



The Cathedral Connection



4 December 2022
Vol. 11 Issue 45
Second Sunday of Advent

Prepare a way for the Lord

Two thousand years ago God's only son, Jesus Christ, came into the world to save us. The Church gives us this four-week season of Advent to prepare ourselves for the most important event in human history.

Advent comes from the word *Adventus* meaning coming. Christ promised us that he would come again at the end of time. We do not know the time or day when he will come to judge the whole world, but we do know he will come, and one day will be the last.

We know too that our lives are finite. One day will be our last day on earth and Jesus will come for each of us. We need to be ready for both future comings for we do not know when they will happen.

There is also a third coming of Christ. The first coming was in the past. His second coming will be in the future. The third coming is now, in the present. Jesus who was born in the stable at Bethlehem is knocking at the door of your heart and asking for your permission to come into your heart and life and be your Lord and Saviour. It's up to you to say "yes" to him. This is depicted in the famous picture of Christ with a lantern knocking at the door. There is no doorknob on the outside. It is only on the inside. Only you can let Christ in.



In today's gospel, we hear from John the Baptist. He is a wild and slightly eccentric figure who stands up to the religious authorities of the time. John is not the Messiah, but the prophet of the Messiah! He is the last and greatest of the prophets. John is the forerunner, the preparer. He is the appetizer not the main event. The Gospel account of John the Baptist during the season of Advent, helps us understand who Jesus is.

John delivers to the people a message of repentance and a message of hope. He tells them it doesn't matter about their ancestry or lack of knowledge of scriptural schooling. What's important is to do good works and produce fruit that will last. This did not go down well with the religious leaders.



John points to Jesus and says, "the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals." Why does he say that? Because John baptises only with water. Water is a symbol of inner repentance, saying sorry to God.

But the promised Messiah, Jesus, baptises with the fire of the Holy Spirit - with God himself.

Matthew White - Seminarian for the Wellington Archdiocese

Readings For The Week

Sunday 4th – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

Monday 5th – Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday 6th – Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18: 12-14

Wednesday 7th – Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday 8th – The Immaculate Conception

Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12; Luke 1:26-38

Friday 9th – Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday 10th – Ecclesiasticus 48:1-4,9-12; Matthew 17:10-13

Sunday 11th – Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-6,10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

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)

God is hidden in our life, he is always there – he is concealed in the commonest and most ordinary situations in our life. He does not come in extraordinary events, but in everyday things; he manifests himself in everyday things. He is there, in our daily work, in a chance encounter, in the face of someone in need, even when we face days that seem grey and monotonous, it is right there that we find the Lord, who calls to us, speaks to us and inspires our actions. (Pope Francis, Angelus Nov 27th 2022)

YOUR PARISH NOTICES AND EVENTS

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

Rosary - Every Monday (except Public Holidays) from 11.30am in 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 7am 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

Please note that Adoration will finish at 6pm on 1 December.

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

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT



Advent marks the beginning of the Church's liturgical year. It is a season in the Church's life intended to renew the experience of waiting, and longing, for the Messiah. Though Christ has already come into the world, during this Advent season the Church invites us to renew our desire and open the door of our life to the Lord. Advent is a time of expectant waiting, hopeful anticipation, and cheerful preparation.

Each Sunday during Advent one candle on the Advent wreath is lit. As a whole the candles represent the coming of the light of Christ into the world. Each candle has a name associated to it and symbolises a virtue. The centre white candle is lit on Christmas Eve.

At Mass this Sunday we light the second purple candle on our Advent wreath. Known as the Bethlehem candle, it symbolises faith and represents Christ's manger.

"This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."
(Luke 2:12, NIV)

ADVENT RECONCILIATION TIMES

During the season of Advent, Rite I Reconciliation will be available before the Saturday Vigil Mass from 4.30pm on 3 and 17 December, also before the 10.30am Sunday Mass from 9.30am on 4 and 18 December.

Rite II Reconciliation will be offered as a joint parish liturgy at 4pm on Sunday 11 December at St Thomas More Church, Wilton.



CATHEDRAL PARISH CHRISTMAS/JANUARY 2023 EUCHARISTIC TIMETABLE

Christmas Eve—10.00pm Mass with Cardinal John Dew at St Teresa's Pro Cathedral Karori. Carols from 9.40pm. There will be no 5.30pm Vigil

Christmas Day—10.00am Mass at St Thomas More church, Wilton. *There will be no 7.00pm Mass in Connolly Hall Chapel.*

There will be no weekday or Saturday morning Masses from 24th December. These will resume on Tuesday 24th January

Weekend Sunday Eucharistic services will be celebrated as usual:

Vigil Mass — Saturday 5.30pm St Thomas More church, Wilton

Sunday 10.30am St Thomas More church, Wilton

Sunday 7.00pm Connolly Hall Chapel, Thorndon

COVID, COLDS AND FLU

As well as the measures which we continue to take as we gather for Mass and other events, please remember: **if you are not well, PLEASE STAY HOME.** And if you should find yourself with a coughing or sneezing fit at Mass, or in a meeting, please step out of the gathering, at least until you're ok. We all want to be as safe as possible. Many thanks.

PARISH BAKE SALE

The December Bake Sale is on this weekend, 3-4 December, at all parish Masses!

The Cathedral Restoration Fundraising monthly bake sale returns next weekend. Thank you all for your generous support. Please come with cash and get your hands on the scrumptious cupcakes and homemade goodies. Be sure to bring cash and support our fundraising efforts.

