



The Cathedral Connection



15 October 2023
Vol. 12 Issue 37

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Repondez, s'il vous plaît

This weekend our daughter Catherine, celebrates her 21st birthday. She will be hosting a party on Saturday night and sent out invitations to her friends in June via Facebook. She has invited more than a 120 people most of whom (family) are in South Africa and unable to make it and have replied accordingly. Then there are the ones in NZ mostly Wellington based but also a few from out of town. With the date getting closer, we were starting to get anxious about the ones who have not *Repondez, s'il vous plaît* (RSVP'd) yet.

While there are no plans to put on "a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines" (*Isaiah 25:6-10*) getting a "Yes" or "No" or a "Maybe" (not sure why this is an option) by the due date would have made things a little less stressful.

In today's Gospel, the parable of the King who hosts a feast but none of the original invitees bother showing up which makes him furious and then ends up inviting everyone his servants could find to the banquet. After all the rejection and disappointment from the original invitees, you would have thought that the king would be happy to see the banquet hall full, but instead he has a guest thrown out for not wearing the right clothes? Go figure.

Each one of us is invited by God to a "wedding feast". He is our host, and we are invited to be his friends and to one day enjoy a place in his kingdom for all eternity. It is an invitation, not a command, because God respects our freedom to choose and how we respond to this invitation is important. However, while we may respond positively to this invitation, we also need to ensure that we are prepared to participate in the banquet.

In our first reading, we read David's famous psalm. David trusted God as the One who would lead him to "fresh and green pastures". God would take him along "the right path" even into the "valley of darkness" where God would look after him; he need not fear.

If we trust God and let him "guide" us when we pray "in the valley of darkness" he will give us the wisdom to make the right decisions that fit in with God's will. When David felt depressed, God would "revive his drooping spirit", as happens to us when, in trust, we go to him in prayer and seek solutions to our difficulties, and when we are tempted to despair. It is in these times that God will be there "with your crook and your staff with which you give me comfort".

When it is all over, like David, we return to a "banquet". By responding positively to God's invitation the oil of goodness and kindness shall be given to us.

As we go into the next week, lets reflect on what our *Repondez, s'il vous plaît* is to God's invitation and if we have answered "Yes" how prepared are we to join in the banquet?

Clint Ramoo - Finance Committee Chair



Readings for the Week

Sunday 15th - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 25:6-10; Philippians 4:12-14,19-20; Matthew 22:1-14

Monday 16th - Romans 1:1-7; Luke 11:29-32

Tuesday 17th - **Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr** Romans 1:16-25; Luke 11:37-41

Wednesday 18th - **Saint Luke, Evangelist-Feast** 2 Timothy 4:10-17; Luke 10:1-9

Thursday 19th - Romans 3:21-30; Luke 11:47-54

Friday 20th - Romans 4:1-8; Luke 12:1-7

Saturday 21st - Romans 4:13,16-18; Luke 12:8-12

Sunday 22nd - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 45:1,4-6; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5; Matthew 22:15-21

'It is a matter of not settling for comforts and the customary ways of evangelization and witnessing to charity, but rather of opening the doors of our hearts and our communities to everyone, because the Gospel is not reserved to a select few. Even those on the margins, even those who are rejected and scorned by society, are considered by God to be worthy of his love.'

Pope Francis, [Angelus](#), 11 October 2020



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, 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 Confirmation 2023

This weekend our parish's Children's Confirmation candidates are being presented at the 10.30am Mass at St Thomas More.

Please pray to the Lord on their behalf, asking our Lord to send out His Spirit to touch the hearts of all people, so that they may believe in Him and in Jesus whom He sent. May our Confirmation candidates eagerly listen to His voice. Praying that our Lord will continue to guide and sustain them as they continue their journey through life.

Congratulations to the following candidates and their families:

Anaiah Capuso

Xavier Lee Falaniko Chan Foug

Xaviera Fa'atea Kaysha Chan Foug

Freddy Curtin

Sophia Dahiroc

Alayah De Roo

Maria-Grace De Roo

Opetaiia De Roo

Shenaya Sasadhi Fernando

Roulet Kessiya Jesudas

Venus Ophalia Jesudas

Lino Michael Lafaele

Kundiso Makova

Anya Pareja

Dana Sabelle Samson

Allysa Mae Viola Santos

Dominic Tana

Shaun Ticman

Lana Vaughan

Sophia Mary Grace Wheddon



Sacred Heart Metropolitan Cathedral, the spiritual home for many Catholics in New Zealand, has been closed for earthquake strengthening and restoration for over five years.

The restoration budget was approximately \$14 million to complete the project. We have a shortfall of approximately \$1.8 million.

