta. He will also be working with the ICPE Institute for World Evangelisation communities across New Zealand and with the Archdiocesan Church Mission team in parishes in the diocese. Please offer Fr Alliston a warm welcome when you meet him. An opportunity to formally welcome Fr Alliston to the parish will happen at a later date.



MASSES DURING COVID-19 RED ALERT LEVEL

The "Red" setting of the Covid-19 alert level has meant a few changes to how we gather for Masses.

- As advised earlier this week via email <https://mcshwellington.org/masses-under-red-light-covid-protection-framework/> we are now required to register again for all weekend Masses. Please remember you will need to register each week.
- On-line Registrations are open from Wednesday 9.00am till midday Friday. <https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/mass-registrations/> If you are unable to register online but want to attend a Saturday Vigil or Sunday Mass, please phone the Parish Office.
- Limits on numbers are also in place again and take into account the mandated 1m social distance.
- Face masks are now also required to be worn and you will be unable to enter without a face mask from 3rd February.
- During the pandemic the dispensation from the Sunday obligation to attend Mass is still in place.

This pandemic is very challenging to all on many levels. As Omicron spreads, and we respond to restrictions to slow down the virus and protect those vulnerable and immune compromised, if you find that you need assistance, like getting groceries, that family and friends are unable to help you with please reach out to us in the parish office and we will try to put you in touch with someone to help. If you would like to put your name on a list of people available to help others if needed, please email the parish office with your offer.

Unvaccinated Masses: St Mary of the Angels have a Mass for the unvaccinated at 5.15pm each weekday, Monday to Friday. Please note that valid Vaccine Passes will now be required to be shown to attend their 7.00am Sunday Mass.

Masses from other locations: Please check details from your local parish websites. Contact details for other parishes can be found here: <https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/about/parishes-in-the-archdiocese/>

Thank you!

My thanks, my sincere and deep thanks, to the many people in our community who have sent messages of support and prayers during my battle with bowel cancer. I am cured. What a wonderful blessing it is to be able to say this. Praise God. I am thankful to the many medical professionals who contributed to my treatment. I am thankful to the people who supported Debbie as she juggled her leadership role with providing loving support for me (I can be a very trying patient). As my immune system improves, I hope to share the celebration of Mass with you all. May God bless you all. *Ken Matheson (Husband of Debbie)*



Tonga Relief Appeal

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand has mobilized prepositioned supplies to be of immediate assistance, and will continue to work with Caritas Tonga to best assist those in need. We have also pledged a solidarity grant to go immediately to assist with the response to the disaster. If you would like to donate to the emergency relief work of Caritas in Tonga, Donations can be made to Caritas online through the Pacific Relief Fund (www.caritas.org.nz/donate-online) or via our bank account 03-0518-0211216-00 - please include your first & last name and put 'Tonga' as the code. Alternatively, you can donate by credit card over the phone by calling 0800 22 10 22.



Titipounamu Study & Joy - Online Sessions - Online Sessions (Evening): The Holy Spirit – A Driving Force with Kieran Fenn fms. Mondays, 14, 21, 28 February, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. \$25/session or \$50/series. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/the-holy-spirit-a-driving-force-2/> For more information and registration: www.studyjoy.nz

LAUNCH OUT FORMATION PROGRAMME

Congratulations!



Congratulations to **Frank Doherty**, our parish secretary, who has just been accepted to the Archdiocesan Launch Out Formation Programme. This is a formation and discernment programme for aspiring lay ministers who are formed to take on roles such as Lay Pastoral Leadership, Chaplaincy, and leaders of the various ministries in the Church.

Frank says that he has for some time felt the call to join Launch Out yet it's only recently that the timing seemed right. Frank has had a rather itinerant career path, working as a traffic control officer, selling cemetery plots, involved in prison ministry for ten years, among others. His most significant work was being a missionary for 14 years for ICPE Institute for World Evangelisation. Whilst serving the Parish these past eight years Frank continued to follow his vocation in helping people become aware of their baptismal calling to be missionary disciples, as Pope Francis encourages us. During the next six to eight years in Launch Out, Frank will undergo spiritual formation, alongside studies of theology and scriptures, and further learn how to organise pastoral projects. Please keep Frank and his new journey in your prayers.

If you would like to know more about the Launch Out formation programme please email m.bernardo@wn.catholic.org.nz

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

Nicholas & Thomas Dyne
(Graham & Rosaleen

Taylor's grandsons)

Ron Blackwell

Marie Byrne

Rocky Dunmire

*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer*



Mass offered for

Michael Gibson
RIP 6 January

Harold Mallia-Zarb,
RIP 21 January (Malta).
Father of Lucienne Hensel.

Jennifer Dwyer
RIP 22 January. Mother of Sr Raylene.



CHILDREN'S CORNER

Saint Paul Teaches About Love

SORRY I BROKE THIS. I FORGIVE YOU.



makes you great is loving others.

Who do you love? Can you love someone who bothers you or doesn't like you? Love isn't just a nice feeling about somebody. It means deciding to want what is best for that person. You really can love people that you don't get along with! It's a decision that you can make.

LET'S PLAY A GAME YOU LIKE!



Who was the most loving person ever? Jesus! Think of how much He must have loved us to die on the cross for us even though we hurt Him by our sins! Every day tell Jesus that you love Him, and show it to Him by loving the people around you.

Answers to Love: True or False? 1 false 2 true 3 true 4 false 5 false 6 false 7 true

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 30th, 2022



Luke: 4.21-30

Jesus' neighbours got upset with Him when He said that they wouldn't appreciate a prophet from their own town.

But when they tried to throw Him off a cliff, He walked right through the crowd and went away.

Can you find Jesus in this crowd?