



The Cathedral Connection



27 October 2024
Vol. 13 Issue 38

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Who's really blind?

We've been following Mark's gospel through the Sundays of ordinary time this year. The authors of the four gospels each organised their material in a particular way and gave emphasis to certain points they wanted to make. While all are based on oral traditions, other texts (notably, Matthew and Luke both draw on Mark) and even eyewitness accounts, they were committed to writing with some care and their inclusion in the canonical writings was also carefully considered.

What are we to make of miracle stories like today's gospel reading, where Jesus heals a blind beggar (Mark names him as Bartimaeus)? First, across Mark's gospel, there's an urgency that is reflected in its brevity. Mark really wants us to get the point of 'the good news of Jesus Christ' without distraction.

The story of Bartimaeus is familiar enough – as are a lot of the healing miracles. Bartimaeus was not only blind, he was therefore marginalised, reduced to begging. In healing him, Jesus restores his dignity. A telling detail, easy to miss, is that a good number of Jesus' followers told Bartimaeus to shut up and get out of the way. Who was really blind? Bartimaeus, or those others who tried to exclude him?

Perhaps because we hear one bit of a gospel one Sunday and another bit the next week, we sometimes think about each story in isolation. Thinking about the stories Mark tells before and after this one is therefore helpful. Last week we had James and John wanting the best seats when Jesus comes into his own. Jesus rightly told them that they didn't have a clue.

Implicitly, Mark contrasts their worldly ambition with Bartimaeus' faith. Mark perhaps is making the point that the blind beggar had a better idea about what sort of messiah Jesus was - not one who was going to distribute the spoils to his supporters like some ancient or medieval warlord, as Zebedee's sons hoped. And some of the disciples wanted to preserve their monopoly when they told a stranger to stop casting out devils in Jesus' name. Jesus wasn't too impressed by that, either.

Then before that Jesus was saying little children had to be welcomed and disciples had to become like them. On that Sunday Fr Patrick reminded us it's not the cute story we've been conditioned to think it is; in that place and time, children had no rights. There it is again – forget about the worldly measures of esteem and success. And no one is to be excluded. As Pope Francis said in his Angelus address on 30 June, 'Brothers and sisters, let us look to God's heart, so that the Church and society may neither exclude anyone nor treat anyone as "impure", so that each person, with their own story, is welcomed and loved without labels, without prejudices — loved without adjectives'.



Jim McAloon

Readings for the Week

Sunday 27th – Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 31:7-9; Hebrews 5:1-6; Mark 10:46-52

Monday 28th – Ephesians 2:19-22; Luke 6:12-19

Tuesday 29th – Ephesians 5:21-33; Luke 13:18-21

Wednesday 30th – Ephesians 6:1-9; Luke 13:22-30

Thursday 31st – Ephesians 6:10-20; Luke 13:31-35

Friday 1st (All Saints) – Apocalypse 7:2-4,9-14; Matthew 5:1-12a

Saturday 2nd (All Souls) – Wisdom 3:1-9; Romans 5:5-11; Mark 15:33-39,16:1-6

Sunday 3rd – Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 6:2-6; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 12:28-34



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 Ōtari (Wilton and Karori).



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



"Many of those with Jesus ordered Bartimaeus to be quiet. For such disciples, a person in need was a nuisance along the way, an obstacle unexpected and unforeseen. They preferred their own timetable above that of the Master, their own talking over listening to others. They were following Jesus, but they had their own plans... Yet, for Jesus, the cry of those pleading for help is not a nuisance but a challenge... How important it is for us to listen to life! The children of the heavenly Father are concerned with their brothers and sisters, not with useless chatter, but with the needs of their neighbours." Pope Francis, [Homily](#), 28 October 2018

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 6pm 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://us05web.zoom.us/j/86384595534?pwd=PYKollbM2MLY4auL1UcawvQPJpRaT.1>

Meeting ID: 863 8459 5534 Passcode: 0XwSuL



Divine Mercy Devotions - Sundays 6pm-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 7pm to 8.30pm. All are welcome. For prayer requests and enquiries, please email mcsh.prayergroup@gmail.com

NOVEMBER MEMORIAL MASS

Each year during November, we especially remember our family members and friends who have gone home to God. A box will be provided in the entrance where you can place the names of your loved ones. The box will be placed before the Altar where the names are offered up as part of our Mass.

Also, during 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. Everyone is invited to share in our Memorial Mass at the 5.30pm Vigil on Saturday 9 November. Drinks and nibbles will follow Mass.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Collection Counters

Can you help the Parish on a Tuesday once every 3-4 months?

Due to changes in people's availability, we are looking for one or two couples or possibly four singles (teams of two required) to help with counting and preparing our Parish Mass Collections.

The job takes about 1-2 hours in a morning or afternoon and is not onerous or particularly physical. Full training will be provided.

Please contact the parish office if you can help.

Cathedral Guardians

We wish to be able to keep the Cathedral complex open during weekdays for visitors, people working in central Wellington and parishioners to worship and drop by for a time of prayer, adoration and reflection.

Ideally, the Cathedral is open between 10am and 3pm. However, this will only be possible with the assistance of volunteer 'Cathedral Guardians', who in pairs welcome all. We are seeking people from across the Archdiocese to fill regular weekly, or bi-weekly time slots of either 10am-1pm or 1-3pm.

