



# The Cathedral Connection



27 March 2022  
Vol. 11 Issue 9  
4th Sunday of Lent

## Laetare Sunday

Blaise Pascal wrote, “The heart has its reasons which reason knows nothing of... We know the truth not only by the reason, but by the heart.” This is showcased in this Sunday’s gospel account in the parable of the prodigal son. While addressing this to the Pharisees and public sinners, Jesus reveals who God truly is - a Father who is unrelenting in showing love and tenderness so much so that He runs to his returning son with no questions being asked.

In contemporary culture with people leaving the parental home at a young age, this parable may not resonate until one realises that in the culture of Jesus’ time, asking for one’s share of the inheritance and leaving home was, in other words, to wish that the father was dead. To do what one wished with one’s inheritance happened only after one’s father was no longer alive.

Sin is a state of alienation, that of being away from the father’s house, wasting our inheritance and living our life apart from Him; in other words: a joyless existence. In the gospel, Jesus mourns over Jerusalem saying, “how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.” (Luke 13:34)

But deciding to turn back to God (or deepening our commitment to him) as did the prodigal son results in the experience of a joyful homecoming which is what this *Laetare Sunday* is all about. The entrance antiphon at today’s mass proclaims: “Be joyful, Jerusalem, and all who love her!” This is done because she herself is loved by the Lord.

Having just crossed the midway point of Lent let us take stock of where we are in our relationship with God. Pope Francis in his last week’s Angelus address mentioned that he likens the name for God as “God of another possibility.” No matter how our journey has been thus far let us be open to that possibility. May we too have an encounter of joy and share it with those who need it the most.

Father Alliston

## Readings For The Week

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> – 4th Sunday of Lent

Joshua 5:9-12; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3,11-32

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup>** – Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup>** – Ezekiel 47:1-9,12; John 5:1-3,5-16

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>** – Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup>** – Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup>** – Wisdom 2:1,12-22; John 7:1-2,10,25-30

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-52

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5th Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11

**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)

## YOUR PARISH NOTICES AND EVENTS

**PARISH OFFICE REVISED HOURS:** The closure of the Catholic Centre has necessitated a change to the opening hours of the Cathedral Parish office in order to accommodate our Parish Secretary's other employment role for the Archdiocesan offices. With immediate effect the Parish office will now be open from 10.00am-4.30pm Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays only. If you need urgent assistance outside of these hours please phone the parish office and the answerphone will direct you.

**EASTER RAFFLE:** Thanks to Sacred Heart Cathedral school for the Easter raffle of yummy Easter treats. Tickets will be on sale after each Mass at \$1 a ticket. Please bring your coins so you won't miss out on a ticket. Raffle will be drawn on Palm Sunday.

**DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION:** Every Sunday 6.00pm to 6.30pm at the Connolly Hall Chapel. My Covid Vaccine Pass required.

**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 an on-line Zoom gathering. All are welcome. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84826247342?pwd=K0tUMHhyR1Rkb2NDZFhRIZIT0dmdz09> Meeting ID: 848 2624 7342 Passcode: 404496

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** Every Thursday. To request a time slot, please contact Sr Marie on (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, mask wearing and hand sanitising.

**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.

**END OF FINANCIAL TAX YEAR:** With the end of the tax year on 31 March, the Parish Finance Committee would like to thank you for your support towards the parish's ongoing pastoral and mission work. If you would like to give a donation to the Church, 'top-up' your giving, or join Planned Giving before then, your receipt for the current financial year will include all amounts given before 31 March 2022. Our parish account number is **02-0506-0138488-000** please remember to include your surname and initials.

### CHANGES TO COVID PROTECTION FRAMEWORK UNDER THE RED LEVEL

With effect from 11.59pm on Friday 25 March 2022 the gathering limit for indoor venues increases but there is still a requirement to keep social distancing at 1m. With the introduction of the new rules there will be no changes to the current gathering numbers for our parish Masses. However QR Codes and signing in will no longer be necessary. Please continue to register for Cathedral Parish Masses via the Archdiocesan website: [www.wn.catholic.org.nz/mass-registrations/](http://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/mass-registrations/)

Cardinal John has reaffirmed that for the time being singing is still not permitted, however Proclaimers of the Word are no longer required to wear masks when proclaiming. Eucharistic Ministers are to continue to wear masks when they distribute Holy Communion.

From 4 April, in line with the dropping of vaccine mandates and My Vaccine Passes, all parish Masses will again be open to everyone with the compulsory wearing of masks continuing to be required.