There are a number of fundraising initiatives in place and we ask for your support at a level that suits you. Here's one:

The Sacred Heart Cathedral RESTORATION CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

PRIZES:

1st, 2nd & 3rd each **\$1,000 New World Gift Card**

4th, 5th, 6th, 7th each **\$500 New World Gift Card**

Ticket Price: \$5 per ticket | 3 for \$10 | a book of 8 for \$20

TO BUY TICKETS:

email bobhouston@xtra.co.nz

Tell us your requirements, we will forward you the pay-in account details and send your tickets to you.

To make a donation online: www.cathedralcampaign.org.nz

Authorised by the Sacred Heart Cathedral Restoration Committee

Volunteer as a member of the Ecology, Justice and Peace Commission in 2024

Are you motivated to contribute to work for justice and peace inspired and informed by Catholic Social Teaching? The Archdiocesan Ecology Justice and Peace Commission and Committees (Integral Ecology, Poverty, and Bicultural Relationships) invite nominations for membership for 2024.

As a member you will work to promote the social teaching of the Church throughout the Archdiocese and shine a light on issues of injustice. Activities of the Commission are diverse and include making submissions to parliament, organising events such as the Season of Creation, and supporting movements such as the Living Wage Movement and Death without Debt.

Find out more about the Commission at <https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/about/commission-for-ecology/> or contact Deirdre Meskill, the facilitator, at d.meskill@wn.catholic.org.nz, ph 021 2213944

Joshua Wellington invites men to come to the 'Loaves and Fishes' next to Anglican Cathedral of St Paul this coming Thursday 19th October at 7:30pm followed by supper. Speaker: Kim von Lanthen on "What do we need to do differently?" Ring David Monastra 027-447-7280 or email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Mission Sunday Special Collection Next Weekend

World Mission Sunday is celebrated in every Catholic community in the world. It is first and foremost the celebration that all baptised are missionaries. We participate in the Mission of God – to bring the Good News that God is here and wants to give life abundantly (Jn 10:10).

Mission Sunday is also a moment of grace to express solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Christ who are living in situations of poverty, violence, and oppression. Every parish, school and community is invited to join this special event, and every cent, dollar and prayer you give helps missionaries everywhere continue their work.

Your support for this cause on the weekend of **21 – 22 October** is greatly appreciated.

For those of you with 'giving envelopes' there is a brown coloured envelope in your envelope pack you can use with the details of the Special Collection on it. Please ensure you put your giving number on the envelope. If you give by cash in the plate, please place your cash in an envelope and write '**Mission Sunday**' on the outside.

If you give by automatic payment to the parish planned giving programme, you can still give electronically by using the same bank account you currently use, but you do need to change the transaction details for this one-off transaction to show the following:

Particulars = Your Initial and Surname

Code = Your Planned Giving Number (please contact the parish office if you are unsure of your number), and

Reference = "Mission Sunday" (this is to ensure that your donation goes to the specific cause).

"May the LORD reward your work, and your wages be full from the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge." Ruth 2:12

Synod Retreat

Before the Synod began its proceedings last week, all participants shared a three day retreat. Meditations were given each day by a Benedictine nun, Mother Maria Ignazia Angelini, and by Fr Timothy Radcliffe, a Dominican friar. Fr Radcliffe, an Englishman, was previously Master of his Order and has written extensively on faith and the Christian life. His writing is thoughtful, easy to absorb, and challenging, all at the same time! One of his Synod meditations is entitled 'The Spirit of Truth'.

Reflecting on Luke's story of what happened immediately after the Transfiguration, Fr Radcliffe reminds us that in a world full of rage we have to learn to listen to each other, and learn to face hard truths. In another, on 'hoping against hope' and reflecting on the state of our world, he reminds us that 'At the Last Supper, there seemed to be no future... in this darkest moment, Jesus made the most hopeful gesture in the history of the world'. We have to do what we can, trust in the Lord, and learn to listen to each other.

All the meditations can be read, or viewed, at <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/search.html?q=Synod%20retreat%20meditation&in=all&sorting=latest>

St Mary's College Alum High Tea

St Mary's College are holding their annual Alum event where they also acknowledge and welcome Year 13 students as the newest members of the St Mary's Alum community.

This year's event is a High Tea on **Tuesday 17th October from 2:00-3:30 pm** in the Gabriel Hall, at the College.

The guest speaker is **Joan Skinner**, a past pupil and author of *Labour of Love*, an autobiography based on her 50 years in the midwifery profession. You can read more about the book here: <https://www.masseypress.ac.nz/books/labour-of-love/>

Tickets cost \$30 each and can be purchased by clicking on the online link: <https://events.humanitix.com/alum-high-tea>

If you have any questions at all please contact Peter Sanders on email peter.sanders@stmw.school.nz

COMBINED ALL SOULS DAY SERVICE

All Souls Remembrance Service

Thursday, 2 November 6.00pm

We write to invite you and your family and friends to a special All Souls joint service between Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart and Wellington Cathedral of St Paul.



