



The Cathedral Connection



21 May 2023
Vol. 12 Issue 17
The Ascension of the Lord

HEARTS BURNING

This Sunday we reflect on Jesus' Great Commission as we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension, which falls for us during the Southern Hemisphere's week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and also on World Communications Day.

World Communications Day was established by Pope Paul VI in 1967 as an annual celebration on the Sunday before Pentecost to draw attention to the enormous power available for cultural transformation in sharing the Gospel message available through the communications media.

In Pope Francis' message for World Communications Day, he says "a heart that reveals the truth of our being with its beat and that, for this reason, should be listened to. This leads those who listen to attune themselves to the same wavelength, to the point of being able to hear within their heart also the heartbeat of the other. Then the miracle of encounter can take place, which makes us look at one another with compassion, welcoming our mutual frailties with respect rather than judging by hearsay and sowing discord and division".

In January, Cardinal John shared on Facebook that message from Pope Francis then reflected himself that "true listening is only possible if we are willing to accept that we might be changed in some way by what we hear. Which means we might need to change our ideas on how we view someone. That makes listening with the heart an active process, a real letting go for us. I often think how important this is in families, among friends and in parishes, and when we encounter a person for the first time. When the disciples on the road to Emmaus met a stranger, the conversation led to 'their hearts burning within them', because this person listened to their fears and disappointment. This encounter can take place for us at any time and in any place, we just need to be open to it."

As we hear and reflect on our individual and communal response to the Great Commission, 'to Go and make disciples of all nations', may we with respect embrace the various media available that facilitate conversations of witness to our Christian mission. May we as Christians, united in Christ, accompany all whom we encounter, and give witness to Christ alive in our world today.



Debbie Matheson
Lay Pastoral Leader/Parish Leader

Readings for the Week

Sunday 21st – The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20

Monday 22nd – Acts 19:1-8; John 16:29-33

Tuesday 23rd – Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11

Wednesday 24th – Our Lady Help of Christians Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11-19

Thursday 25th – Acts 22:30,23:6-11; John 17:20-26

Friday 26th – St Philip Neri Acts 25:13-21; John 21:15-19

Saturday 27th – Acts 28:16-20,30-31; John 21:20-25

Sunday 28th – Pentecost

Acts 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13; John 20:19-23

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

"The Ascension does not point to Jesus' absence, but tells us that He is alive in our midst in a new way. He is no longer in a specific place in the world as He was before the Ascension. He is now in the Lordship of God, present in every space and time, close to each one of us. In our life we are never alone: we have this Advocate who awaits us, who defends us. We are never alone: the Crucified and Risen Lord guides us." *Pope Francis*



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 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 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-9pm. All are welcome.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

is available every Thursday at the Connolly Hall Chapel from 7am until 7pm. Everyone is welcome to make a visit during these hours. Many people have expressed gratitude for this haven of peace in their day.

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.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Feedback sought on the resumption of the distribution of the Precious Blood of Jesus during Holy Communion.

It has been a long time now since the parish offered the Precious Blood of Jesus for consumption during Holy Communion. This has been necessary for both health and practical reasons.

Recently however there have been some requests for us to resume this. As there are many practical and pastoral considerations, we are tentatively discerning the reintroduction and no firm decisions have been made.

We invite your feedback as part of the decision-making process. Therefore, as you depart from all Masses this weekend you will be invited to pick up a small card to place in a box to indicate your preference. If there is a strong desire for reintroduction, then the logistics for reintroduction will be considered before a final decision is made. One of the practicalities includes asking all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion if they would be willing to distribute and consume the precious blood.

We encourage you all to participate in this process. If you will not be at one of these Masses, then please feel free to email your preference to the parish office.



PENTECOST SUNDAY 28 MAY 2023

Please note that we will have a combined Mass at St Teresa's Pro Cathedral in Karori next Sunday 28 May at 10.00am with Archbishop Paul as celebrant. All are welcome. As is traditional, the *Neophytes* (those recently baptised or received into the church) are especially invited to this celebration. Let's come and celebrate the birthday of the Church together. *There will be no 10.30am Mass at St Thomas More on that day.*

HOLY HOUR

You are invited to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 23 May 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.



CATHEDRAL RESTORATION ACTIVITIES

A Cathedral Fundraising Concert with Fr Chris Skinner SM

Sunday 11 June, 2pm-4pm, St Peter & Paul's Church, Lower Hutt

Tickets \$30 + booking fee at www.trybooking.co.nz/NZH or the QR code at right.



Our last concert with Fr Chris was a great success and greatly enjoyed by all. This is yet again another wonderful opportunity to come together and enjoy some beautiful music from Fr Chris.



THIS WEEKEND



- Bake Sale: 20-21 May after Weekend Masses.
- E-Waste Recycling Drop-Off Day: Sunday 21 May at Cardinal McKeefry School, 66 Albemarle Road, Wilton from noon to 4pm.



WE ARE WORKING & MINISTERING TOGETHER



CAN YOU HELP?

