



The Cathedral Connection

Vol 14. Issue 6, 2 March 2025, Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Killing me softly

On Tuesday morning I woke up to the news that Roberta Flack, who sang the hit song “Killing me softly with his song” had passed away. There are two lines in this song that strike a chord with me (no pun intended) – “Singing my life with his words” and “Telling my whole life with his words” because it talks about the importance of words and the impact it can have on us.

In our first reading today, we are reminded that our words reveal who we really are. What we say and also how we say it, can either lift a person or tear them down. It will not be a revelation to anyone that our actions and words reflect what is in our hearts. If our hearts are good, then it follows that we will do and say good things much like the good tree that produces good fruit that Jesus refers to in his teaching today’s Gospel.

On Wednesday we start our preparations for the holiest day of the year – Easter Sunday. As we prepare for Easter we are asked to pray, fast and give alms. Giving alms can be material things or doing acts of kindness. A very simple act of kindness is to show love and respect to others in the way we interact with them. A smile, a few kind words or sometimes just listening is a great act of kindness.

And on that note, this weekend we say thank you and goodbye to Debbie, our Lay Pastoral Leader who for the last six years has provided great leadership and guidance to our Parish during a time of great uncertainty and difficulty. Everything she has done for our community has been from the heart which is filled with love and service to God. She has worked tirelessly in the background to ensure that things ticked over in all aspects of our Parish life most of which I am sure is not what she signed up for. I always believe that God sends people into our lives at the right time, this is certainly the case in sending Debbie into our Parish. In the words of Roberta Flack, you “sang a good song” and “had a style” that will certainly be missed in our Parish as you head off to the next chapter in your life. Thank you, Debbie.



Clint Ramoo (Finance Chair)

Readings for the Week

Sunday 2nd - Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ecclesiasticus 27:5-8; 1 Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6:39-45
Monday 3rd - Ecclesiasticus 17:20-28; Mark 10:17-27
Tuesday 4th - Ecclesiasticus 35:2-15; Mark 10:28-31
Wednesday 5th – Ash Wednesday –
Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6,16-18
Thursday 6th – Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25
Friday 7th – Isaiah 58:1-9; Matthew 9:14-15
Saturday 8th – Isaiah 58:9-14; Luke 5:27-32
Sunday 9th – First Sunday in Lent -
Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13



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).



Today, ‘Jesus invites us to reflect on the way we look and the way we speak.... after looking within ourselves, Jesus invites us to look at others as he does. The Lord invites us to clean up our gaze. After our gaze, Jesus invites us to reflect on our speech. The words we use say who we are. The Lord explains that “out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks”. - Pope Francis, Angelus, Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time, 27 February 2022.



**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://mcswhellington.org/join-the-parish/> or contact the parish office ph. 496 1700. We look forward to welcoming you.



Divine Mercy Devotions

Sundays 6pm-6.30pm in the Cathedral.
All welcome.

Rosary - Every Monday (except public holidays) from 11.30am and preceding the Liturgy of the Word, 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.

Scripture Reflection

Held in person 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. This week only the meeting will be in the parish office..

Enquires to: laurensadsadie@gmail.com



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 mcs.prayergroup@gmail.com



Next meeting: Monday 3 March

Ash Wednesday 5 March

There will be a special Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service with the Anglican Cathedral and Lutheran communities at 6pm in the Sacred Heart Cathedral where ashes will be distributed. The music will be lead by the Choir of St Paul's Anglican Cathedral. Ashes will also be distributed during the regular 8.00am and 12.10pm Cathedral Masses that day.

Stations of the Cross: There will be Lenten Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent from 7pm. All are welcome.

Reconciliation: Now that we have access to our reconciliation rooms in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, we are making available regular opportunities to receive this wonderful Sacrament of healing. Previously referred to as Confession, or the Sacrament of Penance, the Sacrament of Reconciliation applies the emphasis on "reunion", a strengthening or healing of our relationship with God. Being reconciled brings a sense of joy and peace.

Reconciliation will be available Wednesday & Friday from 11.50am until 12.00 midday and Saturday after the 8.30am Mass and by appointment.



