



The Cathedral Connection



21 August 2022
Vol. 11 Issue 30
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE LAST SHALL BE FIRST AND THE FIRST LAST

At times it seems so hard to grasp what our Lord is teaching us especially when we've been conditioned that it is good to be first. In school awards are given to those who excel in academics, in sports, in arts, in extra or cocurricular activities. At work the top producers are recognised. And everywhere else, being first is almost always advantageous. So, when our Lord tells us that the last shall be first and the first last, there may be a lot of puzzled looks all around.

In some readings, the line in itself contradicts what many believe that it is good to work hard in order to get ahead in life. One could stretch that the lazy are, instead, the ones who are rewarded. I'm certain that this last interpretation would not fly. But I suppose one thing that our Lord wants us to think about is the 'how' we get ahead in life. As we work hard to achieve our goals and dreams, do we ever consider those who are around us? Our family, friends, neighbours, our communities. Do we ever pause and look at what others need? In high school, I had a maths teacher who divided the class into groups. Each member of a group takes a turn at being the group leader. Each week, our teacher would give extra lessons to the group leaders who, in turn, were expected to tutor their respective group on the week's topic. The tutoring was on top of the regular class. At the end of each week the teacher gave us a test, and the leader and the group that performed best was recognised. Ultimately, awards and recognition were still given to those who performed best, but a whole lot more benefitted along the way to one's success.

Yes, with hard work we can get ahead in life. But isn't it better, if along the way, we take with us those who are disadvantaged, rejected, and in need? Our success doesn't have to be just about ourselves. It can be a way to better the lives of those around us. And the rewards we reap are stored where it matters most.



Randy Reyes
Parish Pastoral Council Chair

Readings For The Week

Sunday 21st – Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13; Luke 13:22-30

Monday 22nd – 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11-12; Matthew 23:13-22 Queenship of Mary

Tuesday 23rd – 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3, 14-17; Matthew 23:23-26

Wednesday 24th – Revelation 21:9-14; John 1:45-51 St Bartholomew

Thursday 25th – 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; Matthew 24:42-51

Friday 26th – 1 Corinthians 1:17-25; Matthew 25:1-13

Saturday 27th – 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 25:14-30 St Monica

Sunday 28th – Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time -
Ecclesiasticus 3:19-21,30-31; Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24; Luke 14:1,7-14

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)

Do I believe that to love is to reign, and to serve is power? That the purpose of my life is Heaven, paradise? Or am I concerned only with worldly, material things?" Pope Francis, [Angelus 15 August 2022.](#)

YOUR PARISH NOTICES AND EVENTS

Divine Mercy Devotions - Sunday 6pm-6:30pm in the Connolly Hall Chapel. All welcome.

Rosary - Every Monday (except Public Holidays) from 11.30am in our Connolly Hall Chapel, all welcome.

Scripture Reflection - Every Tuesday evening from 5pm-5.30pm there is an opportunity to be nourished by the Word of God, coming together in an online Zoom gathering. All are welcome. <https://tinyurl.com/3xhax96d> Meeting ID: 848 2624 7342 Passcode: 404496

Sacred Heart Cathedral Prayer Group - We meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month in Connolly Hall Chapel from 7.30pm-9pm. All are welcome.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday



Every Thursday from 7.00am until 7pm at Connolly Hall. Please contact Sr. Marie Gore if you would like to participate on a regular basis and commit to one hour, or just pop in for a visit for a few minutes.

mariegore023@gmail.com

New to this parish? Nau Mai Haere Mai - Welcome

If you would like to become a member of our parish or know more about us then please complete the form at: <https://mcshwellington.org/join-the-parish/> or contact the parish office Ph. 496 1700 **Your parish working together.**

PARISH VOLUNTEERS AFTERNOON TEA



Jesus came to serve, not be served, and encourages us to do the same. Our parish community has many opportunities for volunteers to share their time and talents in the service of others. Many serve in our liturgies and behind the scene that support our liturgies; in ensuring our church buildings are welcoming and accessible; and offering guidance and leadership to the community. Your parish leaders wish to thank and acknowledge all who volunteer and enhance our parish worship and life. Please join us this Sunday for afternoon tea in the Cathedral foyer from 2.00-3.30pm. If you are not currently volunteering within the parish and would like to know more about how you can serve, you are very welcome to join us to hear from our volunteers about opportunities to become more involved.

