



The Cathedral Connection



25 February 2024
Vol. 13 Issue 5
Second Sunday of Lent

Mountains to climb

Whenever I go for a run, I have one clear objective – avoid hills at all costs.

Abraham, Isaac, Jesus, Peter, James and John were clearly made of sterner stuff. In our readings today, Abraham and Isaac went to Moriah (a mountainous region) while Jesus, Peter, James and John climbed Mount Tabor, without any fuss.

God put Abraham to the “test”, and he came out with flying colours through showing his obedience and love to God. Jesus’ test was still to come - dying on the cross to save us. However, at this stage of his ministry, his popularity was in decline having rejected the request from his followers to become their leader. His life was about to be turned upside down, but before this was to happen, he was to be affirmed as the Son of God in the presence of his most trusted disciples.

These days, the road up to the Church of the Transfiguration is quite winding and narrow. Buses cannot get up there so smaller cars/taxis take pilgrims up and down all navigating the narrow and winding road like formula one drivers. So like Peter when you get to the top you are a bit terrified. I like to think that Peter’s terror was awe rather than fear. Having just seen Jesus talking to Moses and Elijah left him awestruck, then to hear the words “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Must have sealed his faith. We however know that later Peter was to deny Jesus three times and that his life too would be turned upside down.

Like Jesus, Abraham and Peter, we all experience turmoil in our lives, be it the loss of someone dear, the breaking up of a friendship or relationship or being shunned for not following the crowd. These can be difficult times and sometimes there is nothing we can do about those who hurt us. We can however do something ourselves – we can pray, remembering that God loves us in the same way he loves his own Son. Let’s use this Lenten period as an opportunity to speak and listen to God more often as helps us to climb our mountains.

While I will try and call on God to help me climb my spiritual mountains, I will unfortunately have to continue to call on Sandra to pick me up with the car at the bottom of the hill that leads up to our home.



Clint Ramoo (*Finance Chair*)

Readings for the Week

Sunday 25th – Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18; Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10

Monday 26th – Daniel 9:4-10; Luke 6:36-38

Tuesday 27th – Isaiah 1:10,16-20; Matthew 23:1-12

Wednesday 28th – Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28

Thursday 29th – Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31

Friday 1st March – Genesis 37:3-4,12-13,17-28; Matthew 21:33-43,45-46

Saturday 2nd – Micah 7:14-15,18-20; Luke 15:1-3,11-32

Sunday 3rd – Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25

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)

‘Do we know how to recognize the light of God’s love in our lives? Do we recognize it with joy and gratitude on the faces of the people who love us? Do we look around us for the signs of this light that fills our heart and opens it to love and service?’



Pope Francis, [Angelus](#), 5 March 2023



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 this Wednesday 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 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month in Connolly Hall Chapel from 7.30pm-9pm. All are welcome. Resumes this Monday 5 February.

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.



If anyone is interested to commit to an hour of Adoration on Thursdays on either a weekly or fortnightly basis please contact **Sr Marie Ph 022 639 0240** or mariegore023@gmail.com

HOLY HOUR You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on **Tuesday 27 February** at the **Connolly Hall Chapel** beginning at **7.30 pm** to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Included in the hour will be prayers, praise and worship, scripture reading and silence, concluding with Benediction. All are welcome.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Reconciliation:

Rite I Reconciliation: Will be available from 30 minutes before the start of the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Morning Masses this weekend and on the following weekends 2-3, and 9-10 March.

Rite II Reconciliation: A Special Rite II Reconciliation service that combines with our Children's Sacramental Programme First Reconciliation will be held at St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria at 2.00pm on Sunday 24 March. All parishioners are invited to attend.

Lent



Lenten Reflection: 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

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

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

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

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



Palm Sunday Palms:

Before the Cathedral closed in 2018, many of you may remember our Palm Sunday celebrations where we had very large palm fronds that were used as part of the Palm Sunday Procession. (See photos). If anyone is in a position to supply us with twelve of these large fronds can you please contact the parish office as soon as possible to organise. Many thanks.





The Sacred Heart Cathedral Restoration Gala Dinner

Your support is sought for a function to be held from **6.30pm** on **Friday 12 April** to help raise the final \$1m required to complete the strengthening and restoration of our Metropolitan Cathedral.

