



# The Cathedral Connection



28 January 2024

Vol. 13 Issue 1

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Parishioners,

The Gospel readings the last 2 Sundays have been about the call of the first disciples, a call that is extended to us at our baptism. Today's Gospel tells of the beginning of the ministry of Jesus. It's a mission that we are called to participate in also.

The first reading today refers to the great theophany of Sinai, when God spoke directly to his people and terrified them because they could not cope with unfiltered interaction. So, God promises that he will communicate with them through the medium of human messengers – prophets and those who are entrusted to speak God's words.

In today's church, priests, religious, and lay pastoral leaders assume something of that leadership and mediating role. They walk beside us, seeking to discern what God is calling us to do.

In the last 5 years I have been part of the Cathedral Leadership group, comprising the Parish Pastoral Council, Finance, and Liturgy Committees. As a city parish, you have a wealth of talent available, and many have worked tirelessly for the benefit of the parish, especially in the rebuilding of our cathedral, from those who have giving freely of their expertise, or their finances, or those who worked the samosa and cake stalls each Sunday, and other fundraising activities.

I would especially like to thank **Debbie Matheson**, the **Pastoral Team**, and the **Parish Staff** for their leadership during this time. You are indeed fortunate to have **Fr Patrick Bridgeman** coming as Administrator. I am sure he will enjoy his time with you as much as I have.

Wishing you all well for 2024 and beyond.

Fr Ron



## Readings for the Week

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup>** – 2 Samuel 15:13-14,30,16:5-13; Mark 5:1-20

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>** – 2 Samuel 18:9-10,14,24-25,30-19:3; Mark 5:21-43

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup>** – 2 Samuel 24:2,8-17; Mark 6:1-6

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>** – 1 Kings 2:1-4,10-12; Mark 6:7-13

### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Presentation of the Lord

Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 2:22-40

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 1 Kings 3:4-13; Mark 6:30-34;

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Job 7:1-4,6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23; Mark 1:29-39

## OUR MISSION & VISION

**To joyfully share God's love. To be a missionary people united in the hearts of Jesus and Mary**

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)

'In these days, let us pray especially for Christian unity, and let us never tire of invoking the Lord for peace in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, and in many other parts of the world: it is always the weakest who suffer the lack of it. I am thinking of the little ones, of the many injured and killed children, of those deprived of affection, deprived of dreams and of a future. Let us feel the responsibility to pray and build peace for them!'



Pope Francis, [Angelus](#), 21 January 2024



METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL  
OF THE SACRED HEART

# 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** - Resumes 4 February and then on Sundays 6pm-6:30pm in Connolly Hall Chapel. All welcome.

**Rosary** - Every Monday (except Public Holidays) from 11.30am in Connolly Hall Chapel, all welcome.

**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. Resumes on 5 February 2024.

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Is available on Thursdays at the Connolly Hall Chapel from 7am until 7pm. Everyone is welcome to make a visit during these hours. Adoration begins again this Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024



*Thank You*

We offer to  
**Frs. James Lyons, Viator Mujuni, David**



**Dowling** and **Monsignor Gerard Burns** our sincere thanks and gratitude for their ministry as presiders of our Saturday Vigil and Sunday Eucharistic services to our parish community, and to Monsignor Gerard, Fr. Viator and **Fr. Ravi Kumar** for their weekday sacramental ministry during December and January. Welcome to **Fr. Patrick Bridgman** whose ministry with, and to us begins on 1st February.

Before Christmas we gathered to thank **Frs. Ron Bennet** and **Joy Thottankara** for their ministry and presence with us. Fr. Joy has been on holiday since Christmas, however Fr. Ron has continued to extend his gentle hand of shelter and guidance over us whilst continuing his sacramental and pastoral ministry of Otari parish over the holiday period. Thank you again for your ministry and care for the Cathedral parish over the past 6 years Fr. Ron. We wish you all the very best for the next period of your priestly journey and beyond.

