



# The Cathedral Connection

Vol 14. Issue 17, 18 May 2025



## Something new

Who doesn't get excited when they are given something new. A few weeks ago, my daughter bought me a new pair of running shoes. It now holds pride of place on my shoe rack and I wear them with great joy. In our readings this weekend, the word "new" appears six times – that surely must get you excited.

In our Gospel reading today, Jesus gives us a new commandment, "to love one another, ..." We often associate the word love with emotional attraction either to someone or something. While an emotional attraction is an important part of love, emotions come and go. In commanding us to love one another, Jesus added in a further requirement – "as I have loved you." I suppose that is what makes this commandment, new but what does it mean to love as Jesus did. The answer is simple, Jesus's love for us when all the way to the cross. Some would say, Jesus walked the talk because in his teachings he proclaimed that "Greater love than this no man has, that he lays down his life for his friends." As we reflect on the Gospel in the week ahead, it may be worth asking ourselves, whether the love I show towards others is the love Jesus commanded of us or do we stop short of that and only have an affection for others.

I love the readings from the Acts of the Apostles during the Easter Octave as the boldness of the first disciplines, the faith they show and the love they had for each other. A phrase often attributed to these first Christians, was "See how they love one another". It was this example that brought many to follow Jesus and his disciples. Sometimes we find ourselves in a situation where it is not easy to love. It is in those moments that we should turn to our Lord to find the strength to love as he did.

Am I excited by this new commandment as I am about my new running shoes? Yes, I am, because I know that the Lord will never ask me to do the impossible by myself because his love for me is unfailing.

Clint Ramoo - Finance Committee Chair



*'Peace be with you all! Dear brothers and sisters, these are the first words spoken by the risen Christ, the Good Shepherd who laid down his life for God's flock. I would like this greeting of peace to resound in your hearts, in your families, among all people, wherever they may be, in every nation and throughout the world.'*



*Peace be with you! It is the peace of the risen Christ. A peace that is unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering. A peace that comes from God, the God who loves us all, unconditionally ... God loves us, God loves you all, and evil will not prevail.'*

Pope Leo XIV, first blessing, 8 May 2025.

## 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).

## Readings for the Week

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 14:21-27; John 13:31-33,34-35

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup>** Acts 14:5-18, John 14:21-26

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>** Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>** Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>** Acts 15:7-21; John 15:9-11

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>** Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>** Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 15:1-2,22-29; Apocalypse 21:10-14,22-23; John 14:23-29



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

## You are being called!

In a few weeks time it will be a year since the Cathedral re-opened. For all of us this has been a 'home coming', whether we have recently come to the parish, or have been here for many years.

Now is the time to look to ministries in our parish, and how each of us can participate in the life of the parish. No matter where we live, if the Cathedral is where we come to Mass, we are being called to take up ministries in the life of the parish!

More info will come in the following weeks....

The question to ask ourselves today is, "to what ministry am I being called?"



## Parish Council

We sometimes hear reference to the Parish Council, but who are they?! In the coming weeks, we are including in the newsletter a brief bio on the members of the council.

Each parish in the Archdiocese has a parish council, who, with the pastoral team, help provide direction to the life of the parish. As we look to ministries in the parish, are you being called to be a member of the Parish Council as well?

**INTRODUCING:** I am Ajith Nissangaratchie, humbly affiliated with the Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish for the past 15 years. I serve as the chair of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) and contribute to various liturgical ministries. I usually attend the 7 PM Mass.

Originally from Sri Lanka, I was raised in a devout Catholic family. I attended St Joseph's College in Colombo, one of Sri Lanka's largest Catholic schools. These played a significant role in nurturing my Catholic faith.

My professional journey began in the field of Accounting, transitioning later to IT. Presently, I serve as an Information Technology Architect for the New Zealand Government. Prior to settling in Wellington, we lived in Singapore for 11 years.

I strongly believe that as a Catholic, it's essential to actively contribute to building God's kingdom, which is why I am deeply involved in serving our parish community. I serve several liturgical ministries, including Communion, Mass coordination, Collection, Projectionist and member of the upcoming Alpha program. Additionally, I've been involved in fundraising initiatives. I joined the Parish Pastoral Council in September 2022, and I am currently involved in activities relating to the reopening of the Cathedral.

