



The Cathedral Connection



13 March 2022
Vol. 11 Issue 7
2nd Sunday of Lent

Meeting God

Just as the readings for the First Sunday of Lent always lead us into the wilderness, and just as the wilderness is always the place of the Exodus, where God prepares us for the future, so the readings for the Second Sunday of Lent always lead us up a mountain, and meeting God in some way.

There are many mountains referred to in the Scriptures, but they always carry a connotation of meeting with God: Mount Ararat, where Noah first offers sacrifice to God after the flood; Moriah, where Abraham goes to offer Isaac as sacrifice; Sinai, where Moses receives the Law; Horeb, where Elijah encounters God and is commissioned to carry out God's work; and Mount Zion where David establishes Jerusalem and Solomon builds the Temple.



It is interesting that two of those key figures in the Old Testament meetings – Moses, who received the Law on Sinai, and Elijah the great prophet – are presented as representing the Law and the prophets, the whole teaching of the Old Testament.

If last Sunday's readings were about struggle, confronting our own demons, this Sunday's readings are about hope, that we will need when the going gets tough. For here Peter, James and John come to experience Jesus as he really is – God. This helps them as they take in that he will suffer and die, before rising from the dead.

We need these God moments in our lives. They help us in times of trouble and distress. I must admit I have not had one per se. But there are times when I do feel close to God. Often that is to do with prayer. But it can also be being with a certain person, or something of nature.

We are people of hope. People who believe that God is in control. That God holds us in the palm of His hand. This Lent, let us take every opportunity to grow in our faith, to look squarely at our failings and see ways to turn them around. To look at our virtues and thank God for them.



Fr Ron

Readings For The Week

Sunday 13th – 2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15:5-12,17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28-36

Monday 14th – Daniel 9:4-10; Luke 6:36-38

Tuesday 15th – Isaiah 1:10,16-20; Matthew 23:1-12

Wednesday 16th – Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28

Thursday 17th, St Patrick – Jeremiah 1:4-9; Acts 13: 46-49;
Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

Friday 18th – Genesis 37:3-4,12-13,17-28; Matthew 21:33-43,45-46

Saturday 19th, St Joseph – 2 Samuel 7:4-5,12-14,16; Romans 4:13,16-18,22;
Matthew 1:16,18-21,24

Sunday 20th – 3rd Sunday of Lent

Exodus 3:1-8,13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12; Luke 13:1-9

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



METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL
OF THE SACRED HEART

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

We need to pray because we need God. Thinking that we need nothing other than ourselves is a dangerous illusion. If the pandemic has heightened the awareness of our own personal and social fragility, may this Lent allow us to experience the consolation provided by faith in God, without whom we cannot stand firm.



Pope Francis, [Message for Lent 2022](#)

MASSES UNDER THE RED COVID “TRAFFIC LIGHT” FRAMEWORK

The Cathedral parish continues to require parishioners to have a valid Vaccine Pass for entry at all parish Masses, along with face masks for everyone without an exemption. Registration to attend is required and can be found here. <https://mcshwellington.org/ash-wednesday-mass-reservations/> Please continue to practice 1m social distancing and be aware of those around you who may be nervous about the current environment – be considerate of each other’s situations, known or unknown.

Unvaccinated Masses at St Mary of the Angels: Due to a Covid positive case within this community the parish is closed for all Masses until Sunday 20th March. No Masses for the unvaccinated is currently available in our pastoral area.

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/>

Need help? This pandemic is very challenging to all on many levels. Omicron is now out in our community, and as we respond and adjust, 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.

Omicron in our parish community

Our 10.30am Mass last Sunday, 6 March is now an exposure event, with a young child from our parish school who attended this Mass now testing positive. For those who were at this Mass the family concerned have advised that the entire family was masked and was seated upstairs in the choir loft during Mass and exited the church immediately after. For parishioners at this Mass, please monitor yourselves for symptoms.

With Omicron now circulating and spreading quickly in the wider Wellington area. Please remember that if you are feeling unwell at all, stay at home and get tested.

MASS FOR PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

The Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Novatus Rugambwa, has arranged for the celebration of Mass to pray for the people of Ukraine. This Mass will be celebrated at St Teresa’s Pro Cathedral in Karori at noon on Thursday 17 March. The Diplomatic Corps have been invited to attend. There will probably be about 30 of them which means there will be room for some parishioners as well.

If you would like to attend, please email , the Parish Office at Karori office@otariparish.co.nz or the Cathedral Parish Office cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz to register.



