



The Cathedral Connection



26 March 2023
Vol. 12 Issue 9
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Dear Parishioners,

In his *Spiritual Exercises*, St Ignatius Loyola suggests that when reading any Gospel story, we should try to put ourselves in the place of each character in turn and imagine how we would feel in those circumstances. This can be a thought-provoking exercise. Putting ourselves into the shoes of a character from today's gospel can be a meaningful inward journey for us and thus can help us prepare ourselves to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus in a much more internalized and personal manner.

Jesus...when he announced that Lazarus was dead and that he was going to Jerusalem, he also knew that it was dangerous for him to travel anywhere near Jerusalem at that time. However, Jesus was willing to pay the price to help his friend and he wept at the tomb. Are we willing to pay the price for our faith in Jesus and for the love of Him and our fellow beings? Are we sensitive to the life situations of our brothers and sisters?

Thomas...when Jesus announced that Lazarus was dead and that he was going to Jerusalem, Thomas showed both his courage and pessimism. "Let us go, that we may die with him." His courage, however, was not tempered with faith and hope in God's promise to bring victory out of defeat. Do we like Thomas at times allow our faith to be overshadowed by pessimistic thinking?

Lazarus... lying cold in the tomb, dead to everything, and surrounded by darkness and then hears a voice: 'Come out, Lazarus.' His name means "God is help". Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead is a sign of God's promise to raise up all who have died in Christ to everlasting life. Are we convinced that God is our help? What is our equivalent to Lazarus' tomb, here and now?

Martha and Mary...Jesus was a close friend to the two sisters and their brother. They always made him welcome in their home in Bethany and considered Jesus as a true friend to whom they could turn for help at any time. So they sent the message to Jesus, "Lord, the man you love is ill". Do we share such a rapport with Jesus? Do we really trust Him with our needs and that of our dear ones?

Other Disciples...intimidated and overcome with fear, they try to stop Jesus from going to Bethany saying: "Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again? What about us? Do we feel frustrated and overwhelmed with the challenges and difficulties of our day-to-day life? Are we the ones to discourage those around us when they may want to give it a try?"

Let us closely look at these characters of the Gospel today and simultaneously look into our own lives. Whom do we represent more? My wish and prayer for each one of you is that you may imbibe more and more of Jesus in your lives and those who really imparted the spirit of Him in their lives....

Wishing you all a grace filled Lenten journey for the remaining days of our preparation to encounter the Risen Christ. May His Peace and Victory over every form of oppression, weaknesses and lacks be yours.

Fr. Joy
Assistant Priest



Readings for the Week

Sunday 26th March – 5th Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45

Monday 27th – Daniel 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62; John 8:1-11

Tuesday 28th – Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30

Wednesday 29th – Daniel 3:14-20,24-25,28; John 8:31-42

Thursday 30th – Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59

Friday 31st – Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42

Saturday 1st April – Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56

Sunday 2nd – Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26: 14-27:66

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

"Today, too, Jesus repeats to us: "Take away the stone".

We are thus called to take away the stones of all that suggests death: for example, the hypocrisy with which faith is lived, is death; the destructive criticism of others, is death; insults, slander, are death; the marginalization of the poor, is death. The Lord asks us to remove these stones from our hearts, and life will then flourish again around us."

Pope Francis, [Angelus 29/03/2020](#)



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

Divine Mercy Devotions - Sunday 6:00pm-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 5:00pm-5.40pm 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-9:00pm. All are welcome.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



is available every Thursday in Connolly Hall Chapel from 7am until 7 pm. Everyone is welcome to make a visit during these hours.

Many people have expressed gratitude for this haven of peace in their day.



HOLY HOUR - You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on **Tuesday 28 March** 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.

MASS COORDINATOR ROLE

The celebration of Mass is a community celebration. We all participate in our worship celebration, with some involved in specific ministerial roles that aid our worship. Mass Coordinators are assigned to each weekend Mass. The Coordinator arrives 20-30 minutes before the Mass begins. They support the Mass through the coordination of the rostered volunteers, seeking further volunteers if necessary. We are currently seeking expressions of interest for 2-3 new Coordinators to be rostered every 3-4 weeks for the Sunday 10.30am Mass. The role is perfect for getting to know more members of the parish community. Guidelines for the role are provided and full training will be given. **Please contact the parish office or speak with Debbie, Fr Alliston or Fr Joy.**

PARISH LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Preparation for Palm Sunday—Friday 31st March, St Thomas More Church 7.00pm Stations of the Cross, Flax Cross making & shared dessert/supper



Come along to St Thomas More Church for a Stations of the Cross service. After this we will make flax crosses from arakeke (NZ flax) for Palm Sunday. There will be people to demonstrate how these are made. When enough crosses are made everyone can enjoy dessert/supper. Please bring some kai to share. The flax crosses will be used by all Masses in both parishes on Palm Sunday. The crosses will help us express the Easter story and are beautiful to keep even when they dry out. Mark this date in your diary and come along for some prayer and fellowship. This is a wonderful opportunity to mix and mingle with our brothers and sisters in Christ so do please come along.