On sale: Handcrafted Paper Boxes made from recycled materials and Japanese washi paper

Back by popular demand, these handcrafted Japanese boxes made from recycled boxes, wrapping paper and Japanese washi paper are ideal as Christmas gifts. Use them as jewellery boxes, sewing kit or stationery organisers. The best thing about them is they are so beautiful to look at.

Also available for sale are Japanese paper bookmarks and stationery holders, all exquisitely made by Japanese dance instructor Reiko Rapita who is passionate about Japanese arts and crafts.

While stocks last.

A Christmas raffle will also be available at \$2.00 per ticket or 3 for \$5.00



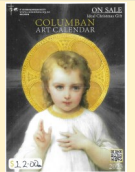
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 8 December

As has been the custom for many years now, an Archdiocesan Mass will be celebrated on our Diocesan Feast day at St Teresa's Pro-Cathedral at 7pm. The Archdiocese will again be entrusted to the care of Mary under the title of the Immaculate Conception at this Mass. Parishes are asked to renew that Consecration on the following Sunday (11 December) at ALL parish Masses.

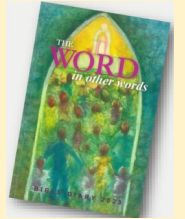
All are welcome at St Teresa's for the Mass on 8 December at 7pm.

Now Available - 2023 Columban Art Calendars

The Columban Art Calendar is an iconic Calendar, well-known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information. It is a major fundraiser for Columban Missionaries. 2023 marks the 101st edition. **\$12.00ea available from our Connolly Hall Stall or the Parish Office.** These make a great Christmas gift.



Missio Aotearoa is selling *The Word in Other Words*, a Bible Diary for 2023 – a helpful companion to encounter Christ in the Scriptures. It would be a meaningful and useful Christmas Gift at \$20 each, plus postage \$4.50 up to 3 copies. To order call (09) 489 6549 or 027 922 9902 office hours Monday to Thursday, or email info@missio.nz



ACCOMMODATION WANTED

A young professional woman is seeking private accommodation in Wellington City or Johnsonville. If anyone has accommodation available, please email CSS at: reception@wn.catholic.org.nz or call the office landline: Ph 04 385 8642 to speak to Kamau Holland, Director of Catholic Social Services.

Peace and Justice in the Holy Land — Brother Peter Bray FSC, the New Zealand Vice-Chancellor of Bethlehem University, is touring all our Catholic Dioceses on behalf of the NZ bishops, to talk about the Holy Land, his work with his students, and the lives of other ordinary Palestinians. He will speak at St Thomas More (Wilton) Monday 30th January 2023, 7:00pm. Tea and Coffee available from 6.30pm. Please register by January 25th with Christine at c.walker@dine@wn.catholic.org.nz or phone (04) 496-1706.

Br Peter is also making three videos; the second video which is very powerful, can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R17kia53-GY> For more information about the videos and Br Peter's speaking tour: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/brpeter-video2/>



For their final performance of 2022, the Bach Choir of Wellington is joined by the Chiesa Ensemble in a performance of J.S Bach's 'Christen, ätzet diesen Tag,' Corelli's (Christmas) Concerto Grosso, and Händel's Te Deum for the Victory of Dettingen HWV 283. Saturday 17 December, 2:00pm at St Mary of the Angels. Come and enjoy these joyful and triumphant works as you get ready for the excitement of the coming Christmas season. Tickets on Eventfinda \$40/\$35 school children free entry.

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:

Appointment pending

Secretary:

Frank Doherty

Office Hours:

10.00am - 4.30pm Tues, Thurs, Fri.

Parish Council Chair:

Randy Reyes

Sacred Heart Cathedral School

Guildford Tce, Thorndon

Ph: (04) 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

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

8.00am Tuesday to Friday

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: see notice on page 2 and by appointment.

Baptism: by appointment. Please contact Parish office.



The latest edition of our parish school newsletter

is available at:

<https://sacredhcs.schoolzineplus.com/schoolnews?nid=198>

Brian Dunn

Gabrielle McLeavey

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



Marie Byrne

June Swain

Wilijono Tanudjojo

Sadie Laurenson



Mass offered for

Dorothy Gooding
RIP 28 Nov



ANNIVERSARIES

14 Dec - Dan Kelly

8 Jan - Michael Cecil-Gibson

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

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Peace Among the Animals

In today's first reading, the prophet describes peace between animals and people in God's kingdom. Can you figure out which animals (or people) go with which?

Clue: the pictures might help!



Then the wolf shall be a guest of the _____, and the _____



shall lie down with the kid;

the _____ and the young lion shall browse together,

with a little child to guide them.

The cow and the _____ shall be neighbors,

together their young shall rest;

the _____ shall eat hay like the ox.

The _____ shall play by the cobra's den,



baby
calf
lamb



leopard
bear
lion

Second Sunday of Advent December 4th, 2022

The one who is coming after me is mightier than I.

→ 8 Δ + □ □
x n ✓ - + i 8 < 0 n
Δ + - → - → 8
→ 0 □ c U ✓ + ♀ + -
n < 7 r + ♀ 8 .

What did Saint John the Baptist say about the one who was coming after him? Use the code to find out!

U X 7 8 r → + □ < 0 ✓ ♀ U - ~ Δ c i
A B D E F H I L N O P R S T U W Y Z



Answer to puzzle on front: He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Answer to "Peace Among Animals" puzzle: lamb, leopard, calf, bear, lion, baby.