



The Cathedral Connection



5 November 2023
Vol. 12 Issue 40

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

LEADERSHIP

Our year is almost over and as we move through November everything around us begins to direct our attention to school holidays, end of year functions and finally Christmas. The liturgical year is also drawing to a close and we have only a couple more gospel readings from Matthew who still has some important words for us.

This weekend is all about leadership and not letting the head overrule the heart. The first reading from Malachi criticises the priests for their attitude and behaviour. Malachi tells the priests they need to 'find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts'. Malachi's message for us is that our faith should not be driven by the thinking in our heads but needs to come from our hearts. This will always lead us to act with compassion.

The second reading, the letter from St Paul shows Paul as a kind caring parent to the Thessalonians. Paul is warm and affectionate and complimenting the Thessalonians for taking God's message into their hearts not just using their heads.

Matthew's gospel dives deeper into the leadership message. Jesus reiterates the position of leadership of the scribes and pharisees telling the people 'You must ... do what they tell you and listen to what they say'. But then he says 'but do not be guided by what they do since they do not practice what they preach'. The words of Jesus are direct and unequivocal, and he has further criticism of their behaviour accusing them of acting simply to gain attention and being too interested in the trappings of leadership.

What does this say for us today? We too need to listen to the words of Jesus and to heed the warning to be careful that we are not saying one thing and then doing the opposite. Our faith and actions should come from our hearts, prompted by compassion and love for those around us. This does not mean God expects us to be perfect, but we are asked to be genuine, honest, and authentic with ourselves, those around us and with God.

We are called to follow Jesus, to listen to his word and let those words lead us to serve others rather than being served. This was the example set for us by Jesus throughout his life here on earth.



Jane Kelly

Readings for the Week

Sunday 5th - Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Malachi 1:14-2:2,8-10; 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9,13; Matthew 23:1-12

Monday 6th - Romans 11:29-36; Luke 14:12-14

Tuesday 7th - Romans 12:5-16; Luke 14:15-24

Wednesday 8th - Romans 13:8-10; Luke 14:25-33

Thursday 9th - Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Ezekiel 47:1-2,8-9,12; John 2:13-22

Friday 10th - St Leo the Great - Romans 15:14-21; Luke 16:1-8

Saturday 11th - St Martin of Tours - Romans 16:3-9,16,22-27; Luke 16:9-15

Sunday 12th - Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 6:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

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

'We disciples of Jesus must not seek titles of honour, of authority or supremacy... because among ourselves there must be a simple and fraternal attitude... We are all brothers and sisters. If we have received talents from the heavenly Father, we must place them at the service of our brothers and sisters... We must not consider ourselves superior to others; modesty is essential for an existence that seeks to conform to the teaching of Jesus, who is meek and humble of heart and came not to be served but to serve.'

- Pope Francis, [Angelus](#), 5 November 2017



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.

Special 8.00am Mass Monday 6 November in Connolly Hall Chapel As the NZ Bishops start a series of meetings in Wellington on Monday, they have asked to celebrate Mass on Monday morning in Connolly Hall Chapel at 8.00am. All welcome.



**Te Huinga o ngā Pihopa
Katorika o Aotearoa**
New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference

PRESENTATION OF PALLIUM



This Sunday 5th of November at St Mary of the Angels 5.00pm Mass, Archbishop Paul will be invested with the Pallium. All are welcome.

The Pallium is a white woolen band with pendants in front and back worn over the chasuble by the Pope and Metropolitan Archbishops. It symbolizes the close relationship between the Bishop of Rome and the local Church. The Pallia for all newly appointed Metropolitan Archbishops were blessed by Pope Francis in Rome on 29 June 2023, the feast of Ss Peter and Paul. The bishops of New Zealand will be present as the bishops' conference starts in Wellington the following day.

The Pallium was to have been presented by the Archbishop Novatus Rugambwa, the Apostolic Nuncio, the Holy See's ambassador in New Zealand. As you may have heard, Archbishop Novatus suffered a severe stroke last weekend. Please keep him in your prayers.

NOVEMBER – THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

During the month of November we especially remember our family members and friends who are now with God. From the beginning of the month a box will be provided in the entrance where you can place the names of your deceased loved ones. The box will be placed before the Altar during the entrance procession where the names are offered up as part of our Masses.

