



The Cathedral Connection



8 September 2024
Vol. 13 Issue 31

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

To Hope and Act with Creation

This Sunday's readings speak of redemption, justice, and equality. The Gospel has Jesus commanding the eyes of a blind man to be opened. My favourite Eucharistic Prayer asks that our eyes might be opened to the needs of our brothers and sisters, that we might serve them truly, after Christ's example and at his command, so that the church might be a witness to truth and freedom, justice and peace.

In this time to reflect on care for creation, these words are important. Caring for our mother the earth, so that all might share her goodness and future generations be equally sustained is, as Pope Francis has said, essential to our mission. He laid this out in his encyclical letter *Laudato Si'*, in 2015, and his exhortation *Laudate Dominum*, last year, had a tone of frustration. Quite reasonably, he wondered whether anyone had been listening.

I looked again at today's reading from Isaiah: 'the scorched earth becomes a lake'. We are scorching the earth in this age of climate change and global warming. Can our eyes be opened so that we leave as much for future generations as God has given us?

I have always liked the Letter of Saint James. Not long after the piece we heard today, James goes on to encourage his readers to act in light of their faith. He said that faith without doing justice is meaningless; I think he might have appreciated the theme of this year's Season of Care for Creation: 'to hope and act with creation'. If we act out of hope we might commend our work to God, doing what we can, where we can.

As well as his exhortation, today, to the radical equality of the gospel, James goes on to ask why wars begin. It is, he says, because we want things we have not got. Again, the message of the season for care of creation is to tread lightly on the earth.

As Jesus said, our lives are not made more secure by possessions. We all need to think about what we take from the common treasury that is the earth, and about the sort of public policy we support. It often seems to me that political argument can get into a zero sum game: if you win, I lose. That's not going to get us very far. We all need to learn to listen. And as people of faith we might remember that doing justice is never going to turn out badly.



Jim McAloon

Readings for the Week

Sunday 8th – Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 35:4-7; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37

Monday 9th – 1 Corinthians 5:1-8; Luke 6:6-11

Tuesday 10th – 1 Corinthians 6:1-11; Luke 6:12-19

Wednesday 11th – 1 Corinthians 7:25-31; Luke 6:20-26

Thursday 12th – 1 Corinthians 8:1-7,11-13; Luke 6:27-38

Friday 13th – 1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-27; Luke 6:39-42

Saturday 14th – Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:13-17

Sunday 15th – Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:5-9; James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35



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)

Season of Creation

"The reality is that a low, richer percentage of the planet contaminates more than the poorest 50% of the total world population, and that per capita emissions of the richer countries are much greater than those of the poorer ones." (# 9 *Laudate Deum*)



METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART
TE AHUREWA O TE NGĀKAU TAPU

PARISH ACTIVITIES



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.



Scripture Reflection – held in person and on-line every Tuesday at 6.00pm for 40 minutes. This is an opportunity to come together to pray with and discuss the scripture for the coming Sunday. Meetings are **in the Cathedral Foyer**, or you can join virtually via the internet on “Zoom”. Please use the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84826247342?pwd=K0tUMHhyR1Rkb2NDZPhiRIZIT0dmdz09>

Meeting ID: 848 2624 7342 Passcode: 404496



Divine Mercy Devotions - Sundays 6.00pm-6.30pm in the Cathedral. All welcome.

Rosary - Every Monday (except Public Holidays) from 11.30am in the Cathedral, all welcome.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is available on Thursdays in the Cathedral from 7am until 7pm. Everyone is welcome to make a visit during these hours. If you can regularly spare an hour on a Thursday please contact the [parish office](#) to support this special time of encounter with Jesus.

Sacred Heart Cathedral Prayer Group

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month in Connolly Hall from 7.00pm to 8.30pm. All are welcome. For prayer requests and enquiries, please email mcsh.prayergroup@gmail.com.

As we look forward, a parish gathering!

On September 15, from 2-4pm you are invited to a gathering of the parish. In this gathering we will look to aspects of parish life with the help of two tools known as Divine Renovation and Spiritual Conversations. These will help us to look towards the future of our parish life, and how we can minister as we take up life in the Cathedral again. An exciting time!