During my leisure time, I enjoy listening to music, tinkering with computers, repairing cars, driving, travelling, and engaging in DIY projects.

I am grateful for the blessings bestowed upon us by God, including a loving family, fulfilling employment, and the opportunity to live and serve in New Zealand. A guiding principle in my life is to seek God's guidance before undertaking any endeavour and to express gratitude to Him afterwards.

I look forward to continuing to serve our parish community and building connections with each of you.

*Ajith*



## REGULAR PARISH ACTIVITIES

### Divine Mercy Devotions

Sundays 6.00pm-6.30pm in the Cathedral. All welcome.

**Rosary** - Every Monday (except public holidays or other special events) from 11.30am and preceding the Liturgy of the Word, in the Cathedral, all welcome.

### Scripture Reflection

Held in person every Tuesday at 6pm for 40minutes. This is an opportunity to come together to pray with and discuss the scripture for the coming Sunday.

Meeting are in the Cathedral Foyer.

Enquires to: [laurensadsadie@gmail.com](mailto:laurensadsadie@gmail.com)



**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** - Thursdays in the Cathedral from 7.00am until 7.00pm and Fridays 7.15am to 8.00am 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

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](mailto:mcsh.prayergroup@gmail.com)

### Reconciliation

Blessed Sacrament Chapel Wednesday & Friday—11.50am to 12.00 midday and Saturday after the 8.30am Mass and by appointment.

## 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.





### A Very Special Invitation

"To fall in love with God is the greatest romance ; to seek Him the greatest adventure; to find Him, the greatest Human Achievement."

**St. Augustine of Hippo**

The **Life in the Spirit Seminar** invites us to gather and prepare for a very personal "Pentecost" and experience a new release and revitalisation of the Spirit's presence. 'Join with us every Tuesday evening, 6.30pm to 8.30pm, from the 13th of May to 24 June 2025 and able to experience the abundant life that Jesus offers in the Gospel. New participants are still being accepted. Please email: [mcsch.prayergroup@gmail.com](mailto:mcsch.prayergroup@gmail.com)



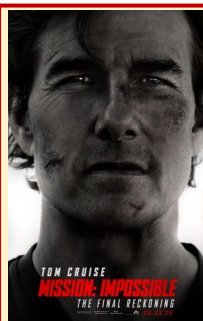
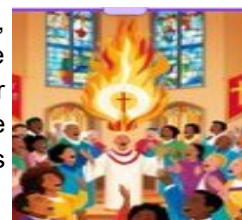
Jesus Youth

### Hour of Mercy - Eucharistic Adoration

Between 10am and 2pm on the following Fridays: 23, 30 May; 6 June 2025 in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. This is an initiative of Jesus Youth New Zealand and all are welcome. Please scan the QR Code for more information.



**Pentecost Sunday, 8 June 2025:** Join us in celebrating the Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, Associations and Communities on Pentecost **Sunday, 8 June 2025**. The afternoon programme will be held in the **Cathedral of the Sacred Heart**, Hill Street. Beginning at **2.30pm** and includes a shared dinner (please bring something to share) and will finish with **7pm Mass** celebrated by Archbishop Paul. If you are interested in more information or contributing to the day, please contact: Bern McCabe **0211655463**. This event is part of the Archdiocesan Celebration of the Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope.



### THANK YOU very much for your support.

Our movie fundraiser Mission Impossible: The Final Reckoning is now sold out. There won't be any door tickets sales at Lighthouse Cinema on May 25th.

**We will be selling raffle tickets and will be drawn at 4:45pm before screening time at 5:00pm.**

**1st prize:** \$100 New World Gift Voucher

**2nd prize:** Young Living Diffuser with 1 bottle Essential Oil

**3rd prize:** Hamper

**4th prize:** 2x \$25 Lazy Juan Gift Vouchers

**SOLD OUT**

We would like to thank our anonymous donors and sponsors: Brenda Cacho-Bevin, Ferns Travel and Lazy Juan. If you are keen to help make this fundraiser event special, please contact Joy at Mob **021 0481216** or [mcsch.fundraising@gmail.com](mailto:mcsch.fundraising@gmail.com).