Stations of the Cross – Each Friday during Lent at 7.00pm in Connolly Hall chapel. If you would like to help lead or would like more information please contact Sr Marie, Clint, or Randy. All are welcome.



Reconciliation – Rite I Reconciliation is available by appointment and will be available **40 minutes before our weekend Eucharist at St Thomas More Church** this weekend. Rite II Reconciliation will be celebrated as a Pastoral Area at 4.00pm on Sunday 2nd April at St Thomas More church.



Caritas Lenten Reflection – Every Thursday in Lent from 6.00pm to 6.45pm in the foyer of the Sacred Heart Cathedral for the Caritas Lenten reflection programme. Using the “Lectio Divina” method. If you are unable to join us, you may like to gather your own group or family together and use this resource <https://www.caritas.org.nz/s/LRP-2023.pdf>

Lectio Divina involves scriptural reading, meditation, and prayer. Each week there is an opportunity to gather and reflect communally on the coming weekend’s gospel. You can join **on-line on Tuesday’s 5.00-5.40pm**. See notice above.



Recollection – Saturday, April 1st, 9:30am to about 12:30noon at Connolly Hall chapel, 10 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon. The days from Palm Sunday to the Easter vigil are considered the holiest in the liturgical calendar as they commemorate the last days of our Lord Jesus’ life on earth, His passion and death. In

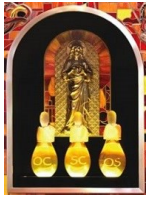
order to prepare ourselves to enter to this great mystery of God’s love for us the parish is organizing a half day recollection so as to enter into Holy Week in a spirit of prayer and reflection. Do come for a time of praise and worship, reflect on talks, adoration and an opportunity to avail yourself of the sacrament of reconciliation.



Caritas Lenten Appeal – During Lent, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops invite us to monetarily support the work of Caritas as they reach out to the most poor and vulnerable members of our local and global communities. Lenten appeal donation envelopes are available at the back of our churches or donations can be made via internet banking: Westpac, Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, **03-0518-0211216-03**, Please include the following information with your donation:

Particulars: Your first and last name, **Code:** Lent **Reference:** Your street address or email address.

HOLY WEEK



CHRISM MASS - Monday 3rd April 7.00pm at St Teresa's Pro Cathedral, Karori.
Archbishop Paul Martin SM will be presiding.

This Mass manifests the unity of the priests with their bishop. Here the bishop blesses three oils — the oil of catechumens, the oil of the infirm and holy chrism — which will be used in the administration of the sacraments throughout the diocese for the year. All are welcome.

Cathedral Parish Palm Sunday and Easter Triduum Masses / Liturgies

Sunday 2 April:	10:00am	Palm Sunday Mass in St Teresa's Pro Cathedral, Karori (<i>no 10.30am Mass</i>)
Thursday 6 April:	7:00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper in St Teresa's Pro Cathedral (<i>No 8:00am or 12:10pm Masses</i>)
Friday 7 April:	10:00am	Stations of the Cross in Connolly Hall Chapel, Thorndon
	3:00pm	Commemoration of the Lord's Passion in St Teresa's Pro Cathedral
Saturday 8 April:	7:00pm	Easter Vigil and Mass of the Resurrection in St Teresa's Pro Cathedral (<i>No 8:30am or 5:30pm Masses</i>)
Sunday 9 April:	10:30am	Easter Sunday Mass of the Resurrection in St Thomas More Church, Wilton (<i>No 7:00pm Mass</i>)

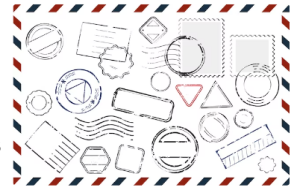
What your used stamps can do.

