



The Cathedral Connection



3 April 2022
Vol. 11 Issue 10
5th Sunday of Lent

A TIME FOR RENEWING

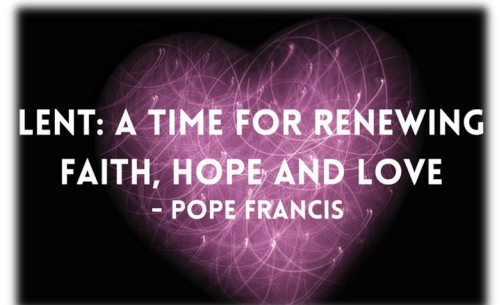
Right now in the UK and Europe the weather has turned, days are getting warmer. My friends there tell me that the traditional signs of spring are emerging. The bluebells are a carpet under the trees and new lambs are in the fields. And so logically the introspection of lent ends with an Easter joy that suits the season outside the doors.

For us in the southern hemisphere autumn has arrived and we are thinking with regret of the coming of the rain and cold that will mark our winter. There is a natural tendency for us to become more introverted as we hunker down and prepare ourselves for the winter. The readings today are telling us despite autumn, signs of death in nature and the shorter days this is a time for joy. For 'The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy'. The Psalm is a reminder of the times that the Lord stood by his people, leading them out of Egypt and to a new life. Now is our time to renew and rebuild our faith and to find joy in the possibilities that lie ahead for a life based in Christ.

In the second reading from St Paul to the Philippians, Paul continues this message. This letter was written while he was in prison for preaching about Christ. Despite his gloomy circumstances, St Paul is exuberant in his writing and eager to continue transforming his life with joy – through knowing Jesus. Jesus Christ is his only goal. He tells us "forget the past and strain ahead for what is still to come;" The Psalm was the story of the past. We can learn from our history, our mistakes and our successes, but we shouldn't dwell in the past.

St Paul wants to lead us out of any gloom. He knows none of us is perfect, but he clearly sees what a life in Christ would be and is only interested in attaining the goal of knowing Christ and the power of his resurrection. 'I can assure you my brothers and sisters, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.'

Jane Kelly (*Liturgy Committee Chair*)



Readings For The Week

Sunday 3rd – 5th Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11
Monday 4th - Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; John 8:12-20
Tuesday 5th – Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30
Wednesday 6th – Daniel 3:14-20, 24-25, 28; John 8:31-42
Thursday 7th – Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59
Friday 8th – Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42
Saturday 9th – Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56
Sunday 10th – Palm Sunday
Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14-23:56

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)

'If we want the world to change, then first our hearts must change.'
- Pope Francis: [Homily, Celebration of the Sacrament of Penance with the Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, 25 March 2022](#)

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. All tickets are now sold and the raffle will be drawn on Palm Sunday.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION: To accommodate as many people as possible there are two separate options.

1. In person – for those with a My Covid Vaccine Pass - 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://tinyurl.com/yc7csy5h>
Meeting ID: 799 6918 9260 Passcode: hra2h3

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://tinyurl.com/3xhax96d>
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. All are welcome. Please wear a mask and sanitise hands. **Maria Smart's Reflection on Adoration** - I come to adoration as it's my special time to spend with the Lord where I can really concentrate on my prayers...in the quiet peace of the chapel. Time to think of all the blessings and love that the Lord has for me, but in the past I was too busy working and busy with a young family to appreciate. Now I can make up for the lost time.

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.

DONATE TO CARITAS LENT APPEAL

Lent is a time of fasting, praying and almsgiving. The Caritas theme for Lent 2022 is "Called to be Peacemakers" based on the Beatitude reference in Matthew 5:9 and inspired by the writing of Pope Francis in his recent encyclical Fratelli Tutti. As we journey towards Easter, the theme highlights our encounter with God in building peace. During Lent, NZ Catholic Bishops invite us to provide for the needs of the poor through the work of Caritas. Money raised through the Lenten Appeal helps to fund both development and emergency relief work around the world. You can donate using the Lenten envelopes available at the back of our churches or online by visiting www.caritas.org.nz and pay by credit card or make a direct transfer.



EASTER TIMETABLE

With limits on gatherings still in place 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

COVID-19 MEASURES

With recent changes to the Covid-19 framework, the following apply to our Masses and other gatherings at present:

1. QR Code Scanning is no longer required (but available if you wish to continue using it).
2. Vaccine Passes are still needed, for now, but with increased numbers allowed, there's no need to register for Mass.
3. Mask wearing is still required inside the building.
4. Hand sanitising is still highly encouraged.
5. Physical Distancing is no longer required inside.
6. 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 masks continuing to be compulsory.

Acts of the Penitent (continued)

After contrition and the confession of sins are had, the priest grants absolution by reciting the appropriate prayer. He would normally give a prayer to be said or a task to be performed. This is termed as satisfaction.

One may be reminded of the story of Zacchaeus' encounter with Jesus (Luke 19:1-10). After repenting of his sins and receiving the Lord's forgiveness he says, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." Jesus affirms saying "Today, salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham." (Lk 19:8,9). Being overjoyed by the experience of the Lord's forgiveness, Zacchaeus desires to right the wrongs he has committed. This is a good illustration of how one might consider *satisfaction* or what we term *penance*.

Speaking on the topic, the Council of Trent (1551) stated:

The satisfaction that we make for our sins, however, is not so much ours as though it were not done through Jesus Christ. We who can do nothing ourselves, as if just by ourselves, can do all things with the cooperation of "him who strengthens" us. Thus, man has nothing of which to boast, but all our boasting is in Christ ... in whom we make satisfaction by bringing forth "fruits that befit repentance." These fruits have their efficacy from him, by him they are offered to the Father, and through him they are accepted by the Father.

A genuinely penitent person does not approach satisfaction for sins as an onerous task but looks at it as a "remedy all the disorders sin has caused." (CCC 1459) Since this disorder would be either in terms of one's relationship with God, one's neighbour or oneself, the apt remedies would be prayer, almsgiving and fasting. These help us regain spiritual health and help configure us to Christ which is the ultimate aim of our Christian journey.

Have you availed of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the recent past? If so with Easter approaching why not take the opportunity to be enriched by an encounter with the merciful Lord? Please see the notice in the Lent section of this newsletter for when and how to arrange an appointment with a Priest to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Fr Alliston

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: Welcome to the latest edition of our Schoolzine eNewsletter! Visit the link below to view your newsletter: <https://sacredhcs.schoolzineplus.com/schoolnews?nid=163>



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 — pillows and hot water bottles — need to be new. Second hand electrical appliances are not preferred as they need to be checked
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.

SYNOD - DISCERNMENT OPPORTUNITIES

In the Parish:

- ◇ Saturday 2 April 2022, 3-5pm at St Thomas More
- ◇ Wednesday 6 April 2022, 6-8.30pm at St Thomas More
- ◇ Saturday 9 April 2022, 3-5pm at St Thomas More

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

For women in the Archdiocese:

An opportunity for Catholic women to participate in the synodal journey and meet, share, listen and discern: How are we as women called to participate in the mission of the Church? As Catholic women, what are our hopes and dreams for a truly inclusive Church?

Wednesday 20 April 7pm: on Zoom. Thursday 21 April 7pm: St Joseph's Mount Victoria. To register, contact Lucienne Hensel, e: l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz, t: 04 4961715 m: 021 1645800

