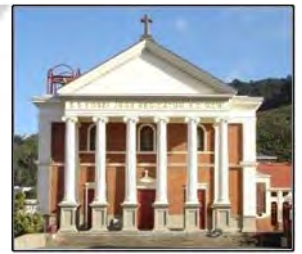




# The Cathedral Connection



26 November 2023  
Vol. 12 Issue 43  
Christ the King

## JESUS CHRIST THE UNIVERSAL KING

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe! With the celebration of the solemnity of Christ the King, we come to the end of the liturgical year. Instituting this Feast of Christ, the King in 1925, Pope Pius XI proclaimed: *“Pax Christi in regno Christi”* (the peace of Christ in the reign of Christ). This means that we live in the peace of Christ when we surrender our lives to him every day, accept him as our God, Saviour and King and allow him to rule our lives.

The title **“Christ the King”** has its roots both in Scripture and in the whole theology of the *Kingdom of God*. In most of the Messianic prophecies given in the **Old Testament** books of Samuel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Daniel, Christ the Messiah is represented as a King.

There are many **New Testament** texts that refer to the Kingship of Jesus:

- a) In the Annunciation, recorded in Lk 1:32-33, we read: *“...and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the House of Jacob for ever; and of His Kingdom there will be no end.”* In fact, the *Kingdom of God* is the centre of Jesus’ teaching, and the phrase *“Kingdom of God”* occurs in the Gospels 122 times, of which 90 instances are uses by Jesus.
- b) The Magi from the Far East came to Jerusalem and asked the question: (Mt 2:2) *“Where is the Baby born to be the King of the Jews? We saw His star... and we have come to worship Him.”*
- c) During the royal reception given to Jesus on Palm Sunday, the Jews shouted: (Lk 19:38) *“God bless the King, who comes in the name of the Lord.”*
- d) During the trial of Jesus Pilate asked the question: *“Are you the king of the Jews?”* (Jn 18:33) Jesus replied: *“you say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the Truth”* (Jn:18:37)
- e) The signboard hung over Jesus’ head on the cross read: *“Jesus the Nazarene, King of the Jews.”*
- f) Finally, in today’s Gospel (Matthew 25:31) Jesus is revealed as Son of Man in Glory, as the King who judges justly.

The Solemnity of Christ the King is in fact a summary of our lives as Christians. On this great feast, let us resolve to give Christ the central place in our lives. When we accept Jesus as the King of our lives, then everything else will fall into its place.

May all of us thus, come to hear the words of the King: *“Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world.”*



God’s Blessings!

Fr. Joy

### Readings for the Week

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> – Christ the King**

Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28; Matthew 25:31-46

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup>** – Daniel 1:1-6,8-20; Luke 21:1-4

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>** – Daniel 2:31-45; Luke 21:5-11

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>** – Daniel 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28; Luke 21:12-19

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> – Saint Andrew**— Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** - Daniel 7:2-14; Luke 21:29-33

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Daniel 7:15-27; Luke 21:34-36

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> – First Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37

‘Those who have experienced in their own lives the Father’s mercy cannot remain indifferent before the needs of their brothers. The lesson of Jesus that we have heard does not allow escape routes: I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was naked, displaced, sick, in prison and you assisted me. You cannot stonewall a person who is hungry: he must be fed. Jesus tells us this! The works of mercy are not theoretical ideas, but concrete testimonies. They oblige us to roll up our sleeves to alleviate suffering.’

Pope Francis, [Jubilee Audience](#), 30 June 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, 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. Last one this year, 17 December.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## Parishioner update this Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November

Please join with the parish leadership teams this Sunday at 2.00pm in Connolly Hall Chapel for an update, and opportunity to ask questions and offer your feedback on several important issues currently needing parish discernment. Issues such as the future of natural disaster insurance considerations, the potential redevelopment of Archdiocesan and parish land, the Cathedral Strengthening and Restoration project, and the Cathedral reopening and parish office relocation. This will be followed by fellowship and light refreshments in the Cathedral foyer.

