



The Cathedral Connection



17 September 2023
Vol. 12 Issue 33

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

NOT SEVEN TIMES, BUT SEVENTY-SEVEN TIMES

In today's Gospel Peter suggested that one should forgive his brother seven times, in answer to his own question. Why seven? In maths, seven is a prime number that has some exciting properties. It is the largest single-digit prime number; it is a Mersenne prime number; and it is a prime factor of seventy-seven – Jesus' reply to Peter's question.

I digress. Peter, perhaps, suggested seven times because seven is one of the most significant numbers in Judaism; the great King David was the seventh son in his family (1 Chronicles 2:15), Exodus 23:10-13 describes how the seventh year, and the seventh day is beloved and holy. God created the world in six days, and rested on the seventh; Sabbath, the seventh day, is holy and strictly observed. Maybe Peter wanted to show how well he understood scriptures, and how well he follows their traditions. Jesus' reply to Peter was 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.' Our Lord wasn't asking us to keep a scorecard; but instead, we should forgive as many times as it takes. And really, at times, it is hard to do so.

In his letter to the Romans, St Paul states that love is the answer to every one of the commandments. That love is the one thing that cannot hurt our neighbour. Resentment, anger, and hate hurt our neighbours and in turn, hurt ourselves. We are called to forgive as the Lord forgives us our sins. We are called to forgive because we are called to love. Our faith, accepting in our hearts our Lord Jesus Christ as our saviour, invites us to love with the same love that our Lord has for us. And through his love, we may be able to forgive even if it is beyond our human strength.

By the way, if you take the letters of 'Christ', using each letter's position in the alphabet C = 3, H = 8, R = 18, I = 9, S = 19, T = 20, the sum is seventy-seven.

Blessed Sunday to you all.
Randy Reyes



Readings for the Week

Sunday 17th - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35

Monday 18th - 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 7:1-10

Tuesday 19th - 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday 20th - 1 Timothy 3:14-16; Luke 7:31-35

Thursday 21st - St Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13; Matthew 9:9-13

Friday 22nd - 1 Timothy 6:2-12; Luke 8:1-3

Saturday 23rd - St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) 1 Timothy 6:13-16; Luke 8:4-15

Sunday 24th - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:20-24,27; Matthew 20:1-16

'It becomes ever clearer that the path of forgiveness can truly renew the Church and the world. To offer today's world the witness of mercy is a task from which none of us can feel exempted... The world needs forgiveness; too many people are caught up in resentment and harbour hatred, because they are incapable of forgiving. They ruin their own lives and the lives of those around them rather than finding the joy of serenity and peace. Let us ask Saint Francis to intercede for us, so that we may always be humble signs of forgiveness and channels of mercy.'



Pope Francis, *Homily at Assisi*, 4 August 2016

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



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. We look forward to welcoming you.

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 from 5pm-5.45pm 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.



Anointing Mass: The Mass on every **second Saturday of the month** will be an Anointing Mass. (8.30am in the Connolly Hall Chapel). All are welcome to participate and be blessed and healed by the Lord.

Children's Sacramental Programme 2023/24

Registration is now open for the 2023/24 programme which begins with **CONFIRMATION** this coming Term 4 followed by **FIRST RECONCILIATION** in Term 1 and **HOLY COMMUNION** in Term 2 of 2024. For your child to be eligible, he/she must already be baptised and be at least 8 years old. The first part of the parents' sessions begin on 21 September 2023. For registration and/or further enquiries Please contact: Geraldine: mcsh.sacramentalprogramme@gmail.com or the parish office at: cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz

SEASON OF CREATION 1 SEPTEMBER - 4 OCTOBER

"**Let Justice and Peace Flow**" is the theme of this year's ecumenical Season of Creation, inspired by the words of the prophet Amos: "Let justice flow on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream" (5:24).

Throughout September, Pope Francis invites us to celebrate the Season of Creation as a moment for "ecological conversion". So, let us accept his invitation, and find ways to lift up the season's theme in our personal and communal prayers.

Follow this link to see resources and details of all the events happening around the Archdiocese:

[Season of Creation 2023 | Archdiocese of Wellington \(catholic.org.nz\)](https://www.catholic.org.nz/season-of-creation-2023)

Sunday 24 September – Ecumenical River Prayer Walk, 8am-6pm (all day following the 27km river trail)

Follow Te Awa Kairangi (Hutt River) from Harcourt Park Upper Hutt to Petone foreshore. Opportunity to walk all or any section of the river trail. There are several sections where people can join or leave the walkers. There will be an activity booklet for young people, and a prayer/songbook for everyone.