CATHEDRAL PARISH SYNOD - DISCERNMENT OPPORTUNITIES

“A Church that teaches must be firstly a Church that listens.” – Pope Francis

Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish invites you to join with fellow parishioners in a Spiritual Conversation to discern our response to the Synod. Sessions will be held on the following dates:

- ◇ Saturday 2 April 2022, 3-5pm at St Thomas More
- ◇ Wednesday 6 April 2022, 5-8.30pm at St Thomas More (exact timing to be confirmed)
- ◇ Saturday 9 April 2022, 3-5pm at St Thomas More

Synod resources are available at the Archdiocese website:
<https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/about/archdiocesan-synod/>

For enquiries: cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

CATHEDRAL PARISH LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

The Sacrament of Reconciliation on offer

On the evening of his resurrection Jesus appeared to his Apostles and spoke to them. We find this narrative in the gospel of John:

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you". And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained". (Jn 20:21-23)

Jesus thus grants his apostles the power to forgive sins and through apostolic succession bishops and priests today continue to be agents of the Lord's pardon and peace across generations.

The focus is on the loving encounter with God who receives us and always forgives us and not so much on one's sins, and so it has been appropriately termed as the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

About a year ago Pope Francis asked for prayers that this sacrament would be experienced "with renewed depth, to taste the forgiveness and infinite mercy of God". He added that the church offers this sacrament of healing to her children that they experience healing of their soul and benefit from greater spiritual health.

Maybe it has been a while since you availed of this sacrament. Why not during this Lent, a time of spiritual renewal, consider taking advantage of the same and see what it does for you? In subsequent write-ups we shall discover more of what constitutes this sacrament, viz. contrition, confession and penance.

Please see below for when and how to arrange an appointment with a Priest to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Reconciliation Times

Please approach Fr Alliston for an appointment for Rite I Reconciliation at any time or come along at the following times: weekends during Lent – at St Thomas More church, Saturday 4.50-5.20pm and Sunday 9.50-10.20am; weekdays at Connolly Hall chapel 20 minutes before 12.10pm Mass and 30 minutes after the Stations of the Cross on Fridays. In response to the Omicron outbreak there will be no Rite II Reconciliation services offered across the diocese during Lent.



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

'And to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness'. (Eph 4:23-24)

Rediscover the power that Jesus gives His people through the Holy Spirit. Join fellow parishioners every Wednesday evening from 4 May - 15 June 2022 in a Life in the Spirit Seminar to gather and prepare for a very personal "Pentecost", a revitalisation of the Spirit's presence.

For enquiries: cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz

A banner for the Sacred Heart Cathedral Online Charity Art Auction. It features a collage of artworks: a red tulip, a coastal scene with houses, a stylized face, and a group of people. The text in the center reads: "Sacred Heart Cathedral Online Charity Art Auction 8am 19th - 9pm 27th March 2022". The logo of the Metropolitan Diocese of Wellington is at the top.

The inaugural MCSH Charity Art Auction to raise funds for the restoration and seismic strengthening of the cathedral is coming together well as we gear up for the launch on **Saturday 19 March 2022**. The uncertainty around Covid-19 has created the opportunity to move our charity art auction online, so we can reach more people than the original event we had planned. We are new to this but so excited to bring this to you and look forward to your support.

Among the artists exhibiting their wonderful works are Del Te Rito, Charlotte Hird, Jim Gorman, Olympia Osborne, Sonia Treacy, Ellen Donnelly and many more. We are so blessed to have them come on board.

How to access the auction

- Look out for an email on 19 March with information on how to access our virtual auction.
- Registering for the auction is easy. All you need is your mobile phone or access to internet on your computer.
- The auction will run 24 x 7 from 19 March to 27 March 2022.

If you have any questions, feel free to email mcsch.march22art@gmail.com

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PARISH

Please keep in your prayers

PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140,
Ph: (04) 496 1700
cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz
www.mcshwellington.org
<https://www.facebook.com/MCSHWellington/>

Parish Pastoral Leadership Team

- Debbie Matheson: **Parish Leader / Lay Pastoral Leader**
- Fr Ron Bennett: **Parish Moderator**
- Fr Alliston Fernandes

Music Coordinator/Leader:

Lisa Beech

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: John Grevatt

MASS TIMES

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

Weekdays

(Except Public Holidays)

8:00am Tuesday to Friday

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

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

Fr David Dowling



Mass offered for



All our deceased friends, family and former parishioners.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Looking at Jesus



In today's Gospel reading Jesus took three of His apostles up a mountain where they saw Him shining like the sun and talking with Moses and Elijah. They were talking about how Jesus was going to go to Jerusalem and be killed. The apostles were amazed and confused.

Jesus let the apostles see Him in glory to help them to understand why He had to suffer and die. We won't see Jesus in His glory until we see Him in Heaven, but it is good for us to think about the things that He and Moses and Elijah were talking about.

Look at a crucifix or picture of Jesus on the cross every day. Think about how much He loves you, and think about how you act toward Him. What can you do to love Him better? Lent is a good time to try to find ways to love Jesus more.



Answer to St. Joseph Puzzle:
1 E 2 F 3 D 4 C 5 B 6 A

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday of Lent
March 13th, 2022

Jesus shone like the sun when He took his three friends up the mountain.

Luke 9:28-36



Peter was confused and said something without thinking. What did he say he could make?

Connect the dots to find out!