**PARISHIONER  
UPDATE!**

**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>



# BAKE SALE

MCSH Earthquake Strengthening  
Fundraiser

Our final Bake Sale for the year will be **NEXT WEEKEND** 2-3 December, after all Masses. All contributions of baking and the like are very welcome. Do come prepared to buy some delicious food. All money raised supports our cathedral restoration.



**March for life** - Saturday 2 December a celebration of life and peaceful protest against the practice and legality of abortion. Gather at Civic Square 1.00pm for entertainment - march to Parliament begins 2.00pm. Mass for Life, Friday 1 December, 7.00pm, St Mary of the Angels, followed by Eucharistic Adoration.

# MARCH FOR LIFE

NEW ZEALAND

## LIVING AND SERVING



The humanitarian crisis in Gaza shows no sign of letting up, despite a brief ceasefire (according to reports as we write). 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. Please continue to pray for a full ceasefire and steps toward peace and justice for all. Caritas is also receiving donations through its website:

<https://www.caritas.org.nz/where-we-work/holy-land>



The Wellington City Mission is running its annual Christmas appeal. Every family deserves a fun-filled Christmas and you have the power to make that happen. Here's how:

**Register your business for our goods collection** and rally your employees together to donate groceries, or other much needed items, to our Big Christmas Mission. At the end of the month, our team will come and collect your donations right from your doorstep and deliver them to the Wellington City Mission.

**Donate to our Givealittle Page** as an individual or as a business. Big or small, every donation counts! 100% of the money received through donations will be used by our team to shop for items on the Wellington City Mission's wish list.

**Spread the word.** Can you forward this email to at least 1 small business you know? Imagine how many families we could reach.

## Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation - 5 (God is Rich in Mercy)

### Three Elements of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Catholic Church teaches that sacramental confession requires three “acts” on the part of the penitent:

**Contrition (Repentance)** - It is the sincere sorrow for sins, because by them we have offended God. This process begins with a careful examination of conscience. There are two types of contrition:

**Perfect Contrition** - It is sorrow for sins motivated by faith and the love of God. One is sorry for having offended God and wants to return to God.

**Imperfect Contrition (Attrition)** - It refers to sorrow which arises from a less pure motive, such as common decency or fear of hell. Here sorrow is based on the fear of eternal punishment. It contrasts with perfect contrition.

The following Act of Contrition expresses in prayer what “Contrition” means: **My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen.** (Rite of Penance, No.45)

**Confession** - The second part of Reconciliation is confession itself. The Church requires that we confess our sins to a priest. Confessing our sins opens us to reconciliation. Confession of sins to a priest is an essential act of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. After a diligent examination of our conscience, we must confess all our sins.

**Satisfaction (Penance/ Reparation)** - The final part of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is the penance. Most of our sins injure others. We need to repair the harm. For example, this could mean restoring the reputation of someone we have undermined, apologizing, paying compensation or injuries or damaged or stolen goods. Our sins also have a negative effect on our souls. We need to work on recovering our full spiritual strength and make some penances (e.g. Prayer, an offering, works of mercy, service of neighbour, sacrifices, or voluntary self-denials etc.)

### Steps in the Rite of Reconciliation:

- ◆ The priest will welcome you and invite you to make the sign of the Cross. It will be helpful for the priest to know a little about you if he doesn't already, and the time of your last confession. You may choose to begin with the traditional opening, “Bless me Father, for I have sinned. It has been (...weeks, ...months, ...years) since my last confession. (Relax, Be at ease. The priest is there to help you experience God's mercy).
- ◆ Confess your sins in your own words to the priest. An appropriate way to conclude is by saying, “I am sorry for these and all the sins of my past life. I humbly ask pardon from God and absolution from you father.”
- ◆ After you have confessed your sins to the priest, he will give you encouragement for your moral and spiritual growth. The priest then gives you a penance – which may include a brief prayer – and asks you to make an act contrition. Then the priest absolves you from your sins. After this you may leave the confessional.
- ◆ Complete the penance the priest gives you. Thank God for his mercy. Promise yourself and God that you will try to avoid these sins in the future. Talk to God and ask for his help especially in avoiding temptations and those near occasions of sin.