Parish Memorial Mass: Each year during November, the month of the Holy Souls, the Parish celebrates a Mass in memory of those who were called home to God in the previous 12 months and have a connection with the Cathedral. This year we will celebrate this memorial as part of the **5.30pm Mass on Saturday 11 November**.

Everyone is very welcome as we remember those who have died and prayerfully support those who grieve their passing. All are very welcome to join us for this special commemoration. At the beginning of Mass, we will invite a representative from those families to light a candle of remembrance that will shine in memory of their loved one throughout the Mass.



The Wellington Abrahamic Council of Jews, Christians and Muslims has issued a statement on the terrible situation in Israel, Gaza, and the wider region. It reminds us that 'all of our communities' safety and futures are inextricably linked – and we recommit ourselves to fighting racism, bigotry, and hate in all its forms.

The Torah commands us to "love your neighbour as yourself".

The New Testament enjoins us to "love one another".

The Quran teaches us that The Almighty has created different "peoples and tribes that we may know one another".

You can read the statement <https://abrahamic.nz/>

Remembering that hundreds of people lost their lives in the attack on Israel on 7 October, and that many people are still held hostage, Caritas Aotearoa reminds us that thousands of lives have been lost in Gaza in the last four weeks and the humanitarian situation is dire. A Gaza Health Ministry spokesperson says that 7,000 patients and wounded in Gaza hospitals are at risk of death as fuel supplies, providing electricity, for kidney dialysis, intensive care support, and oxygen supply begin to run out. 12 hospitals and 32 Health centres are already out of service. Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand has called for a ceasefire and for sufficient humanitarian supplies to be allowed into Gaza to help vulnerable people caught up in the conflict. Prayers have been published on the Caritas Facebook page and website. Caritas is also receiving donations through its website: <https://www.caritas.org.nz/where-we-work/holy-land>



Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation - 2 (God is Rich in Mercy)

What God is Like: Many people stay away from the Sacrament of Reconciliation because they are afraid of God. He is perceived as a Judge or as someone who is angry and unforgiving. The truth of the matter is that God is a loving Father who desperately wants us to return to him. God loves to lavish his mercy on us. At our slightest wish for forgiveness, he rushes to us. Recall the marvellous scene in the story of the Prodigal Son. The son hesitates to return because he is fearful about how effective his confession will be. But his father keeps looking for and waiting for his son to return. When the boy returns and is still a long way away, his father sees him and is full of compassion. "He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him" (Lk 15:20).

When the Pharisees complained that he spent too much time hanging out with sinners, Jesus said: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost, until he finds it?" Again, "What woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost'" (Lk 15:1-10).

That's what God is like, Jesus says. He is the Shepherd who searches for the lost sheep. He's like the woman who drops everything and turns her house upside down to find a single lost coin. He's the father who will hasten to meet and embrace us, no matter how badly we have sinned against him.

What Confession/ Reconciliation Is: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is instituted by Jesus for all members of his Church. Reconciliation is at the heart of Jesus' work to save and heal the world. It is the tangible expression of a loving Father's desire to find his children again. The first thing that Jesus did after his resurrection was to give his apostles the authority to restore us to the Father. "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained" (Jn 20:22-23).

Confession was a feature of the life of the early Church. In the Letter of James, we read: "Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the Church and let them pray over him...if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven" (James 5:14-15). Confession was often a public ritual, especially for serious sins. But by the early Middle Ages, the sacrament had taken the form it has today – primarily, a private exchange between a penitent and a priest who acts in the name of Christ.

Fr Joy



COMMUNITY NOTICES



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

BAKE SALE

MCSH Earthquake Strengthening
Fundraiser

Our next Fundraising Bake Sale will be this weekend of 4 - 5 November. Donations of baking for sale will be greatly appreciated. Don't forget to stock up on some yummy treats. Many thanks to all those who help bring these events together.



WELCOME: Last weekend we were joined at Mass by Fr Viator Mujuni, from Tanzania, who will be residing at Viard House while researching a doctorate in Physics at Victoria University. Welcome to Wellington, Fr Viator – we look forward to seeing you from time to time.

Lost Property — Recently someone misplaced a watch at St Thomas More church. Apparently it was later seen in the lost property box, but was not there when the owner checked. The owner would love to have it back – all prayers to St Anthony greatly appreciated, and if you are able to shed any light on this please contact the parish office.