The Choir of Wellington Cathedral of St Paul will be leading our sung worship, which will feature MIHA, a new setting of the Requiem Mass in Latin and Te Reo Māori by Auckland-based composer Takarei Komene.

During the service we will remember in prayer those who have died in the last year. Cards will be available for you to fill out the name of a loved one you would like to be read out during our prayers of remembrance. There will also be an opportunity to light a candle in remembrance of your loved one.

The service will last around 75 minutes, providing time and space for reflection, and seeks to bring comfort in offering God's peace and the reassurance of our Christian faith and hope. We do hope you will be able to attend, and look forward to welcoming you. **This service is in addition to our regular Masses in our Connolly Hall Chapel which will be at 8.00am and 12.10pm on that day.**

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**

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, Thorndon

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=239>

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

Phil Hickey



Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer

Gabrielle
McLeavey

Raquel Panganiban

June Swain

Wilijono Tanudjojo

Barbara Gore (Sister of
Sr Marie)



Remembering the Dead

Recently Deceased:

Tonina Pasquale - 22
September in Italy. Sister of
Bianca Cassino

Kevin Whooley - 28 September,
brother of John Whooley.

Sara Parker - 28 September,
Wife of Tony Parker

Graham Dee - 4 October

October Anniversaries:

Paul (Budgie) Jacobsen (4 Oct)

Joseph Claude Fernando (4 Oct)

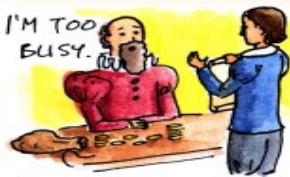
Sr Marcellin Wilson RSM (24 Oct)

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



CHILDREN'S CORNER

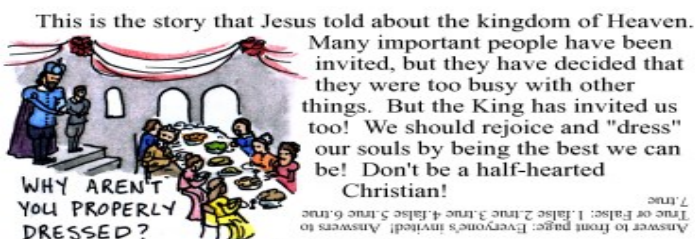
Invitation to the Wedding Feast



Imagine that you live in a great kingdom with a king and queen and many other great people. You hear that the king's son is going to get married and there will be a great wedding feast. All the lords and ladies and rich land owners are invited. On the day of the wedding

the servants go out to call the guests to the wedding, but all those important people refuse to go! They say they are too busy with other things, and can't be bothered to go!

Now imagine that you are one of the children in a poor family that lives down a back street. Suddenly you hear people calling out that the king has invited your family to the feast! What excitement! Everybody puts on their best clothes and goes to the castle. In a little while the king comes in and you see him pointing to a man who isn't dressed neatly, and hasn't washed his hair. He sends the man out of the hall.



WHY AREN'T YOU PROPERLY DRESSED?

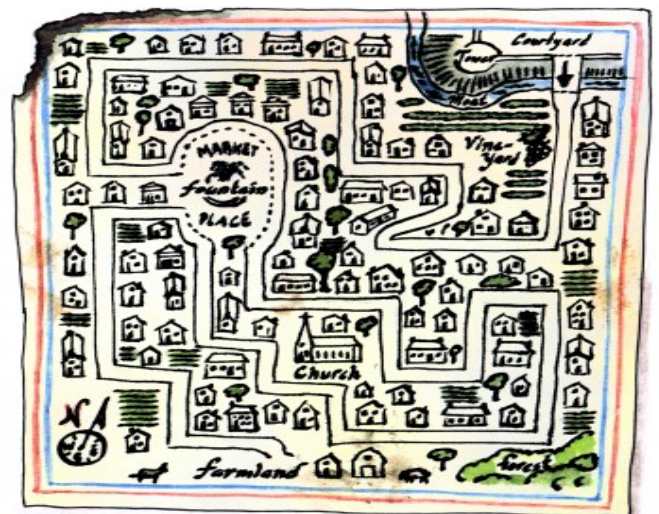
This is the story that Jesus told about the kingdom of Heaven. Many important people have been invited, but they have decided that they were too busy with other things. But the King has invited us too! We should rejoice and "dress" our souls by being the best we can be! Don't be a half-hearted Christian!

Answers to front page: 1. false 2. true 3. true 4. false 5. true 6. true 7. true

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 15th, 2023



The king sent his servants to call all the people in the street to his son's wedding. Follow the road on the map from the castle's courtyard all the way to the farmland. The people in the houses next to the road you pass are invited to the wedding.

You can colour in the houses if you like.
Who was invited to the feast?