Further information on Facebook. Search: Te Awa Kairangi Prayer Walk (public group) or email Martin de Jong at: kesyoung@gmail.com All welcome.



Let Justice and Peace Flow
Season of Creation 2023

Living Laudato Si' - Caring for Our Common Home Together

Pope Francis in Laudato Si' tells us that "the poor and the earth are crying out". Our individual efforts towards sustainability can seem insignificant. Every trip to the supermarket provides dilemmas as we strive to make an ethical choice.

- ◆ Buy NZ Made or a cheaper alternative imported from far away, perhaps from a country where workers are exploited, and environmental concerns are ignored.
- ◆ Read ingredient lists carefully and avoid palm oil because of the 'environmental footprint associated with deforestation, biodiversity loss and greenhouse gas emissions, particularly in Indonesia and Malaysia'.
- ◆ Discover that "vegetable oil" is code for "palm oil" and so it is present in many processed foods.
- ◆ Decide to stay with butter without additives only to learn that most NZ cows are fed on palm kernel for some parts of the year.

The decision making is not easy but let your purchases reflect your values. Embrace the Christian spirituality that proposes moderation and appreciation. The world and the quality of life of the poorest are cared for with a sense of solidarity and awareness that we live in a common home that God has entrusted to us.



Donations for Sacred Heart Cathedral Strengthening and Restoration Campaign can be made to this bank account number: **02-0506-0138488-025**

Particulars: Your surname and initials . **Code:** Your phone number. **Reference:** REOPEN

Credit Card Donations can be made here: <https://www.cathedralcampaign.org.nz/donation-form>



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Current of Grace Wellington

Everybody is welcome at the Current of Grace Wellington event "I am moving over the nations, will you follow me?" on Saturday 7 October 2023 at St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria, between 10am and 3:30pm.

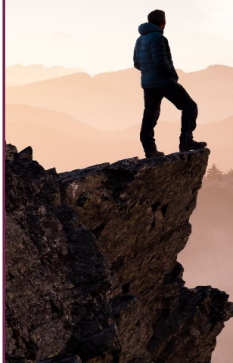
Speaker: Josie Olsen.

Healing service led by Fr John Rea SM.

Bring your own lunch.

Want to know more? Ring Steve Ready 027 356 9555 or email: currentofgracewellington@gmail.com

COME AND SEE...



"WHAT YOU ARE IS
GOD'S GIFT TO YOU,
WHAT YOU BECOME IS
YOUR GIFT TO GOD."

Hans Urs von Balthasar

PRIESTHOOD VOCATIONS MORNING

SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

@ 9AM - 12PM

ST FRANCIS DE SALES CHURCH,
ISLAND BAY

Joshua Wellington

Joshua Wellington invites men to join them on Thursday 21 September at 7:30pm at the 'Loaves and Fishes' next to the Anglican Cathedral of St Paul, 2 Hill St, followed by supper.



Speaker: Fr Peter Ewart SM on "Make Unity Our Target".

Want to know more? Ring David Monastra 027 4477 280 or email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

Meet the Candidates - Wellington Central

A panel meeting for Wellington Central electoral candidates will take place at 6pm, Monday 18 September, at Wellington Cathedral of Saint Paul (2 Hill Street).

This is part of their community engagement programme in the run-up to the elections. All are welcome.

CARITAS VACANCY

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, is seeking applications for a part time Finance Assistant.

For more information or to apply, please visit: www.caritas.org.nz/work-with-us



HAVE YOU HAD YOUR SAY? - CHURCH LIFE SURVEY

What is the Church Life Survey?

It is a nationwide survey of church attenders, run every 5 years in line with NZ Census years. Every church is invited to take part. This 2023 survey will have higher participation than the 2018 survey. This is the first time the Wellington Archdiocese has taken part. The Auckland Diocese have been using this survey for many years and Archbishop Paul believes the resulting information will be of great benefit to our parishes and the Archdiocese at large.

