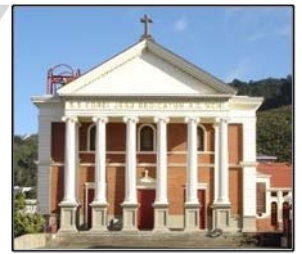




The Cathedral Connection



10 April 2022
Vol. 11 Issue 11
Palm Sunday

Palaspas

Growing up in the Philippines, my memory of Palm Sunday is that of the palaspas – the intricately woven, decorated palm frond. Made out of coconut or buri palm, the palaspas has two basic parts – a decorated handle, and the decorated fronds. The handle can be heart-shaped or woven like a mat decorated with crepe paper flowers. The fronds may be cut, folded, or plaited to form different patterns and designs; and may be decorated with tiny banderitas made out of crepe paper.



It is brought to the church to commemorate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. The smell and the colours of the decorated palms create a very festive mood for the occasion. Usually occurring at the church's parvis, the crowd pressed together would raise their palaspas and wave them as our Lord's disciples did upon his entry into Jerusalem. Every now and then a cheeky fellow would start waving their palaspas even if it is not yet the right moment, and everyone follows suit; I've observed several priests who were quite annoyed by the prank.

Blessed by the priest during mass, it is believed that the palaspas becomes potent. From the church, it is brought home to adorn doors or windowsills to ward off demons and prevent misfortune in the home. You would see the blessed palaspas in the largest of mansions of the rich or the smallest huts of the poor for the whole year, till the next Palm Sunday.

The simple palm frond is transformed by the creativity of those who weave it into the palaspas. It is a priceless treasure we look after as we prepare for Palm Sunday. In the celebration, we use it to magnify our Hosanna and praise to our Lord. And when it's been blessed, our faith sees it as an expression of our God's love, mercy, and protection.

Randy Reyes (*Chair, Parish Pastoral Council*)

Readings For The Week

Sunday 10th – Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14-23:56

Monday 11th - Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11

Tuesday 12th - Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33,36-38

Wednesday 13th - Isaiah 50:4-9; Matthew 26:24-25

Thursday 14th – Holy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15

Friday 15th – Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16,5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42

Saturday 16th – Holy Saturday (Vigil of Easter)

Genesis 1:26-31; Romans 6:3-11; Luke 24:1-12

Sunday 17th – Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

“What happened to those people who in a few days' time went from shouting “Hosanna” to crying out “Crucify him”? What happened? They were following an *idea* of the Messiah rather than *the* Messiah...To admire Jesus is not enough. We have to follow in his footsteps.” - Pope Francis: [Homily for Palm Sunday 2021](#)

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 CLOSURE: Please note the Parish Office will be closed from Tuesday 19 April and will reopen on Tuesday 26 April.

Note the normal Parish Office Hours are now 10.00am to 4.30pm Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

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

- In person - Every Sunday 6:00pm to 6:30pm at the Connolly Hall Chapel. *Please note there will no Divine Mercy Prayer on Easter Sunday 17 April, and on Sunday 24 April, 6pm to 6.30pm at the Connolly Hall Chapel.*
- 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.

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.



Since we are at the “red” traffic light setting, we are providing, free of charge, a digital link to our latest issue. <https://indd.adobe.com/view/f48230de-86ce-46ce-8d55-5dcdef6650b8>. Some headlines for this issue: Social and community housing project on Church land. New CEO for Caritas. Prayers for peace in Ukraine.

DONATE TO CARITAS LENT APPEAL

Lent is drawing to a close, and there is still time to donate to the Caritas Lent Appeal, with the theme “Called to be Peacemakers”. 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 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

Holy Saturday

Lauds (Morning Prayer) & Office of Readings - 9.00am
Connolly Hall Chapel

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:

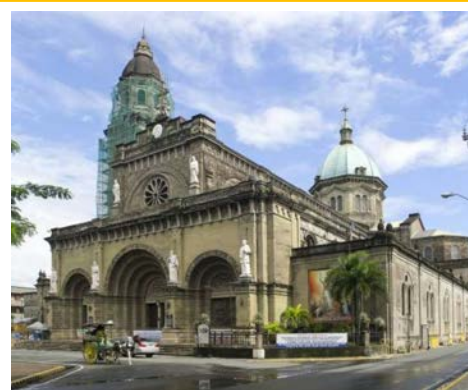
1. QR Code Scanning is no longer required (but available if you wish to continue using it).
2. Vaccine Passes are no longer required.
3. Mass registration is no longer required.
4. Mask wearing is still required inside the building.
5. Hand sanitising is still highly encouraged.
6. Physical Distancing is no longer required inside.

