



CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL PARISH

KO TE KARAITI KEI TE PŪ

Christ in the Centre

ŌTAUTAHI - CHRISTCHURCH

12th March 2023
3rd Sunday in Lent

THE LIFE OF OUR PARISH

As we dive into 2023, it is timely to give you an update on a series of matters which I presented to our **Parish Reference Group** last week.

OUTREACH The parish is keenly focused on stepping out and engaging with our wider community. Last month we held our first **Community Market Day**. The weather was perfect; good crowds came; there were stalls and food trucks, Devonshire teas, live music, visits to the church. A number of people approached our little team for prayer at the grotto. Some signed up for the Alpha course. This was about telling our story to the wider community. We also raised \$2,500 for five of our young adults going to **World Youth Day**



later this year. They will be introduced to you in coming weeks.

Alpha We are underway with over 70 people attending our programmes on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Already good things are happening there.

Ukraine The recent visit of Fr Ihor was a special blessing for us. Then last weekend Bishop Nicholas of the Ukrainian Eparchy celebrated Mass in our church. The parish is sending over \$2,000 from parishioners and our reserves to go to the city of Lviv to assist with the purchase of generators for a homeless shelter there. Thanks for the generosity of the givers.

FORMATION Last month members of the Senior Leadership Teams of Cathedral and Waimakariri parishes attended the **Divine Renovation** conference in Sydney. It was an exciting time looking at parish initiatives which are bearing fruit across Australasia. There is no doubt that the Holy Spirit is moving, and we are seeing some of the fruits in our parish.

This coming weekend our Senior Leadership Team is spending **24 hours in Hanmer Springs** clarifying our vision and building a strategic plan. At the heart of this and all we do is prayer. Last week we attended an evening gathering of **Senior Leadership Teams** from across the city, and Selwyn and Waimakariri. We discussed how we could deploy the **NET Team** of young people who will be working in our parishes and schools across this year.



STAFFING We have appointed two staff members in the last week. Anna Tamplin is our new **Admin Support** (formerly known as secretary) and will start at the end of the month. John Dooley has accepted a four-hour-per-week fixed term role as **Attendance Dues Recovery Officer**. Our **Young Families pastoral worker** Cathie Hurdle continues on maternity leave.

FINANCE We have been told that our insurance premiums are likely to rise over 20% this coming year. With \$10 million of assets to be insured this will require careful stewardship of our resources. Our **Finance Committee** does an excellent job in this area. Parishioners are very supportive of our parish. The Sunday collection in financial years: **2021** \$402,000; **2022** \$456,000; **2023** \$528,000 (anticipated).

Thank you, and thanks be to God.



Father Simon Eccleton
Cathedral Administrator

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish website

www.catholiccathedralchch.org.nz

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 5:30pm

Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am,
4:30pm and 6:00pm

Te Rangimarie Centre

11:00am (Miha Māori)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Friday

7:30am

9:15am, 12:05pm

Saturday 9:15am

Public Holidays

9:15am

RECONCILIATION

Monday to Friday 11:30am

Saturday 9:45am

PRESBYTERY

03 377 5610

BISHOP OF CHRISTCHURCH

Bishop Michael Gielen

CATHEDRAL ADMINISTRATOR

Fr Simon Eccleton

frsimon@cathedralparish.nz

ASSISTANT PRIESTS

Fr Monty Bamford

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Fr Vincent Barboza

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IN RESIDENCE

Fr Joy Thottamkara CSsR

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PARISH OFFICE

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Office Hours

Mon-Fri 8:30am - 12:30pm

Executive Assistant

to the Administrator

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03 595 1053

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Pastoral Workers

Kirsten Challies

kchallies@cathedralparish.nz

Clare Bell

cbell@cathedralparish.nz

Cathie Hurdle

(On maternity leave)

Readings for the Day
Exodus 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2,5-8
Gospel: John 4:5-16, 19-26, 39-42
Psalm Response

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Mass offered for Harry Tyler, Bernard O'Connor (Recent); Keith Wilkinson (Anniversary); Juliette Gill; Special Intention (1).

Father Simon will be away on leave this coming week.

***LAST DAYS* Bishop Michael's Cyclone Gabrielle Relief Appeal** Bishop Michael has launched the Cyclone Gabrielle Relief Appeal, which will support the disaster relief efforts, remediation and recovery work, and the physical, mental and financial support services of the Dioceses of Auckland, Hamilton and Palmerston North. You can donate online at www.cdcc.org.nz or scan the QR code on the poster in the Narthex.