As we start to ramp up towards the reopening of our Cathedral building there is much to be done in the coming months. One of the tasks is for some surface preparation and painting in the Cathedral courtyard area. If you and or someone you know is an experienced painter and can volunteer some time on a weekend, then please contact Mick McKenna on ph. 027 236 7817 for more information. All expressions of interest are welcome.

MASS COORDINATORS — HELP NEEDED

Another ministry which needs people is that of Mass Co-Ordinator for the 10:30am Sunday Mass. For each weekend Mass, a Coordinator arrives 20-30 minutes before the Mass begins. The role involves supporting the Mass through the coordination of the volunteers rostered for the Mass, seeking further volunteers if necessary and setting up the Altar for the Mass as well as clearing away after Mass. Guidelines for the role are provided and full training will be given.

If you are interested in this important ministry, or others within the parish, please get in touch with Debbie, Fr Joy, Fr Alliston, or the parish office.



DO YOU HAVE A BACKGROUND IN HEALTH & SAFETY?

The parish is looking for a person who has suitable training, expertise, and experience to provide Health & Safety advice and guidance to the Parish Pastoral leadership Team. If you think you can help please do contact the parish office.

DEEPEN YOUR FAITH

Parenting for Faith seminar

Dr Andrew Mullins from Melbourne will talk about integrating character and faith education within the context of raising children and encourage us with practical ways to ensure that we parents are empowered to pass on the taonga which is our faith.

Sunday 4 June from 2pm-4pm at St Mary of the Angels Church Hall, 17 Boulcott Street, Wellington Central. \$20 per individual or couple. Afternoon tea included.

For more information or to register email Monica Devine at devinesofwaterloo@gmail.com

Health care retreat and seminar

The NZ Catholic Medical Association provides pastoral care and chaplaincy for people involved in health care. We extend an invitation to doctors, nurses, midwives, carers, pharmacists, physiotherapists, psychologists, counsellors, social workers, chaplains, dentists, health administrators, lawyers and anyone in allied roles.

Next event: Retreat and Seminar 9-10 June 2023, at the Home of Compassion, Island Bay, Wellington. Register for this event at www.newzealandcatholicmedical.co.nz

For general inquiries and updates for future events, email: newzealandcatholicmedical@gmail.com (NZCMA formation committee).

The Pathway to Prepare for Your Sacrament of Marriage

All Catholic marriages require a marriage preparation course to be taken by the couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage. The Marriage Ministries office is open to take your registration for the next course in the Archdiocese of Wellington, to be held on two Sundays 11 and 18 June 2023.

Please check the website www.wn.catholic.org.nz/about/church-mission/marriage-ministries/ for registration and next courses availability, or email marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz

Mary in the Scriptures

In this series of 4 evening sessions, Kieran Fenn fms will present Mary the Mother of Jesus as she has been portrayed in the Scriptures from Mark to John.

Mondays, 19/26 June and 3/10 July, 7pm-8.30pm via ZOOM.

Fee: Free. A Donation/Koha would be appreciated.

For more information and registration: www.studyjoy.nz/2023/04/25/mary-in-the-scriptures

WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP PROJECT

Are you a locally-connected Wellington woman who would like to get to know and be a friend with a woman from a former refugee background? Catholic Social Services and Changemakers Refugee Forum are growing the Women's Friendship Project with the next induction night on Tuesday 27 June 2023.

Pairs of women will then be introduced to each other and meet up once a week or fortnight for the next six months to share local experiences such as walks, gardening, and café and market visits. Every two months you are invited to attend a larger group gathering of everyone involved in the project. Often a natural friendship continues beyond the project. If you are interested, please contact Deirdre at d.meskill@wn.catholic.org.nz or call 021 2213944.



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: 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=218>

Brian Dunn

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

Erina Harding

Gabrielle McLeavey

Dan Phelon



Judith Shroff



June Swain

Wilijono Tanudjojo



Mass offered for

Gerard J Banisch RIP 16 Apr
Friend of Penny Dravitzki

Anniversaries this month:

Eileen Romanos (22 May)

Robert Thomson, Paul Guerin (23 May)

Eduardo Pangilinan (26 May)

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



CHILDREN'S CORNER

Jesus Ascended into Heaven



The Ascension is one of the great feasts of the Church. Jesus went up, Body and Soul, into Heaven to be with His Father where He is waiting for all of us. Can you imagine what it was like for the apostles to see their leader and best friend going up to Heaven? It would be pretty amazing, don't you think?



At the same time, doesn't it seem a bit sad that Jesus left? Well, He knew it was time for His disciples to start working on their own. It was kind of like having someone there to help you learn to ride a bike and then they let you go so you can learn to bike on your own.

But Jesus didn't go away and leave us without any help. Nine days after He went into Heaven

He sent the Holy Spirit, who would help and guide His followers.



WOW! DID YOU SEE THAT?
YES... WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW?

Answers to True or False:
1. True 2. False 3. True 4. True
5. True 6. False 7. True

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Feast of the Ascension
May 18th or May 21st, 2023

AGBOCDDMEOFUGNHTHSJK
ILSMTNHORPOQNRSTTOUS
VHWOXUYTZAQOBFCJDOEYF



What does today's Psalm say about the Ascension? Use every other letter from the box of letters above to fill in the blanks below.

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