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=241>

Nicholas & Thomas Dyne
(Graham & Rosaleen
Taylor's grandsons)
Ron Fowler
Phil Hickey



Gabrielle McLeavey
Raquel Panganiban
June Swain
Wiliyono Tanudjojo
Barbara Gore
(Sister of Sr Marie)
Melinda Somera
Novatus Rugambwa

Remembering the Dead

November Anniversaries:

Janice Campbell – 13 Nov

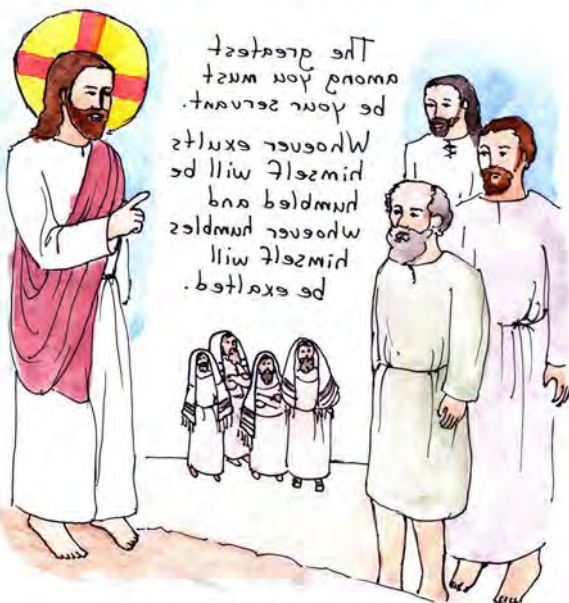


During November we remember all the Holy Souls and especially those from our parish family who have gone home to God in the past 12 months: Paul Jacobsen, Sr Marcellin Wilson RSM, Frances Gray, Stan George, Marie Byrne, Patrick Williams, Sr Susanna Kraus RSM, Simon France, Brian Dunn, Sr Rose McAloon SMSM, Tony Commissaris, Sr Marcia Wilson RSM, Kevin Whooley, Sara Parkerfrank

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

CHILDREN'S CORNER

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 5th, 2023



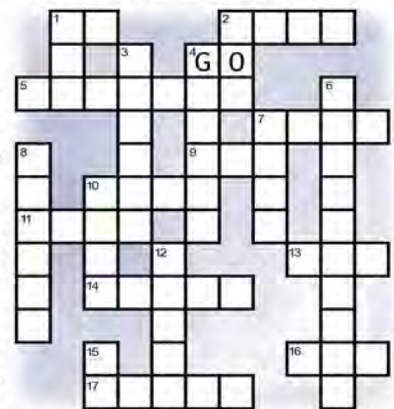
St. Paul's Letter

Cross-Word

Use the words from the list to fill in the blanks in today's reading from the letter to the Thessalonians and then fill in the puzzle.

A=Across
D=Down

IN PROCLAIMED
TO BELOVED
GOD MOTHER
THE GOSPEL
TOO GENTLE
TOIL HUMAN
DAY AMONG
HER NIGHT
GIVE WORK
WITH WORD
WELL



Brothers and sisters: We were _____ (4D) _____ (12D) you, as a nursing _____ (8D) cares for _____ (16A) children. _____ (10D) such affection for you, we were determined to share with you not only _____ (1D) gospel of God, but our very selves as _____ (10A), so dearly _____ (5A) had you become _____ (1A) us. You recall, brothers and sisters, our _____ (11A) and drudgery. Working _____ (17A) and _____ (13A) in order not to burden any of you, we _____ (6D) to you the _____ (3D) of God.

And for this reason we _____ (9A) _____ (2A) thanks to _____ (2D) unceasingly, that, in receiving the _____ (7D) of God from hearing us, you received not a _____ (14A) word, but, as it truly is, the word of God, which is now at _____ (7A) _____ (15D) you who believe.

What was the last thing Our Lord said in today's Gospel reading? Look in the mirror to find out!

Answers to Saint Paul Cross-Word: Across: 1 to 2 give 5 beloved 7 work 9 too 10 well 11 toll 13 day 14 human 16 her 17 night Down: 1 the 2 God 3 Gospel 4 gentle 5 proclaimed 7 word 8 mother 10 with 12 among 15 in