



CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL PARISH

KO TE KARAITI KEI TE PŪ
Christ in the Centre
ŌTAUTAHI - CHRISTCHURCH

27th February 2022

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Lent – Our Desert Experience

The season of Lent blesses us each year with forty days of spiritual renewal in preparation for the joy and hope that we celebrate in the Easter mysteries. These forty days mirror the forty days which Jesus himself entered into before he began his public ministry.

Lent is not merely about self-improvement, or self-therapy for their own sake. Such things can border on pride or narcissism. Lent is not just about giving up caffeine or chocolate or about eating right, starting a fitness programme, or being more punctual. While any of these could be good within an overall living out of the Easter Mystery, especially when they are intended as a means to give greater service to others, they are not the reason for the Lenten season.

No, Lent is about deepening our knowledge and experience of the Suffering, Crucified, and Resurrected God who loves us and seeks union with us. It's about the experience of our souls deeply longing for the Lord. And the deeper realisation of being profoundly loved by God through the self-emptying love of Jesus Christ.

So how are you going to set apart these forty days which begin this Wednesday? Elsewhere in this newsletter we offer some practical suggestions. Think of your commitments to prayer, fasting and almsgiving as robust exercises for the training of your body and spirit. Your celebration of Holy Week and Easter Sunday will be immensely enhanced by the efforts you make during this Lent.

Father Simon Eccleton
Cathedral Administrator

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence

Fasting: The law of fasting requires a Catholic from their 18th birthday to their 59th birthday to reduce the amount of food eaten from normal. The Church defines this as one meal a day, and two smaller meals which if added together would not exceed the main meal in quantity.

Abstinence: The law of abstinence requires a Catholic 14 years of age until death to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.



Ash Wednesday Liturgies Wednesday 2 March

7.30am Mass (without Vaccine Pass); **9.15am Mass** (with Vaccine Pass); **12.05pm Mass** (with Vaccine Pass);

5.30pm Combined Anglican/Catholic Ashes Service (with Vaccine Pass – book at parish office). Please note – this is not a Mass; **7.00pm Mass** (with Vaccine Pass)
Book at

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/CatholicDioceseOfChristchurch/AshWednesday>

Registrations open at 1.00pm on Sunday and close on Tuesday at 12 noon.

Please phone the Parish Office to book for the combined Anglican/Catholic service. If you are unable to attend watch this special event live-streamed from our Pro-Cathedral this Wednesday 5.30pm – <https://youtu.be/iUG622Es1tw>

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish website

www.catholiccathedralchch.org.nz

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

During Traffic Light Red

Saturday 4.30pm, 5.30pm (Vigil)
Sunday 7.00am, 8.00am, 9.00am,
10.00am, 11.00am, 4.00pm and
5.00pm

With My Vaccine Pass
(100 people limit)

Sunday 6.00pm Without My Vaccine
Pass

(25 people limit)

Registration is required for all
Masses

Te Rangimarie Centre
11:00am (Miha Māori)

All Masses at Te Rangimarie Centre
are with My Vaccine Pass

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Friday

7.30am Without My Vaccine Pass,
9.15am, 12.05pm With My Vaccine
Pass

Saturday 9.15am With My Vaccine
Pass

Public Holiday 9.15am With My
Vaccine Pass

RECONCILIATION

Monday to Friday 11.30am
Saturday 9.45am

PRESBYTERY

03 377 5610

APOSTOLIC ADMINISTRATOR

Archbishop Paul Martin SM

CATHEDRAL ADMINISTRATOR

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PARISH OFFICE

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Office Hours

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PASTORAL WORKERS

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Clare Bell

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READINGS FOR THE DAY

ECC 27: 4-7; 1 COR 15: 54-58; GOSPEL:

LUKE 6: 39-45

PSALM RESPONSE: LORD, IT IS GOOD TO GIVE THANKS
TO YOU.