Parish Donation Receipts

End of year donation tax certificates are currently being prepared as part of the work required for the end of financial year. Your Finance Committee are working to have these completed and with you in May. Thank you again for your support over the last year.

Visita Iglesia – a Philippines Holy Week Tradition. This practice can be traced back to Rome where early pilgrims visited seven Churches or Basilicas as Penance. It is said this tradition was started by St Phillip Neri around 1553, where he and a few friends would start before dawn and set out on their “Seven Churches Walk”. There are seven Major Basilicas founded in Rome which were believed to hold the tombs of prominent Martyrs like St Peter and St Paul. A pilgrimage to all seven Basilicas then developed among the faithful. The Walks became very popular over time and became a tradition for many Catholics and believers alike.

The practice was brought to the Philippines by Spanish settlers, particularly Augustinian missionaries in 1560 and for the past 450 years has been widely observed in the Philippines where the majority of the population are Catholics. Visita Iglesia is observed on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday. The tradition is to visit 14 Churches and to recite the Stations of the Cross. This became a pilgrimage and meditation for Holy Week, a practice and personal form of seeking penance for sins. Philippine Catholic Churches are open from the early morning until late in the evening where pilgrims would be visiting churches the whole day. (text by Alex Mino, photos of and from the Metropolitan Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Manila).



WORKING WITH ŌTARI PARISH

SUPPORT FOR REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT IN WELLINGTON: If you are able to assist the Ōtari parish in collecting household and pantry items for refugees re-settling in Wellington, this is the last Sunday for you to drop off linen, household items, and supermarket gift cards to the St Thomas More foyer. We are now informed that the government provides furniture and beds to the families concerned. If you had such larger items, you may wish to contact St Vincent de Paul.

A Life in the Spirit Seminar is an opportunity to experience the power of the Holy Spirit in a fresh way, offering the chance to rediscover the power that Jesus gives His people through the Holy Spirit. It is a time to build community and meet new people. In a world torn with conflict it is yet possible to live together in love and peace. It is a time to deepen our spirituality and be able to experience the abundant life that Jesus offers in the Gospel.

Each evening of the seminar begins with a time of prayer and praise. A talk on the topic of the evening follows. The topics are: God’s Love, Salvation, The New Life, Receiving God’s Gift, Baptism in the Spirit, Growth, Transformation. The topics build on each other to promote seeking God with all your heart and mind, sincere repentance, and hearing and obeying the Word of God. After the talk participants break into small groups for sharing. Join with us every Wednesday evening from 4 May to 15 June 2022 and be able to discover a deeper and more personal relationship with our Lord and Saviour. Registrations and enquiries to cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz

TE RŌPŪ TAUTOKO ROADMAP: RESPONDING TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND THEMES ARISING FROM THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

Te Rōpū Tautoko has heard the call from the Commissioners that the Commission’s work is part of vision to transform care today and into the future. In response to the call from survivors and their advocates that the Catholic Church can do something more than wait for the Commission to make recommendations or wait for the government to respond. With the release of the Commission’s interim Redress Report and the completion of the Maryland’s Hearing, Te Rōpū Tautoko have solidified its roadmap into a series of actions that church leaders have agreed. For more details on each of the actions click on the link:

<https://mailchi.mp/0210cf3735a0/tautoko-update-roadmap?e=51ed05e24b>



SYNOD - DISCERNMENT OPPORTUNITIES

There is still time to participate in this important process. Nothing is off the table.

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

Individual responses online:

Until 30 April anyone may make an individual response to the Synod process online. The Archdiocese website has a lot of information at <https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/about/archdiocesan-synod/>, and the response form is available at: <https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/SYNOD-PARTICIPATION-RESPONSE-.docx> .

Thanks to everyone who has already participated!

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:

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

Weekdays

(Except Public Holidays)

All held in the Connolly Hall Chapel

8.00am Tuesday to Friday

12.10pm Monday (Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion)

12.10pm Tuesday to Friday

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)



Ron Blackwell

Marie Byrne

Rocky Dunmire

Fr David Dowling



Mass offered for

Bruce Popplewell
RIP 6 Apr (Husband of
Kerry) *Bruce's funeral will
be at 11am Monday 11
April at St Thomas More
Church, Wilton. All welcome.*



Jill Clarke (anniv 10 April)

CHILDREN'S CORNER

The Stations of the Cross

For many hundreds of years, Christians have remembered Jesus' trial and death on Good Friday. These parts of the story are called 'the Way of the Cross' or 'the Stations of the Cross' and are to help us remember.