The 2023 survey is administered by the Christian Research Association of NZ, in partnership with Wilberforce Foundation and Auckland Church Network. These organisations want to strengthen & support the NZ Church by equipping leaders with quality research & data. The survey questions were compiled by experienced church researchers & leaders from a range of denominations & movements. All information provided is anonymous and no individual names are collected.

Why participate in the Church Life Survey?

- ◆ Our church and parish has significantly changed since the COVID pandemic.
- ◆ The survey provides an opportunity for our leaders to find out who is part of our church and their demographic profile.
- ◆ As our leaders want to listen to your opinions. The survey provides a great method for hearing all the voices in our parish.
- ◆ As our leaders want to be informed in their decision making. The survey provides a robust evidence base for making decisions.
- ◆ The health of our people is important. - The survey provides a snapshot of the spiritual health of our church and parish.
- ◆ You are contributing to a national picture of church life in NZ.

How to complete the survey? *Please note each parish has it's own code so only use the code for your home parish.*

Anyone aged 15 or over is encouraged to respond. There are three ways to access the survey.

Many thanks.

1. Cathedral Parishioners Only. Please scan this QR Code and follow the instructions provided on the linked website.



2. Cathedral Parishioners Only. Please click on the link below which will take you to the survey website and then follow the instructions.

[https://clsnz.org/
chis96Be2rldawic/01GZFP04YARH/
SJCPJ6HCCEM4V8/en-rc](https://clsnz.org/chis96Be2rldawic/01GZFP04YARH/SJCPJ6HCCEM4V8/en-rc)

3. If you do not have access to the internet please contact the parish office for other options.

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/MCSHWellington/

Parish Pastoral Leadership Team

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

Secretary:

Frank Doherty

Office Hours:

10.00am - 4.30pm Tues, Thurs, Fri.

Parish Pastoral Council Chair:

Ajith Nissangaratchie

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 / Public Holiday

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=237>

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



Phil Hickey

Gabrielle McLeavey



Raquel Panganiban

Ian & Christine Paterson

June Swain

Wilijono Tanudjojo

Remembering the Dead

Recently Deceased:

Yosan Legaspi, RIP 27 August



Anniversaries:

September

Terry Coles (7 Sep)

Fernanda Carmana (12 Sep)

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

CHILDREN'S CORNER

If you want to be forgiven...

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the story of a king whose servant owed him a lot of money. The king was going to punish the servant, but when the man knelt down and begged for mercy, the king forgave him. Then that same man went and punished a servant who owed him money. When the king found out about this he was very angry.



SORRY. I RIPPED YOUR BOOK A BIT.

In this story Jesus is telling us that if we want God to forgive us our sins then we have to forgive the people who have hurt us.



Has anyone ever done something mean to you? How do you feel when that happens? Do you feel loving toward that person? Jesus tells us that we must forgive those people, even when they really hurt us, because we want God to forgive us too. Every time we sin we offend God, and He will still forgive us if we are sorry. If we want God to forgive us, then it's only fair for us to forgive others.



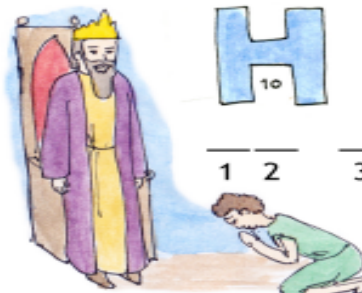
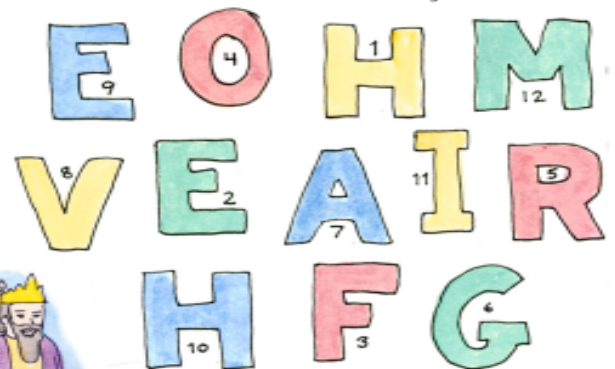
Answer to Word Find: Saint Helen
He forgave him.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 17th, 2023

*What did the king in today's parable do to the servant who owed him much but asked for forgiveness?
Use the numbers to sort the letters and find out!*



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
10 11 12