## CATHEDRAL PARISH PRAYER

With the date for the reopening of the Cathedral now announced, **7-9 June 2024**, we have refreshed our communal parish prayer of petition. From this weekend the following prayer replaces the previous Cathedral prayer offered at our weekly Sunday Eucharistic services. Please feel free to add this prayer to your own personal prayers and those of your family.

*Loving God*

*The time for our return to your Cathedral draws near.*

*We give you thanks for the faith, hope, and love of our generous benefactors and our parish family.*

*Move the hearts of people here in Aotearoa to complete this work through their gifts of time, talent, and treasure.*

*May the Cathedral once again give praise and glory to your Holy Name.*

*Amen*



## LENTEN REFLECTION OPPORTUNITIES

The 40 days of the Lenten season commemorates Jesus' time spent fasting in the desert and enduring the temptations. It is set aside as a period of preparation for us as we journey towards the celebration of our Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During the Lenten season we are encouraged to spend extra time with the Lord in prayer, by reading Sacred Scripture, serving through the giving of alms and doing something extra to assist others in need; and practice self-control through fasting.

Our parish is offering opportunities for you to come together to read, explore and pray with each coming week's Sunday Gospel reading, and to communally pray the Stations of the Cross. The times for these are:



### Scripture reflection - 6.00pm in Connolly Hall chapel on the following Wednesdays

21st, 28th February  
6th, 13th, 20th March



### Stations of the Cross – 7.00pm in Connolly Hall chapel on the following Fridays

16th, 23rd February  
1st, 8th, 15th March

If you are not able to commit to every session please do join us whenever you are able.

## CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2024

**Children's Sacramental Programme 2024** - Registration is now open for the 2024 programme which begins with **FIRST RECONCILIATION** in Term 1, **HOLY COMMUNION** in Term 2 and **CONFIRMATION** in Term 4

For your child to be eligible, he/she must already be baptised and be at least 8 years old. The first parent's session is at 7.00pm on Thursday 8 February 2024 at St Thomas More Church in Wilton.

For registration and/or further enquiries, please contact Geraldine: [mcs.h.sacramentalprogramme@gmail.com](mailto:mcs.h.sacramentalprogramme@gmail.com) or the Parish Office at [cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz)

FIRST RECONCILIATION Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish Term 1 - 2024				FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish Term 2 - 2024			
Parents' Session 1	Thursday, 8 February 2024	7:00 pm	St Thomas More Church, Wilton	Parents' Session 1	Tuesday, 30 April 2024	7:00 pm	St Thomas More Church, Wilton
Children's Session 1	Sunday, 11 February 2024	9:00 am	Connolly Hall Chapel	Children's Session 1	Sunday, 12 May 2024	9:00 am	Connolly Hall Chapel
Blessing and Presentation of Candidates at Parish Mass	Sunday, 11 February 2024	10:30 am	St Thomas More Church, Wilton	Blessing and Presentation of Candidates at Parish Mass	Sunday, 12 May 2024	10:30 am	St Thomas More Church, Wilton
Parents' Session 2	Tuesday, 20 February 2024	7:00 pm	St Thomas More Church, Wilton	Parents' Session 2	Thursday, 16 May 2024	7:00 pm	St Thomas More Church, Wilton
Children's Session 2	Sunday, 25 February 2024	9:00 am	Connolly Hall Chapel	Children's Session 2	Sunday, 26 May 2024	9:00 am	Connolly Hall Chapel
Children's Session 3	Sunday, 10 March 2024	9:00 am	Connolly Hall Chapel	Children's Session 3	Sunday, 16 June 2024	9:00 am	Connolly Hall Chapel
Reconciliation Day	Sunday, 24 March 2024	2:00 pm	St Mary of the Angels, Boulcott St	Rehearsal	Saturday, 22 June 2024	3:00 pm	Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hills St
				First Holy Communion	Sunday, 23 June 2024	10:00 am	Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hills St

The National Liturgy Office has published parish resources for **Waitangi Day Tuesday 6 February** and the **World Day of Prayer for the Sick which is the following Sunday, 11 February**. Waitangi Day Mass for our parish will be celebrated at St Mary of the Angel's church. Waitangi Day is our country's national day commemorating the first signings of the Treaty of Waitangi—Te Tiriti o Waitangi on 6 February in 1840. Because of the Christian involvement in its signing and the Church's mission to bring about a better world, we can mark Waitangi as a significant spiritual event and a time to pray for the land and its peoples.