- The Function:** A dinner with auction and debate.
- The Debate topic:** It's better to be sporty than naughty.
- The Debaters:** Six of NZ's funniest premier performers.
- The Chair:** Rt. Hon. Gerry Brownlee MP.
- The Debate prize:** The Justin du Fresne Gold Cup.
- The Venue:** St. Pat's Town College Hall.

Your support is requested in the form of:

Sponsorship packages:

- **GOLD** (\$4,000 +GST), includes a table of 10
- **SILVER** (\$2,500 +GST), includes a table of 10

Table bookings:

Table for 10 people, \$1,200 +GST

All enquiries and bookings to: bobhouston@xtra.co.nz,
mobile: 0274 898017



ST THERESA'S
CATHOLIC PARISH PLIMMERTON 

Healing Service with Fr John Rea

7:30pm, Tuesday the 12th of March 2024

at

St Theresa's Parish, James Street, Plimmerton

Followed by Supper in the parish hall



ALL WELCOME




CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE N.Z
TE ROPU WAHINE KATORIKA O AOTEAROA

WORKING TOGETHER ACHIEVING MORE
KIA MAHI TAHI

80th Birthday and Conference
Saturday 16/Sunday 17 March 2024
1.00pm Start 5.00 Mass
6.00 Dinner and Entertainment
Sunday workshop with Joy Cowley
Costs Registration \$40.00 Dinner \$30.00
Contact Helen Greig archdio.sec@gmail.com
0275289635

St Bernadette's Church Hall
190 Naenae Road Naenae Lower Hutt

You are invited to celebrate with us



COME AND SEE...

"When you search for me, you will find me; when you search wholeheartedly for me, I shall let you find me", says the Lord

Jeremiah 29:13-14

VOCATIONS MORNING : 9 MARCH 2024
OUR LADY OF HOPE PARISH, MAIN ROAD, TAWA

COME AND BE INSPIRED!

For men thinking about priesthood.
9am – 1pm on Saturday 9th March 2024 at Our Lady of Hope Parish, Main Road, Tawa. To register please email l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz



Get excited for an ALL IN hangout!!

Gather your friends, your schools and your youth groups for an afternoon of games, activities and faith.

Catch up with old friends and make some new ones. **Sunday 3rd March, 2-5pm, Avalon Park, Lower Hutt.**




Morning Prayer / Mass
Wednesday and Thursday 8:30 am – 9:00 am
Join us for a contemplative morning mass to start the day.
Ph. (04) 383-7769 or events@compassion.org.nz

Meditation in the Christian Tradition
Monday, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm & Thursday 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Join our ancient form of contemplative prayer, deeply anchored in the teachings of the ancient Christian traditions of the Desert Fathers and Mothers. All are welcome.

TAIZE
1 March 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Venue: The Chapel of Our Lady of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay, Wellington

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

- Fr Patrick Bridgman
Cathedral Administrator
- Debbie Matheson
Lay Pastoral Leader

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=253>



Barbara Gore

Phil Hickey

June Swain

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

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

Jesus Shows His Glory



Jesus knew He was going to die, and He knew the apostles were going to be afraid. So He decided to show some of them something that they would not be able to forget. He took Peter, James and John up a mountain and suddenly He became dazzlingly bright, like the sun! The apostles were terrified. Then Jesus began to talk with Moses and Elijah, who stood beside Him.

Afterwards, Jesus told Peter, James and John not to tell anyone what had happened until after He rose from the dead. They were confused because they didn't understand that Jesus had to die. But now they knew that Jesus was not just a normal man. They had seen some of the awesomeness of God.



Later on, when Jesus was taken away and killed, the apostles were very sad. But some of them knew something amazing about Jesus. Like those apostles, when we are having a hard time we just need to think about Jesus. He is awesome and amazing, and waiting for us to come to Him in Heaven. The bad times will come, but Jesus is always there- we just need to remember Him!



Answers to Abraham Puzzle: Yes; He stopped him and sent a sheep instead.
www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

**Second Sunday of Lent
February 25th, 2024**

Jesus took Peter, James and John up a mountain. Suddenly His robe became dazzling white, like the sun. Jesus began to speak with Moses and Elijah, who appeared beside Him. Peter, James and John were terrified. Peter said, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. Shall we build tents: one for You, one for Moses and one for Elijah?" Then a cloud came over them, and a voice came out of it and said, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him." Then only Jesus was there with them. Coming down the mountain, He told Peter, James and John not to tell anyone what happened until after He rose from the dead.



Use the pictures to help read the story from today's Gospel reading!