This will be facilitated by the Church Mission team of the Archdiocese. The parish leadership teams experienced this process a couple of weekends ago. As part of the process everyone is heard, and the presence of the Spirit can be clearly discerned.

The focus of the past year for the parish has been on the reopening of the Cathedral. The Parish Pastoral Team and Chairs of the Committees felt that the usual AGM format could this year be reformatted to be a gathering to look towards the future of our parish life. The annual accounts, which have been part of the AGM were sent as part of the Cathedral Connection last weekend and are on the website linked to the Charities Commission.

Please note in your diaries **September 15th, 2-4pm, Connolly Hall** it will be good to be together as we look ahead!



Children's Sacramental Programme 2024/2025

Registration is now open for the 2024/2025 programme which begins with CONFIRMATION in Term 3/4, 2024, followed by FIRST RECONCILIATION in Term 1, 2025; and First HOLY COMMUNION in Term 2, 2025.

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 Tuesday, 17 September 2024 at Connolly Hall.

For registration and/or further enquiries, please contact Geraldine: mcsh.sacramentalprogramme@gmail.com or the parish office: cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz



Hon Peter John Gresham ONZM JP - RIP 31 August. It is with deep sympathy the Parish notes the death this week (31 August) of former parishioner Peter Gresham who, with his wife Margot (RIP 25 August 2022), were very involved with the Cathedral community. They established the garden lining the entrance way to the Cathedral and actively supported many social and cultural programmes. A former Cabinet Minister, Peter was an MP from 1990-99. May he rest in peace.

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>

CATHEDRAL RESTORATION FUNDRAISER

RESERVE A PERSONALISED PLAQUE ON A PEW

As part of our Cathedral restoration fundraising, we are offering individuals and families an opportunity to reserve a personalised plaque which will be displayed on a pew at the Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart.

This fundraiser is limited to the availability of pews and priced at \$1,500.00 to permanently acknowledge your contribution. You may wish to use this opportunity to include your name or to honour someone close to you, provided the text will fit on the plaque.

Reserve a plaque

To reserve your plaque, please send us an email at office@cathedralscampaign.org.nz and we will confirm availability.

The donation of \$1,500 can then be made here:

Internet Banking

Cathedral Project **02 0506 0138488 25**

and include "Pews" and your name in the Code and Reference fields.

Credit Card

Donate on our [online form](#), including "Pews" in the last box for additional information.

We will then be in touch to confirm the details required for the plaque.

For further enquiries about this opportunity please contact John Owen Ph. 021 742 737.



Social Justice Week: 8-14 September 2024

Imagine Peace for all: Choose forgiveness, know peace

Each year, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops lead us in Social Justice Week to consider an issue of social justice in Aotearoa. This year we are looking at the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation for building lasting peace. Join us in reflecting on how these values can transform our lives and communities. Through prayer, education, and action, we can work together to create a more just and peaceful society.

For resources and more information visit www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week

The Season of Care for Creation



Sunday 22 September

HOPE and ACT with CREATION: Kaitiaki at Ōtari. Join church communities from the Catholic Parish of Ōtari, St Anne's Anglican Church Northland and St Luke's Anglican Parish Wadestown, on a reflective walk in the outdoors to celebrate the Season of Creation. Sunday 22nd September at 2.00pm. Starting place - Ponga Lawn behind the main entrance to Ōtari/Wilton Bush.

Bring kai for afternoon tea on the Cockayne Lawn. Easy grade tracks and paths. Wet weather plan – 2.00pm at St Thomas More Church, 30 Worcester St. Wilton.

All are Welcome. Contact Estelle Henrys ev.henrys@gmail.com for details.

Saturday 28 September

A Forum on Housing sponsored by the Ecology Justice and Peace Commission. 10am-3pm Saturday 28th September, St Bernadette's Church Hall, Naenae. Adequate housing, a place to call home, is fundamental to living a life of dignity. The Forum on Housing will raise awareness about housing issues in Aotearoa, and provide an opportunity to consider our personal and collective responsibilities as Church. Keynote speakers will provide an overview of current housing issues and group discussions will surface responses for action and advocacy. This forum is for everyone concerned about housing issues.