Mary MacKillop Today - works to realise the vision of Saint Mary MacKillop, the founder of the Sisters of St Joseph and Australia's first Saint. This is done in partnership to help create generational change through the teaching of practical life skills to women, men and children in Australia and beyond. In particular the stamps assist **Mary MacKillop Today** in working with women in Peru to build opportunities to create a living for themselves and their families.

Further information on **Mary MacKillop Today** is here:

<https://www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/>

Boxes at both Mass venues (St. Thomas More and Connolly Hall). Please leave the stamps affixed to their envelopes. Many thanks everyone - Sr Philippa.



compassion te pūaroaha

Meditation in the Christian Tradition

Monday, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Thursday 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

An ancient form of contemplative prayer, deeply anchored in the teachings of the early Christian desert fathers and mothers.

Mass/Morning Prayer

Wednesday—Thursday 8:30 am

Miha—Maori Mass

Every Sunday, 11:00 am—12:00 pm

Taize

7 April, 7:00 pm—8:00 pm

Join us in a reflective time with simple songs and scripture that bring us to stillness and silence.

Venue: Our Lady's Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay. For more information contact ph. (04) 383-7769



Each new year brings hope and new beginnings for people arriving to live in Aotearoa New Zealand. For many refugee families, being able to stay together provides them with the strength they

need to overcome their past difficulties and face the uncertainty and challenge of moving to a new country.

Giving hope and reaching out to families seeking compassionate care is one of the missions of the Sisters of Compassion. With your support, we can continue to help refugees who arrive seeking a new life. Together we can provide accommodation and support to people who need it, giving them a helping hand and hope.

Please, donate now <https://compassion.org.nz/appeal/>

Divine Mercy Feast celebration will be held at Sacred Heart Church, Petone on Sunday 16 April at 2pm.

All welcome.

You can bring : Holy objects to be blessed and Holy books you wish to donate or exchange



No Divine Mercy Devotion on the following dates at 6pm in Connolly Hall Chapel:

Easter Sunday 9 April

Divine Mercy Feast Sunday 16 April

WELLINGTON ARCHDIOCESE



HOSTED BY ST MARY OF THE ANGELS YOUNG ADULTS

SUNDAY 26TH MARCH, 5PM - ST MARY OF THE ANGELS

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

www.facebook.com/MCSHWWellington/

Parish Pastoral Leadership Team

- Debbie Matheson: **Parish Leader / Lay Pastoral Leader**
- Fr Ron Bennett: **Parish Moderator**
- Fr Joy Thottankara: **Assistant Priest**
- Fr Alliston Fernandes: **Supply Priest**

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 Lenten Notices inside and also available by appointment.

Baptism: by appointment. Please contact the Parish office.



The latest edition of our parish

school newsletter is available at

<https://sacredhcs.schoolzineplus.com/schoolnews?nid=210>

Cardinal John Dew - Who is recovering from back surgery

Brian Dunn

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



Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Gabrielle McLeavey

Dan Phelon

June Swain

Wilijono Tanudjojo



Mass offered for

* **Marie Byrne** RIP 8 Mar
Former Cathedral Volunteer

* **Gwen Griffin** RIP 9 Mar
Aunt of Jane Kelly

* **Patrick (Pat) Williams** RIP 19 Mar
Husband of Ann

* **Patricia Schleicher** RIP 22 Mar
Friend of Sadie Laurenson



ANNIVERSARIES

8 March - **Casey Foo**

18 March - **John Murray**

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

CHILDREN'S CORNER

God Raises People from the Dead!



In today's Old Testament reading God promised His people that He would raise them from their graves. In the Gospel story Jesus raised His friend Lazarus from the dead. At the end of time God will raise everyone from the dead.

God does not like death. We all have to die because we are sinful, but God wants to raise us from the dead, like Lazarus.

Did you know that there is something worse than dying? Sinning is worse than dying, because when you commit a mortal sin you kill God's life in your soul. When you die you know that your body will rise again, but if you are not sorry for any serious sins then your soul will go to Hell because it doesn't have God's life in it. In Lent we should try to get rid of all the sin in our souls by going to Confession so that our souls will have God's life in them and be ready to celebrate Jesus' resurrection at Easter!



Answer to Ezekiel Puzzle: I will OPEN YOUR GRAVES and HAVE YOU RISE FROM THEM.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 26th, 2023



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus finds out that his friend Lazarus has died. Can you find your way through the maze to the tomb where Jesus will raise him from the dead?