Fr. Joy



## ADVENT RECONCILIATION

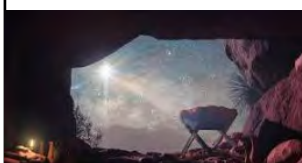
The Advent Season is all about reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth in the world as it is today. The best preparation that we could ever make is to prepare our hearts for Jesus. There will be opportunity for individual Reconciliation on **2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2023 (Saturdays) after the 8.30am Mass at the Connolly Hall**. There will also be an Advent Reconciliation Service (Rite II) on **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 4.00pm in St. Thomas More Church, Wilton**.

**ADVENT MASS** — A Family Advent Mass will be celebrated at our 10.30am Sunday Mass at St. Thomas More church on 17 December. Interested parents whose children would like to participate in various Mass roles are invited to stay back for a short time, after the 10.30am Mass this Sunday 26 November for an initial discussion. Please contact Chrisanthi Inch for further information on 0211896475 [cssinch@gmail.com](mailto:cssinch@gmail.com)

**St Mary's College International Hosts** — St Mary's College have been asked to host quite a few students for 2024. International Students add a cultural as well as a financial benefit to our school. Please ask friends and family if they would like to host. The payment is \$330.00 per week. At the moment St Mary's have full year and term 1 students to home. Please contact Philippa Smyth for information on (04) 473-5554 or email [philippa.smyth@stmw.school.nz](mailto:philippa.smyth@stmw.school.nz)

**An Advent Reflection** — “Bringing Advent to Life: Stations on the Way to Christmas”, written by Fr James Lyons. Sunday, 3 December, 4.00 pm, St Thomas More Church, Wilton.

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 8th December**  
An Archdiocesan Mass will be celebrated on our Diocesan feast day at St Teresa's Pro-Cathedral, Karori at 7.00pm. During this Mass the Archdiocese will again be entrusted to the care of Mary under the title of the Immaculate Conception.



# SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PARISH

Please keep in your prayers

PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140,  
Ph: (04) 496 1700  
[cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz)  
[www.mcshwellington.org](http://www.mcshwellington.org)  
[www.facebook.com/MCSHWellington/](http://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, 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=245>

Nicholas & Thomas Dyne  
(Graham & Rosaleen Taylor's grandsons)  
Barbara Gore  
Phil Hickey  
Gabrielle McLeavey  
Raquel Panganiban  
Novatus Rugambwa  
Melinda Somera  
June Swain  
Wilijono Tanudjojo



*Please remember these and any others in the Parish who are ill. If you know of anyone confined to their homes or who needs a visit with Holy Communion, please contact the parish office.*

## Remembering the Dead

Ron Fowler (RIP 31 October)  
Mary Clotilde Kemble (RIP 9 November) Sister of Sadie Laurenson  
Bernard Atkins (RIP 15 November) Brother-In-Law of Roger Swanson  
**November Anniversaries:**  
Janice Campbell (13 November)  
Francis Philip Selvaratnam (19 November)  
Leonardo Damiano (26 November)  
*For all the dead. Those near and dear to us and those who have no one to pray for them.*



## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### Whatever you do to others...

Jesus is a fair king. In today's Gospel reading, He tells us how He will judge people at the end of time. Those who were good to God will be saved, and those who were not good to Him will be condemned. Whoever is good to others is good to God, and whoever is unkind to others is unkind to God.



Our Lord cares so much about His people that He will judge us according to how we treat each other. Jesus is the Good Shepherd and the King, and He cares about every one of us specially. Imagine a king who came to see every one of his subjects to make sure that they were doing okay. Well, Jesus does more than that- He died for us on the cross! He looks after us all the time, and He says that anyone who is unkind to us will be judged as being unkind to Him.

Christ the King is the just judge. How do you think you will be judged when you die, or at the end of time? Are you kind to others? Do you ever think about how you would treat Jesus if He were here? Do you treat other people the way you would treat Jesus?



## The Kids' Bulletin

*Feast of Christ the King  
November 26th, 2023*



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*What does God say about His people in the first reading?  
Use the code to find out some of what He said.*

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