Reconciliation

Farewell to Debbie

At the 10am Mass **this Sunday 2 March** we will be giving thanks to God for the ministry of Debbie Matheson as Lay Pastoral Leader in the Cathedral Parish. This will be followed by a morning tea where further thanks can be given to Debbie for her pastoral presence. Please bring a plate of food to share.

If you would like to make a contribution to our gift to Debbie please hand to the office or place in the box in the foyer this weekend.



Cathedral Fundraising

These items are for sale from the Cathedral foyer.

Cathedral Logo Mugs and Ceiling Wrapping Paper

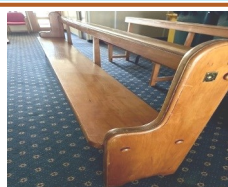
Ideal as gifts or for home use. Check them out! Mugs \$20ea and Wrapping Paper \$10 per roll.

Pompallier Madonna Cards

for sale \$7.50 each.



Pope Francis: '...as part of the universe.... all of us are linked by unseen bonds and together form a kind of universal family, a sublime communion which fills us with a sacred, affectionate and humble respect.' What motivations arise from the invitation to 'clean up our gaze' and 'reflect on our speech', in relation to all creation, as the Lenten journey begins?



"Pull up a pew!" You may ask, "What happened to the old Cathedral pews?". Well, that is a great question, and the answer is, we still have them!

As part of our fundraising endeavours we are actually selling the old pews. These could make an ideal addition to someone's home or garden. A great talking point and a piece of history. Interested? Please contact David Ryan on ryangomez@xtra.co.nz or Ph. 021 543 449

Bishops' Lent Appeal 2025



Giving envelopes for the Bishops' Lent Appeal 2025 are available in the foyer. Every donation given will support Caritas' life-changing humanitarian and development work around the world—and create change not just for today but for the future.

This year, Caritas are encouraging you to give online or through direct deposit if possible, to reduce costs and make processing donations faster. To learn more or donate visit Caritas.org.nz

Cake, Coffee and Chat - 7 March

Last December 25 parishioners gathered for Cake, Coffee and Chat – the idea to reconnect with fellow parishioners.



Feed back was “*let's do this again and soon*” no formality – gathering in a relaxed atmosphere, the Cathedral Foyer.

An easy date to remember - the first Friday morning of the month 10.30am – 12 noon. do come and meet one another – no need to respond- we will post a reminder each month in the Cathedral Connection – if you are free come and say ‘hello’.

All parishioners are very welcome, the more the ‘chatter’. If you would like to note the first Friday dates they are below.

7 March, 4 April, 2 May, 6 June, 4 July, 1 August, 5 September, 3 October, 7 November, 5 December

Any questions please contact: Monica Franklin 021 464 783

Jubilee 2025



Around the world ‘**24 Hours for the Lord**’, a Lenten initiative of prayer and reconciliation will be celebrated on the eve of the 4th Sunday of Lent. In Wellington it will be observed at our Cathedral, beginning with an Opening Liturgy at 5:30pm on Friday 28th March, continuing through the night and ending with the Vigil Mass at 5:30pm on Saturday 29th March. Parishes and communities are invited to take the lead for an hour or two during these 24 hours. Everyone is welcome to visit the Cathedral and spend some time in prayer for peace, healing and hope in our broken world.

Pilgrimage is an integral part of the Jubilee Year. Pope Francis calls pilgrimage “one of the People of God’s most eloquent expressions of faith”. The archdiocesan office has prepared a resource for pilgrimages to sites of significance in our region, and this can be viewed at <https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/jubilee-2025/>.

Situation Vacant: Coordinator, Young Church Ministry (Archdiocese of Wellington)

We are still currently looking for a new team member to support our college youth ministry programme, young church ministry around the Archdiocese and our leadership camp held each year in December. To explore this option please either check out: [online at SEEK](#) or phone the Director of Church Mission, Chris Duthie-Jung – c.duthie-jung@wn.catholic.org.nz / 02102305149.