For more information, please contact Deirdre Meskill, d.meskill@wn.catholic.org.nz; phone: 04 385 8642. A contribution of finger food to share for lunch is appreciated.

Marriage Preparation Course

This is being held over two Sundays 8 & 15 September in Wellington. This September course and the following November course (3 & 10 November) are the only remaining opportunities this year to attend the Archdiocese's flagship marriage preparation Course **Love is a Decision**. We encourage couples to attend a course well in advance of their wedding date.

Register online at: www.wn.catholic.org.nz/about/church-mission/marriage-ministries/

Email: marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz



2025 Columban Calendars are now available!

The Columban Art Calendar is an iconic Catholic Calendar, well-known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information. 2025 marks the 103rd edition. The calendar is available from the Foyer Shop \$13.00 ea. Eftpos available.



SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PARISH

Please keep in your prayers

PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140.
21 Eccleston Hill, Thorndon.
Ph: (04) 496 1700
cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz
www.mcshwellington.org
www.facebook.com/MCSHWellington/

Parish Pastoral Leadership Team

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

Parish Secretary: Frank Doherty

Office Hours:

10am-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/>

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL,
40 HILL ST, THORNDON.

MASS TIMES

Weekdays (Except Public Holidays)

12.10pm Monday (Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion)

8.00 & 12.10pm Tuesday to Friday


Saturday 8.30am

Vigil (Saturday) 5.30pm

Sunday 10.00am & 7.00pm

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=279>



David Trott

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

Recently Deceased:

Hon Peter John Gresham
ONZM JP - RIP 31 August

Most Rev. Denis Brown DD
(CNZM) Bishop Emeritus of Rarotonga, Auckland and Hamilton.
RIP 1 September

September Anniversaries:

- 1st Helen Brigid Foot
- 7th Terry Coles
- 12th Fernanda Carmana
- 15th Joshua Doherty
- 22nd Tonina Pasquale
- 28th Kevin Whooley

For all the dead. Those near and dear to us and those who have no one to pray for them. May their souls rest in peace. Amen.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Jesus Gives the Gift of Hearing



Being able to hear is a wonderful gift from God. Imagine what it would be like if you couldn't hear anything! In today's Gospel reading, the people begged Jesus to heal a deaf man. What do you think it was like for that man when suddenly he could hear everything that was going on around him?

God has given us the gift of hearing to be able to talk with and listen to other people, and to appreciate the sounds of creation. We use this gift to hear God's Word at Mass and when we are being taught.



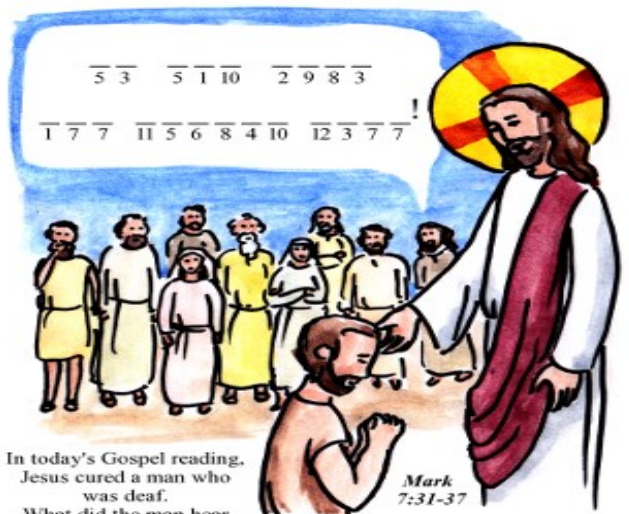
Think of all the things that we can do because we can hear: we can listen to and play music, we can sing and talk with people, we can hear birds and wind in the trees, and we can also be warned of things like barking dogs, or cars coming. Did you ever thank God for the gift of hearing? Thank Him today!



Happy Birthday Mary!
Answer to Front page: He has done all things well!
www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 8th, 2024



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus cured a man who was deaf. What did the man hear people saying when he could hear again?

Mark 7:31-37

Use the number code below to find the answer!

A D E G H I L N O S T W
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12