HOLY HOUR

You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 23 August at the Connolly Hall Chapel beginning at 7.30 pm to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Included in the hour will be prayers, praise and worship, scripture reading and silence, concluding with Benediction. All are welcome.

FORMATION IN PRAYER

Are you struggling to pray? Are you praying for someone or something, but nothing happened? Do you feel your prayer is dry? Do you think something is wrong with your prayer, or perhaps you pray wrongly?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us prayer is a vital and personal relationship with the living God... the living relationship of the children of God with their Father (CCC 2558, 2565). Therefore, we are invited to pray, not just on Sunday at Mass, but every day, everywhere! Because encountering God is at the heart of Catholic Life. So, as a faith community, let us grow in our prayer life and understanding of prayer. Remember, there is power in prayer!

Come and join us for our first FORMATION NIGHT on Wednesday, 21 September 2022, from 7 pm to 8 pm at Connolly Hall to learn more about PRAYER. For more information, please get in touch with cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz.

TAKE PART IN OUR RCIA PROGRAMME

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) programme will commence in September for anyone who is interested in joining our Catholic Community. This programme runs for around seven months (September to April) and involves group meetings to learn about and discuss our Catholic Faith.

If you, or anyone you know, are interested in joining this programme, or would like to support it as a leader or sponsor, please contact Trish McAloon: 021 223 1987 or trish.mcaloon@gmail.com; or the parish office (04) 496 1700 or cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz.

PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP

PFG Get-Together for August. We are meeting Sunday evening the 28th at The Lanes Bowling on Wakefield St at 5:45pm for an evening of bowling/games, fun and fellowship. Please let Kaye-Maree know if you are interested in joining us via Frank at the office. All welcome.



Several months ago, groups and individuals took part in local discussions around the Synod. Two years ago, Pope Francis set the theme for the 2023 Synod of Bishops as 'For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission'. Citing themes of walking together, listening to one another, and above all to the Holy Spirit, Francis asked Catholics – and those who had left the church – across the world to reflect on the church and its future.

Each Diocese in New Zealand published its summary of the discussions, and last week the summary for New Zealand was released (they are <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/diocesan-synthesis/> and <https://catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/nz-synod-synthesis/> and <https://www.catholic.org.nz/assets/NZCBC-National-Synod-Synthesis-Aug-2022.pdf>

They're worth reading; the themes that come through again and again are the wish for a more inclusive church, collaborative leadership, continuing education and formation, sacramental life, and rethinking the shape of pastoral ministry. Many spoke of having been hurt by the church, and wanting something better. Women's leadership was a particular theme. The diocesan summaries, especially, are something of a portrait of the church in New Zealand today.

The Synod of Bishops itself is a creation of the Second Vatican Council, inaugurated by Pope Paul VI in 1965. The idea was that bishops from across the world would meet every two years to discuss a particular theme in the life of the church. This has happened, although some observed that from the later 1980s Synods were stage-managed. Francis has emphasised the importance of free discussion, in synods on the family, on youth, and on the Amazon. The wide consultation in the present Synod process is to say the least unusual.

The national Synod document concludes by noting those matters which we can begin to address now, and those which require 'further discernment by the universal Church'. No prizes for guessing what some of the latter are.

Francis has constantly challenged the church to be a listening church – a church that listens to the world, to the Holy Spirit, and to each other. Perhaps this last is the most challenging. At least I find it so. It means listening respectfully to fellow Catholics – fellow Christians – whose approach to spirituality, to politics, to economics, to just about everything might well be different to my own. And it means speaking from my own perspective too.

These are not easy times for our parish community but the listening exercises of recent months – in our synod discussions and more recently in sharing our faith stories – are hopeful. Saint Paul often wrote of perseverance, and being a listening church means persevering.