Request for Help — Cathedral Fundraising

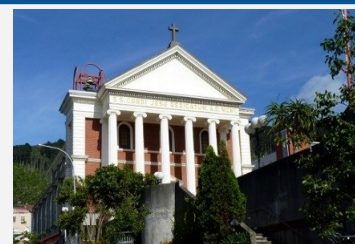
The Fundraising Group will be selling our usual baked goods and souvenirs for our Cathedral Fund at the Newtown Festival next Sunday 2 March. Donations of baked goods, bottled water, and/or drinks in cans, would be most appreciated, and can be left in Connolly Hall on Saturday 1 March between 2pm and 5.30pm.

Also, if you have a chilly bin we can borrow, then that would also be appreciated. Please also leave that in Connolly Hall on Saturday 1 March between 2pm and 5.30pm with your name and number taped onto it so we can ensure safe return.

If you have some spare time on Saturday from 2pm - just before the 5:30pm Mass - please do join us and help in packaging, preparing items to be transported to Newtown Festival.

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>



Donations for Support of the Cathedral Parish can be made to this bank account number: **02-0506-0138488-000**

Particulars: Your surname and initials. **Code:** Your phone number. **Reference:** PARISH
Credit Card Donations for the support of the Parish can be made here: <https://mcshwellington.org/parishioner-and-visitor-support-of-parish/>

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/MCSHWWellington/

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)

8.00am & 12.10pm Tuesday to Friday

Saturday 8.30am

(Anointing Mass every 2nd Saturday of the Month)

Vigil (Saturday) 5.30pm

Sunday 10am & 7pm


RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday & Friday: From 11.50am until 12.00 midday.

Saturday: After 8.30am Mass and 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=295>



Ruth Doherty

Ira Hayes

Jayden Lai

John Owen

Alan Scicluna

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:

Adriana Giorgi (*loved cousin of Rita Phelon*) RIP 9 Feb

Stan Pillar (Father-in-law of Jane Kelly) RIP 24 Feb



March Anniversaries:

Mar 8 Casey Foo

Mar 8 Marie Byrne

Mar 18 John Murray

Mar 19 Patrick Williams

Mar 22 Pat Schleicher

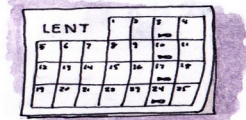
Mar 31 Sr Susanna Kraus RSM

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

Ash Wednesday

This Wednesday is the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday. Lent is a special time when we prepare ourselves for Good Friday and Easter Sunday.



If you go to Mass on Ash Wednesday, the priest will make a little cross on your forehead with ashes. The ashes remind us that

people were made from the dust of the ground and that some day we will die and go back into the ground.

It is good for us to remember that we will die one day. It helps us realize that God put us here and that we need Him all the time. If we remember how much we need God then we will think of Him more and love Him more.

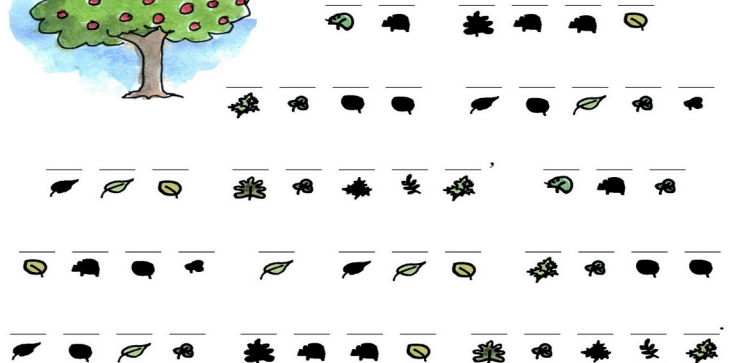
What is something you can do this Lent to remind yourself every day that you need God?

Answer to Front Page: No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. grow, house, God, fruit, green, rock. Answers to Psalm 92 Unscramble: thanks, name, love, might, palm.



The Kids' Bulletin

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
March 2nd, 2025



In today's Gospel reading Jesus told a parable about trees. What did He say?

Use the code to find out!



A B D E F G I N O R S T U