



The Cathedral Connection

Vol 14. Issue 11, 06 April 2025, Fifth Sunday in Lent



Second Chances

'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?'

What would you say? How many times have we judged for so much less? Putting ourselves in the woman's place, how profusely would we seek pardon? Would we own up to our sins? How often in our lives have we wished for a do over? How many times have we hoped that we could start anew? The woman in today's Gospel didn't think that she would have such a second chance.

'Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.'

Confronted with their own sinfulness the Scribes and Pharisees, one-by-one, walk away without so much as throwing a glance towards the woman and our Lord – I would imagine. In condemning the woman, the Scribes and Pharisees were fixated on her immediate past, her sin. They failed to see her entire person and they failed to see her future: what she can be given a chance to change. Contrary to that, our Lord sees us as a whole. He doesn't dwell on our flaws or mistakes but understands our potential to be renewed, to be saved.

'Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.'

From being condemned, the infinite love and mercy of our Lord has saved the woman. What was a hopeless situation was completely turned around – a new life that is full of hope, full of boundless possibilities with the Lord. Everywhere in the Bible, we find hope in that God gives us all the opportunity to be redeemed and renewed. God delights in showing us mercy - *'Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of His inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.'* (Micah 7:18); He patiently waits for us - *'The Lord is not slow to fulfil his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.'* (2 Peter 3:9); He wants us to live - *'I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign Lord. Turn from your ways and live.'* (Ezekiel 18:23) Just a few verses from both the Old and New Testaments showing that God is calling us to repentance; giving us a second chance, a third, and a fourth, however many we need. Thus, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is of such importance. Through it, we are put back on track towards the Lord.

Blessed Sunday to all, *Randy Reyes*



Readings for the Week

Sunday 6th – Fifth Sunday in Lent
Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11
Monday 7th - Daniel 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62; John 8:12-20;
Tuesday 8th - Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30;
Wednesday 9th - Daniel 3:14-20,24-25,28; John 8:31-42;
Thursday 10th - Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59;
Friday 11th - Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42;
Saturday 12th - Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56;
Sunday 13th – Palm Sunday
Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11



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).



"From the beginning of the world, but particularly through the incarnation, the mystery of Christ is at work in a hidden manner in the natural world." (Laudato Si' #99)

Action: Just as Christ was able see beyond sin and condemnation, so we are called to look for the hidden depths at work in us and round us. Take some time this week to look for and find a hidden mystery at work in the natural world around you.

Pope Francis, [Angelus](#), 20 March 2022.



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



JUBILEE 2025

JUBILEE OF THE SICK AND HEALTH WORKERS - A special Mass will be celebrated at 5pm on Sunday 6th April at St Anne's Church, Newtown to pray for the sick and those entrusted with their care. All care-givers, nurses and doctors at our hospitals and care facilities are especially welcome.

Reconciliation

First Reconciliation:

This weekend seven young people make their First Reconciliation. Let us keep *Fintan Consedine, Jarryd Reigh Inch, Landon Go, Owen Vaz, Mireia Teodoro, Yueyi Catherine Chan, and Summer Morales* in our prayers as they encounter Jesus' love in this beautiful Sacrament.

Caritas Lenten Scripture Study

For Lent this year Caritas Aotearoa - our Catholic aid and development agency — have prepared a series of Lenten Scripture Studies. These will consist of shared reflection on the next Sunday's gospel. The sessions will be held on Mondays in the Cathedral Foyer from 10.30am the last session is this Monday 7 April. All are welcome. More material can be found here: <https://www.caritas.org.nz/lent-resources>



CHRISM MASS — The Archdiocese's Chrism Mass for the North Island will be celebrated in the Cathedral, on Wednesday 16 April at 7:30pm.

All Welcome to attend this important part of the Holy Week observances.



The Divine Mercy Feast will be celebrated at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street on Sunday, 27 April at 2pm. It will be celebrated by Archbishop Paul Martin. All are welcome. You can bring Holy objects to be blessed. Refreshment and Fellowship follows, please bring a plate.

As we have a growing number of people from Myanmar and its surrounding areas in some of our communities, please let us join together in prayer and support amid the recent earthquakes.



Bishops' Lent Appeal 2025 Giving envelopes for the Bishops' Lent Appeal 2025 are available in the Cathedral foyer. Every donation given will support Caritas' life-changing humanitarian and development work around the world. 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](https://www.caritas.org.nz). Thank you for your generous support.

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.



Divine Mercy Devotions

Sundays 6.00pm-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.

Scripture Reflection is taking a break.

The Tuesday evening Scripture Study Group will be taking a break and will resume on Tuesday 22 April, the Tuesday after Easter.

Enquires to: laurensadiesadie@gmail.com



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is available on Thursdays in the Cathedral from 7.00am until 7.00pm. 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.

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

Next meeting 7 April



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



Reconciliation

PARISH FAMILY 'AUTUMN CLEAN'!

On Saturday, 12th April we will gather to do a general cleaning and tidying up of the Cathedral in preparation for the Holy Week. If you can spare some time, we'd love you to join us for a few hours from 9:30am to 12noon! Morning Tea provided.

WE WILL BE DOING THE FOLLOWING:

Cleaning pathways, Clearing cobwebs, Cleaning windows of Church and Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Vacuuming, Weeding, Dusting.

Things to bring: Gloves, Window cleaning supplies, Vacuum cleaners, Dusting mitts/cleaning cloths, Loppers, sheers and secateurs, Leaf blowers.