### CATHEDRAL PARISH HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE

With the limits on gatherings still in place over Easter the Cathedral parish will this year not be accompanying Cardinal John to St Teresa's pro-Cathedral for the Easter Masses. Our Easter timetable is:

#### **Palm Sunday**

Saturday Vigil – 5.30pm St Thomas More, Wilton  
10.30am St Thomas More, Wilton  
7.00pm Connolly Hall Chapel

**Holy Thursday** – 7.00pm St Thomas More, Wilton

#### **Good Friday**

Stations of the Cross – 10.00am St Thomas More, Wilton  
Passion of the Lord – 3.00pm St Thomas More, Wilton

#### **Easter Sunday**

Saturday Easter Vigil – 7.00pm St Thomas More, Wilton  
Sunday 10.30am — St Thomas More, Wilton  
Sunday 7.00pm – Connolly Hall Chapel



# HOLY WEEK



**Auction Is Live. Last Chance to Purchase!**

**Closes on Sunday 27 March 2022, 9pm**

The inaugural MCSH Charity Art Auction to raise funds for the restoration and seismic strengthening of the cathedral is live and open for registration. We need your help to spread the word and support our local artists including Del Te Rito, Charlotte Hird, Jim Gorman, Olympia Osborne and many more. Among the featured works are those of award-winning New Zealand portrait artist, Julia B. Lynch (1896-1975) including *Serenity* and *Dusk*. In addition, the work of Father David Orange, “the priest who paints” and who was greatly influenced by Lynch, is also available for auction.

**Register via Browser**

Go to <https://app.galabid.com/art4icon> or scan the QR code

Click on the 'Register' button

Follow the instructions to complete registration.



**Register via TEXT**

Text: art4icon and your full name

To 2834

Example: art4icon John Smith

Follow the registration link you are sent by text from GalaBid.

**WORKING WITH OTARI PARISH**

**SUPPORT FOR REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT IN WELLINGTON:** Catholic Social Services (CSS) and Red Cross are anticipating that some refugee families will be settling in Wellington in the near future. The exact arrival date is dependent on accommodation and other factors all lining up.

So that we can respond at short notice to requests from CSS for household and pantry items, Ōtari JPD Group is proposing the following ways Sacred Heart Cathedral Parishioners can help Ōtari Parish if they are able to over the next few Sundays:

1. Collection of linen and household items using the sign-up sheet in St Thomas More Church Foyer. Simply add your name and contact phone number. You are asked to bring the items along to St Thomas More and place them in the boxes provided by Sunday 10 April. These can be second-hand but must be in very good condition. Some items need to be new.
2. Donation of supermarket gift cards. Place these in the box in the foyer. This will assist us to purchase pantry items at short notice.

If you are able to help in either of these ways it will be much appreciated. Please bring items or gift cards along by Sunday 10 April.

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR – A Very Special Invitation**

‘To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek Him the greatest adventure; to find Him the greatest Human Achievement.’ – St Augustine of Hippo

The Life in the Spirit seminar invites us to gather and prepare for a very personal “Pentecost”; and experience a new release and revitalisation of the Spirit’s presence. Join with us every Wednesday evening from the 4th of May to 15th of June 2022 and be able to experience the abundant life that Jesus offers in the Gospel.

Enquiries and registration: [cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz)

**CATHEDRAL PARISH SYNOD - DISCERNMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

“A Church that teaches must be firstly a Church that listens.” – Pope Francis. Please consider joining one of the parish Synod discernment opportunities below. Enquiries to: [cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz)

- ◇ 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

PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140,  
Ph: (04) 496 1700  
[cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz)  
[www.mcshwellington.org](http://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:**  
10.00 am—4.30 pm Tues, Thurs, 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. (see notice on page 2)  
**Baptism:** by appointment. Contact Parish office.

Gabrielle McLeavey  
Brian and Moira Dunn  
Nicholas & Thomas Dyne (Graham & Rosaleen Taylor's grandsons)



*Lord, Hear Our Prayer*  
Ron Blackwell  
Marie Byrne  
Rocky Dunmire  
Fr David Dowling

Mass offered for



All our deceased friends, family and former parishioners.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

The Kids' Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Lent  
March 27th, 2022

What did the son in today's Gospel reading say to show his father he was sorry?

Luke 15.1-3, 11-32



As you go through the maze, use only the letters in the right path to fill in the blanks:

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The Son who was Sorry



Today's Gospel reading tells us about God's forgiveness. We are like the son who ran away and wasted all his money whenever we don't use our gifts or talents to serve God or others.

God is like the father in this story. He lets the younger son do whatever he wants, but he loves him even when he chooses to be bad. All he wants is for his son to come home and be sorry. He is ready and waiting to forgive the prodigal son.

God is waiting to forgive us too, in the sacrament of Confession. He wants us to be sorry for our sins and tell Him we are sorry so He can take them away.

Try to make sure you go to confession before Easter so your soul will be clean and ready for the great celebration!



Answer: Father, I have sinned