A message from **Fr Thanh in the USA** has been put on our parish Facebook page and the Parish App.

Cathedral Brotherhood Men's Group monthly gathering for fellowship and spiritual input. Thursday 16th March @ Steven Sequeira's 17 De Ville Place, Burwood. Dinner 7-9pm. Koha to cover costs. RSVP to Phil Bell phil.clare.bell@gmail.com or 0210 291 4855

Pilgrimage Have you been on a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Lourdes, Fatima, Santiago, or another holy place? Would you like to share some of your story in the next "Yes, Lord!" Magazine? Contact Phil Bell phil.clare.bell@gmail.com

Mission Circle for March Cancelled There will be NO Mission Circle meeting on Tuesday due to the funeral of Harry Tyler being held at the same time and the unavailability of helpers. We apologise for any inconvenience and disappointment but be assured we will meet again on 11 April. Queries to Diana 942 1705.

Easter Biscuit World Youth Day Fundraiser! Made by pilgrim Bernadette. Pre-order forms in the Narthex for decorated biscuits, ready for Easter collection. A range of designs, also offered in Gluten Free and Vegan! Fill out the form and pop it in the order box. All proceeds go to our Parish's WYD Pilgrims.



Ablaze talks To be inspired by talks by Fr Chris Ryan and Dan O'Rourke, from our Diocesan Ablaze Conference last November, go to- <https://chchcatholic.nz/ablaze/>

Sharing a testimony To help break the silence that endorses the myth that 'only the exceptionally holy experience God' we hear a testimony about once a month at our Sunday Masses. If you feel prompted to share how your faith has made a difference for you, there will be a training session on Sunday 26th March at 2:30pm in the Narthex (foyer). We will walk with you until you feel comfortable in sharing your story. If this date doesn't work, contact Kirsten Challies for a time to meet together.

Marist Messenger and NZ Catholic both available from the back of the church – please make payment at the time you take the publication.

Amazing Grace As part of our preparation for Easter, on **Friday 31st March** at 7pm (after Stations of the Cross at 6:30pm) we will have our next Amazing Grace evening with an hour of Reconciliation (with 10-12 priests) and a time of prayer & worship to follow. Lock that date into your diaries now.

Stations of the Cross continue this Friday 7pm in the Pro-Cathedral. Do join us for this beautiful and ancient devotion.

Almsgiving Support the annual Caritas Lenten Appeal by picking up a set of 6 weekly giving envelopes from the pews or a single gifting envelope from the Narthex. These can be returned via the Sunday Collection Basket. Please note donations received at Caritas by 31st March will be included in the 2023FYE tax receipt.



Lenten Prayer If you're not yet in the habit of personal prayer or want company in prayer during Lent, join Kirsten Challies from your own home, each weekday, for about 15mins of prayer using a reading of the day. Simply go to YouTube and search Catholic Cathedral Parish Otautahi Christchurch at a time of the day that suits you.

Scott Hahn Lenten Series on Holiness continues each Thursday morning during Lent, in the Assisi Lounge at 10 till 11am. All are welcome.

We hope you enjoy the **Lenten Season Art Exhibition** in the Narthex this weekend. The Artist, Daniel Ho, will be around during our morning Mass times. If you are interested in purchasing prints, contact Daniel directly on 021 078 3538 or danhomc@yahoo.com

Our **St Vincent de Paul** fed **252** people this week. The pantry needs canned tomatoes, pasta, jam, rice, tea & coffee. Thank you for your continued support of the work our SVDP Conference do. You can donate online to 03 1700 0027831 00. It is also not too late to support the Vinnies Cyclone Gabrielle Appeal – same back account but use the reference 'Gabrielle'.



Planned Giving Programme Financial year end is coming up quickly. We will be emailing tax receipts in early April. Printed tax receipts will come later in the month. If you would prefer to have your receipt emailed please ensure the parish office has your email address for this.

Safeguarding Workshops in the Assisi Lounge

Tuesday 28th March at 1pm

Wednesday 29th March at 7pm

If you volunteer in anyway in our parish you need to have completed a safeguarding workshop.

CBS Music/Orchestra Concert This afternoon 2pm here "Sleepers, Wake".

Wednesday at One Concert in St Mary's Pro-Cathedral every Wednesday (1:10pm) – this week is Fiona Pears & Dan Robertson *Sizzling Violin*

Chrism Mass The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 7:30pm on Monday 3rd April in St Mary's Pro-Cathedral. Everyone is most welcome to attend.