Making Lent Fruitful

Make a plan to sprinkle the days of Lent with special moments of blessing back to God. Choose some regular actions which the Lord can use to draw you more deeply into his wonderful love. Here are some suggestions:

Prayer

- make a commitment to prayerfully reading the Gospel for next Sunday each week
- come to a weekday Mass and be delighted by the peace and nourishment it will give you
- pray each day for a particular person who is struggling with life at this time (you may even choose to tell them you are offering prayer for their intentions)
- come to Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 5.30pm
- celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation twice during Lent! (priests available from 11.30am weekdays and after 9.15am Mass Saturdays. Also, priests will be available after Stations of the Cross Friday 1st April, 6.00pm to 7.30pm)
- CARITAS Bible Study
- Daily weekday prayer on Facebook or via email
- Anointing of the Sick during Mass later in Lent

Fasting

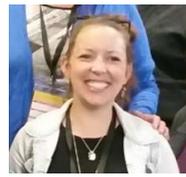
- fasting from food and drink is good for body and soul.
- try fasting from criticising or complaining. Intentionally offer your effort to the Lord as a gift back to Him
- resolve to manage with less of the material things

Almsgiving

- research a suitable destination for your financial gifting to those in need. CARITAS is a worthy charity to support. They have the means of getting your donations to Tonga, Ukraine – wherever there is need. Envelopes available as you leave the church
- Intentionally choose to renew your gifting to the Sunday collection at Mass, online or in the collection basket. Help us continue the good work we do here at St Mary's

Booking for Sunday Mass Online Bookings open at 5.00pm each Wednesday and close at midday on Saturday. Please book early to avoid missing out on your preferred Mass time. You will find the link on the parish website. Please only book for the 6.00pm Mass on Sunday evening if you don't have a My Vaccine Pass.

Masses offered for: Shirley Crichton, Mathew Joseph (anniversary)



Young Families Pastoral Worker for our Parish

We welcome parishioner, Cathie Hurdle, to our team. Cathie will work ten hours per week supporting parents with younger children in the parish. She will initially

focus on the First Holy Communion programme, 'Family' Masses, the Baptism Experience, Children's Liturgy, and networking with other parishes in this area.



I am Fr Joy Thottamkara C.S.s.R from India and a Kiwi by choice. I belong to the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, popularly known as the Redemptorists. I

did priestly ministry in Auckland diocese for nine years as chaplain to the Syro Malabar Community and Parish Priest at Immaculate Conception Parish, Ellerslie. For the last two years I was in Toronto, Canada, doing my Masters in Sacred Theology at the University of Toronto and at the same time assisting at our Redemptorist parish; Saint Patrick's Parish, Toronto. I am happy to be in Christchurch diocese. I thank Archbishop Paul Martin for welcoming me into the diocese. Its lovely to be with Fr Simon and priests in the Cathedral presbytery. I hope to see you sometime.

Our 9am Sunday Mass is livestreamed via the following link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1G-CYXJqNX8>

Face Mask Etiquette When receiving Communion face masks can be taken off briefly. Take your mask off from one ear loop. Let it hang. After receiving Communion put the ear tag back on so it is secure again. Touching the front of your mask and pulling it down below your chin does not keep your mask sterile.

Caritas Lenten Bible Study Set aside time for spiritual nourishment this coming Lent. We are offering a weekly hour-long morning and evening Caritas Bible Study during Lent. For those who wish to do the Tuesday morning session following 9:15am Mass, please contact the office to register for this Lenten study as your registration will confirm whether it goes ahead. The 6 evening sessions will be in the Narthex at 7.00pm on a Wednesday however the first session will be Thursday 3rd March. No RSVP required.

Lenten Prayer: Set aside time to be with God this Lent by joining Kirsten Challies for daily weekday prayer on facebook or receive the online link. Email Kirsten at kchallies@cathedralparish.nz if you would like to receive the link via email.