### Waitangi Day 2024

Tuesday 6 February 2024 is our national day commemorating the first signings of the Treaty of Waitangi

Go here for the NLO resources: <https://www.nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/waitangi-day-2024/>



### World Day of Prayer for the Sick

11 Feb 2024 | Liturgical Year

"Illness is part of our human condition.

Go here for the NLO resources for World Day of Prayer for the Sick: <https://www.nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/world-day-of-prayer-for-the-sick-2/Sunday>

In his message for the latter day, Pope Francis says: "Illness is part of our human condition. Yet, if illness is experienced in isolation and abandonment, unaccompanied by care and compassion, it can become inhumane. On this World Day of the Sick, as the whole Church journeys along the synodal path, I invite all of us to reflect on the fact that it is especially through the experience of vulnerability and illness that we can learn to walk together according to the style of God, which is closeness, compassion, and tenderness."

**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>



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[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**

**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:** Nikolai (Nik) Solia

*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=250>

Nicholas & Thomas Dyne  
(Graham & Rosaleen Taylor's grandsons)  
Barbara Gore  
Phil Hickey



Gabrielle McLeavey  
Raquel Panganiban  
Novatus Rugambwa  
Melinda Somera  
June Swain  
Wiliyono Tanudjojo  
Luke Monaghan

*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**

Cardinal Tom Williams  
RIP 22 Dec 2023

Monsignor Charles Cooper  
RIP 3 Jan 2024



**February Anniversaries:**

Stanley George 22 Feb  
George Hunt 27 Feb

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

**CHILDREN'S CORNER**

**Baby Jesus is Presented in the Temple**

On February second we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. That is the day that Saint Joseph and Our Lady took the baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to consecrate Him to God. The Jews were supposed to dedicate their first-born sons to God, so Mary and Joseph were obedient to the law even though their Baby was God Himself!

This was a most amazing moment, even though almost nobody noticed it: here was the great Temple where the people came to worship God, and now God had actually come into it- as a little Baby! But only Mary and Joseph and the prophets Simeon and Anna knew what had happened.

Saint Paul tells us that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. Every time you receive Holy Communion, it's like baby Jesus entering the Temple. When you go to Communion, remember that you know that amazing secret- that even though the rest of the world might not know, you have just received Jesus! What a special moment!

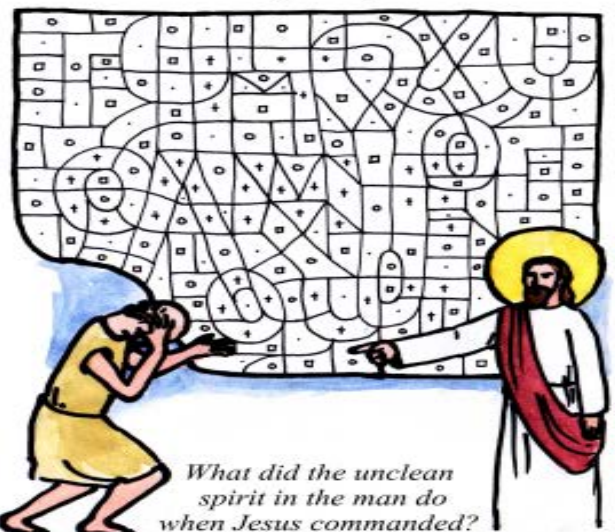


Answers to front page: it came out saying, AUTHORITY, destroying, body, come, spirit, voice, they, Answers to Trisagion: man, Jesus.

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)

**The Kids' Bulletin**

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
January 28th, 2024



*What did the unclean spirit in the man do when Jesus commanded?*

*Colour in only the spaces that have crosses to find out what it did.*