**2024-25 Tax Receipts** The donation and planned giving tax receipts for the 2024-25 Financial Year have been emailed out. If the parish office doesn't have an email address for you then the receipt has been posted out. If you have not received your receipt please contact [cathedral.accounts@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:cathedral.accounts@wn.catholic.org.nz) or contact the Parish Office. Many thanks for your continued support of the Cathedral and Parish.

### XLT YOUTH WORSHIP

**FRIDAY 23rd MAY 2025**

JOIN US for an evening of Relevant Worship, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Food and Fellowship!

All college students and young adults are welcome!

Friday 23rd May @ **7pm at St Anne's Hall, Emmett Street, Newtown.**

Follow our page on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!



### WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY - 25th May 2025

On this day of prayer for children, we are reminded that Jesus always welcomed the little ones. Children, wherever they may be, have a right to meet Christ and to know His love. Christ put them at the centre, pointing out to us that we need to be like children to enter the Kingdom. World Children's Day invites us to celebrate children and to see in them a living Gospel.



The **Vincentian Foundation for the Elderly** was formed in 1976 by the **St Vincent de Paul Society NZ** as a Charitable Trust to improve the welfare of seniors in our communities by assisting with the funding of hearing aids. There are criteria for grants but all applications are considered by the committee. Publicity bookmarks are available in the Cathedral foyer.

The website is <https://www.vinnies-wellington.org.nz/vincentian-foundation>

**Contributions to the Vincentian Foundation for the Elderly would be appreciated to assist the Foundation to support those for whom hearing is a problem.**

Email Contact: [vincentian@bourke.net.nz](mailto:vincentian@bourke.net.nz)





# SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PARISH

Please keep in your prayers

PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140.  
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Ph: (04) 496 1700

[cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz)

[www.mcshwellington.org](http://www.mcshwellington.org)

[www.facebook.com/MCSHWWellington/](https://www.facebook.com/MCSHWWellington/)

## 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/our-school/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 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=307>



Ruth Doherty

Ira Hayes

John Owen

Concepcion Villanueva



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:

Lady Joan Gillies RIP 16 Apr

Patrick (Paddy) McElroy RIP 28 April

William (Bill) McCaw RIP 6 May  
Father of David McCaw

Sr Stephanie Kitching RSM RIP 9 May

### May Anniversaries:

6 May Josefina Pantaleon

22 May Eileen Romanos

23 May Paul Guerin

23 May Robert (Bob) Thomson

26 May Natale Carmana

26 May Eduardo Pangilinan

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

## The New Commandment

In the Old Testament, before Jesus came, there were many commandments. They told the people how they should live and what they should and shouldn't do. Jesus obeyed the commandments, but He gave His followers a new one, something different than any of the others:

### LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

The love that Jesus was talking about is called charity. It means doing what is best for a person. Here are some ways to love others:



Always think kindly of people. Even when you know something bad about someone, try to think nice thoughts about them.

Always speak kindly about people. Saying bad things about others can hurt them.

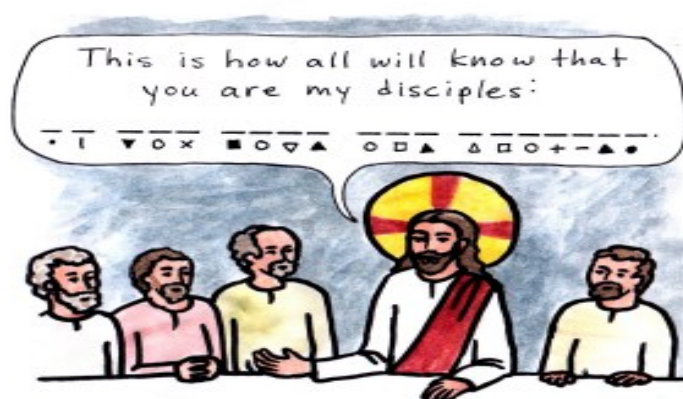


Always act kindly toward others. Treat everyone in the way that you would want to be treated. Show that you are a follower of Jesus by how you love others!

Answer to Word-Find: If you love one another, you love yourselves again.  
[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)

## The Kids' Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 18th, 2025



What did Jesus tell His disciples in today's Gospel reading?  
Use the code below to find out!

A E F H I L N O R T U V Y  
Δ ▲ I - • ■ □ ○ ● + × ▼

John 13:31-35