Jim McAloon

JOBS ADVERTISED

Sacred Heart Metropolitan Cathedral Parish, Wellington, seeks applications for the position of Music Co-ordinator/Leader. This is a part-time, 15-hours-a-week, fixed-term contract until December 2023. The successful applicant will be responsible for co-ordinating the music requirements across all parish liturgies, including the establishment of a voluntary choir/singing group to regularly lead the congregation at the Sunday morning service. The position requires flexibility and includes weekend work. Applicants should have musical training to tertiary level or equivalent professional standard, and ideally be familiar with Catholic liturgy.

Please contact Debbie Matheson at d.matheson@wn.catholic.org.nz for a position description, enquiries, and to submit a written application enclosing a curriculum vitae. Applications close 30 August 2022.

Caritas is seeking a Wellington-based Head of Programmes to lead and manage the Programmes Team, and ensure the effective management of partnerships for development and humanitarian relief within the team. The successful applicant will also be responsible for identifying programme opportunities that will help the team and group to engage with current partners (and potential partners).

Details: <https://www.seek.co.nz/job/57927367?type=standout#sol=5e05b1d98ce49206b72504aa2bec9111ef3e3e1f>



Tertiary Education Scholarships: The Catholic Foundation offers a number of scholarships for students entering their first year of tertiary education next year. Information and application forms are available at www.catholicfoundation.org.nz

For Youth

Young Church Mass is back in August!! The Young Church are excited to be joining Cardinal John and Life Teen Petone for Young Church Mass on Sunday 21st August. 5.30pm at Sacred Heart Church, Petone. Come and bring your friends along!

For Single Men - Come And See – Vocations Morning Saturday 10th September 9-11:30am at St Teresa's Church, Karori. *Has anyone ever said that you would make a good priest? Have you thought about the idea, but tried to put it out of your mind? Do you think you might have a vocation?* Come And See is an opportunity to meet other like-minded young men, talk with priests and seminarians, and ask questions about the vocation to the priesthood. Join us for Mass at 9am, followed by breakfast and a time of fellowship and discussion. For catering purposes, please let us know you're coming. Contact Lucienne l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz or text 021 164 5800. Visit www.wellingtonpriests.org

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/MCSHWWellington/>

Parish Pastoral Leadership Team

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

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

If you would like your child to attend Sacred Heart Cathedral School please download an enrolment form

<https://sacred-heart.school.nz/enrolment/>

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.

Baptism: by appointment. Please contact Parish office.

Brian Dunn

Gabrielle McLeavey

Nicholas & Thomas Dyne
(Graham & Rosaleen Taylor's grandsons)



Marie Byrne

June Swain



Mass offered for



For all the dead. Those near and dear to us and those who have no one to pray for them.

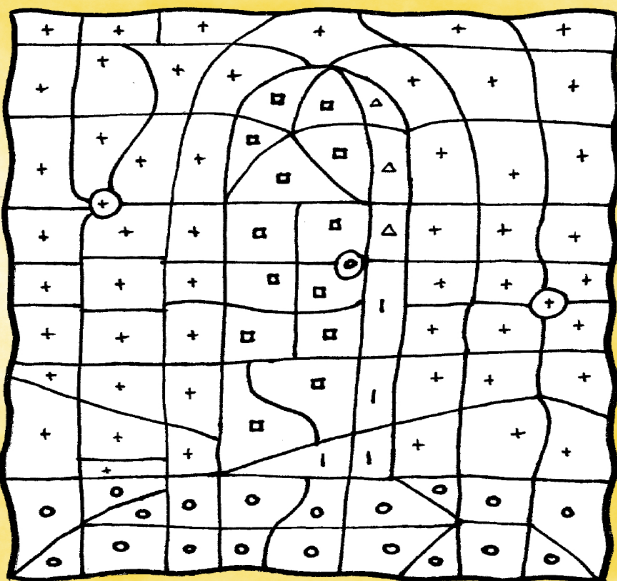
ANNIVERSARIES:

Robin Adair 21 Aug

Mike Loftus 28 Aug

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Luke 13:22-30



What was the way that Jesus told the people to enter the Kingdom of Heaven by?

Colour in the spaces using the code to find out.

- | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| △ Blue | ■ Brown | + White |
| ! Green | ● Grey | |

All in the Right Order

What was one of the things Jesus said in today's Gospel reading about the people in the Kingdom of Heaven?

Follow the squiggly line to sort out the words.
Start with "Some" in the top left corner.