Please email cathedral.guest@wn.catholic.org.nz if you are able to come, and let us know what you'd like to do – and, of course, you can always just turn up! See you here on the 12th!



Potted Palms or Ferns - Can you help?

Do you have any potted palms or ferns that the parish could borrow for Holy Week to use around the Altar of Repose? If you can help, please bring the plants with you to the 'Autumn Clean' on the 12th (see above notice) or contact the parish office.

You are Invited!!!

The Fundraising team continues to raise funds to support the final stage of restoration and refurbishment of our Cathedral with a movie fundraiser

"Mission Impossible: The Final Reckoning"

Event Date: Sunday, May 25, 2025 : Event Address: Lighthouse Cinema, 52 Beach Street, Petone, Lower Hutt : Screening time: 5:00pm : Arrival time from: 4:30pm

Ticket prices are as follows: Adult: \$25/ticket and Student: \$20/ticket

Tickets will be on sale after every Mass starting April 5, 2025. Or purchase your tickets online by scanning the QR code above or by accessing the link: <https://forms.gle/Wm7k5GiyBigHg5x27>

We are seeking sponsors to help make this fundraiser event special.

For more information please contact Joy at Mob. 021 048 1216 or mcsf.fundraising@gmail.com



Bake Sale our next Parish Bake Sale is **this** baked goods and other things Cash and eftpos are available. Donations of goods to sell are very much appreciated!



weekend 5-6 April. Do come ready to buy some delicious

Easter Raffle

1 ticket for \$2, 3 for \$5
Tickets available for purchase after the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses.



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 \$7.50ea



"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 some of 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

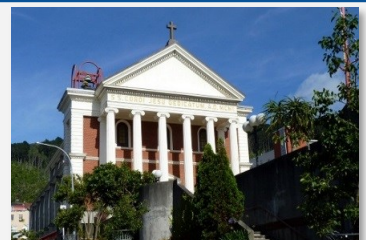
2024-25 Tax Receipts

The donation and planned giving tax receipts for the 2024-25 Financial Year are now being prepared. We hope to have them sent out to you in late April/Early May. Many thanks for your continued support of the Cathedral and Parish.

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://mcsfwellington.org/parishioner-and-visitor-support-of-parish/>

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PARISH

Please keep in your prayers

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Ph: (04) 496 1700
cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz
www.mcshwellington.org
www.facebook.com/MCSHWellington/

Cathedral Administrator:

Fr Patrick Bridgman

Parish Secretary:

Frank Doherty

Office Hours:

10.00am - 4.30pm Tues, Thurs, Fri.

Parish Pastoral Council Chair:

Ajith Nissangaratchie

Parish Finance Committee Chair:

Clint Ramoo

Parish Liturgy Committee Chair:

Sadie Laurenson

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/rolment/>

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 10.00am & 7.00pm


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=302>



Bianca Cassino

Ruth Doherty

Ira Hayes

John Owen

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:

Sonny Naidu RIP 19 Mar (Father of Sandra Ramoo)

Paul Gini RIP 26 Mar (Parishioner)

Purita Rufino RIP 28 Mar (Parishioner)

Leo Brett Kelly RIP 1 Apr (Parishioner, Sacristan, & Guardian)

April Anniversaries:

5 Apr Isidro Pantaleon

6 Apr Bruce Popplewell

8 Apr Simon France

13 Apr David Romanos

24 Apr Rosaline Coyle



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

How Does Jesus Treat Sinners?



In the Old Testament, God gave His people rules that said they should punish the people who sinned. That's why in today's Gospel the Pharisees and scribes brought a sinful woman to Jesus to see what He had to say about the law.

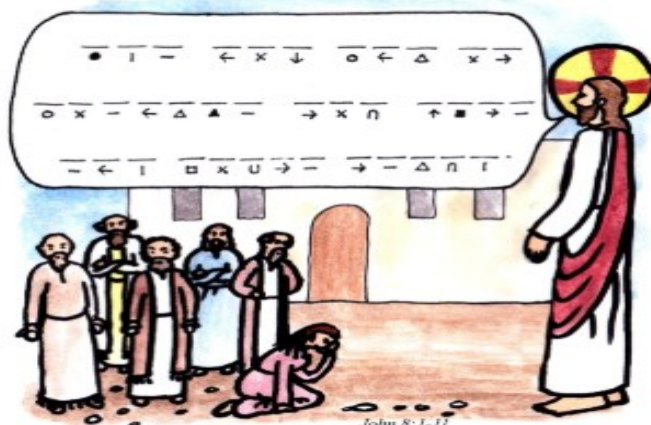
Instead of telling them that they should punish her according to the law, Jesus told them that they should only punish her if they themselves had never sinned.

Sometimes we hear about a sin that someone else did. God does not want us to be mean to that person because of what they did. Does that mean that they didn't do a sin? No. Jesus told the woman to go and not sin again. That means that she did sin, but He was giving her another chance. We should try to be merciful like Jesus, and we should be kind to sinners because we are sinners too.



The Kids' Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Lent
April 6th, 2025



In today's Gospel, the Pharisees ask Jesus whether they should obey their law and stone a woman who was a sinner. What did Jesus say to them? Use the code to find out!

ACEFHILMNORSTUW

Answers: front: 'Let him who is without sin cast the first stone.'
1 True 2 False 3 True 4 True 5 False 6 True 7 True
www.thekidsbulletin.com