During the cruise ship season, which has now commenced, the Cathedral also receives many visitors wanting to visit the Cathedral and hear about its history. If you would like to know more about this hospitality role, please contact the Cathedral Parish Office on 496 1700 or cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz

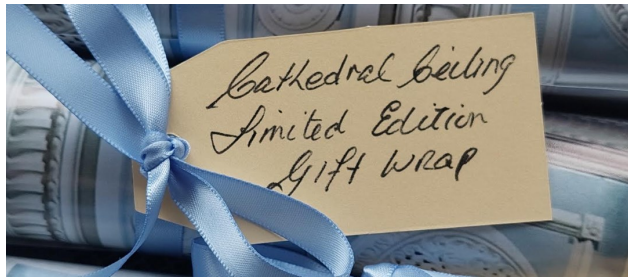
You and your parish working together

PARISH FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES



Cathedral Logo Mugs and Ceiling Wrapping Paper

These items will be for sale after all Masses this weekend. Ideal as gifts or for home use. Check them out! Mugs \$20ea and Wrapping Paper \$10 per roll.



Fundraiser Bake Sale

2-3 November and 7-8 December

The next bake sales are on the weekends of 2-3 November and 7-8 December. Your support for these regular fundraising events is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks to the generous bakers who supply these delicious goodies. New bakers are always welcome.

Please contact Geraldine Irinco or the parish office (04 496 1700) if you can help.

HOLYween Mass

10am Mass, 3 November

A HOLYween Mass will be held on 3 November at our 10am Mass. All children, big and small, are invited to come along dressed up as a saint who inspires them. There will be fun and games as well as prizes for the most creative outfits!

Car boot sale

If you're keen to declutter and make some money, how about booking a place at the Car Boot Sale to be held in the Sacred Heart School grounds on Sunday 8 December? The cost is \$30 per car plus 10% of takings.

To secure a place contact Joy, by Thursday 31 October, on mcshevents@gmail.com, as during November we'll be advertising remaining places to the wider community. More detail to follow.

An opportunity to show your wonderfully refurbished category 1 cathedral to family and friends.

Guided tours are being offered as part of the Wellington Heritage Festival

A rare opportunity to hear some of the stories behind this major refurbishment from the Project Architect for the work carried out over the last six years. Various heritage elements covered by previous building work have been revealed and the story of these and other areas of work will be outlined in a 45 minute tour of the building. Tea and scones served after the tour.

Saturday 26 October 10am-11am; 11am-12pm; 12pm-1pm

Sunday 27 October 1pm-2pm; 2pm-3pm; 3pm-4pm

Monday 28 October 10am-11am; 11am -12pm; 12pm-1pm

Please email: sacredheartcathedraltours@gmail.com for bookings. Cost \$25.00



Bach Choir concert

The Bach Choir of Wellington invites you to their final concert of 2024 featuring the Chiesa Ensemble and presenting a selection of Baroque masterpieces by Vivaldi (Gloria), Bach (Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland) and Corelli (Christmas Concerto). They will be joined by Wellington soloists Rowena Simpson (soprano), Maaïke Christie-Beekman (soprano) and Theodore Moolenaar (tenor).

Tickets available on Eventfinda or at the door. The concert is on Saturday 9 November, 2pm at St Mary of the Angels.

NZ Catholic Medical Association Retreat

Doctors, nurses, midwives, students, carers, pharmacists, physiotherapists, psychologists, counsellors, social workers, chaplains, dentists, health administrators, lawyers and anyone in allied roles is invited to join a Retreat and Seminar, 15-16 November 2024, at the Home of Compassion, Island Bay, Wellington.

Details and registration:

newzealandcatholicmedical.co.nz/2024-retreat-wellington

Tertiary Study Scholarships

Calling all parents and grandparents. Is your son/daughter or grandchild enrolled in tertiary education? The Catholic Foundation has funds to assist them while they are studying:

- Three \$2000 scholarships for young Catholics in 2nd and 3rd year tertiary education.
- Two \$2000 scholarships for refugees at Catholic Colleges entering tertiary or trade training courses.

Go to the Catholic Foundation website for more information and the application forms <https://www.catholicfoundation.org.nz/grants-and-scholarships/> For any queries email c.foundation@wn.catholic.org.nz

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 10am & 7pm

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=284>



Ira Hayes
Debbie Matheson
June Swain
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:

Margaret Coughlan QSM, RIP 22 May.
Sr Eileen Brosnahan RSM, RIP 6 October.
Mark Horton, RIP 8 October.
Sr Ursula "Mary Antonia" Blake RSM, RIP 22 October.



October Anniversaries:

4th Joseph Claude Fernando; Paul Jacobsen
24th Sr Marcellin Wilson RSM
31st Ron Fowler; June Coelho

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

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Jesus Cures Our Blindness



In today's Gospel reading, a blind man called Bartimaeus called out to Jesus to cure him.

Sometimes we can be blind too. When we don't see the truth about God, or when we can't see our own faults then we have a kind of blindness.

When we find that we can't see ourselves or God clearly, we should be like Bartimaeus and call out to Jesus to help us. If we believe in Him then we will get our sight back too.



When Bartimaeus was cured of his blindness he started to follow Jesus right away. When we can see ourselves and God clearly then we will also want to follow Jesus.



Before you go to bed, ask God to help you remember your sins today and then tell Him you're sorry for them.

Answers to Puzzle 126: We are filled with joy. L.L.D.R.O.A.H.R.T.L.E.W.J.W.B.E.Y

The Kids' Bulletin

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 27th, 2024



What did Jesus and the blind man say to each other in today's Gospel reading? Look in the mirror to find out!