



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

10th September 2023
**23rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

World Youth Day Reflection

It's just over a month now since our pilgrims returned from World Youth Day in Lisbon. Life has, for all of us, settled into its day-to-day rhythms. During the week I was asked to reflect on the graces that I had received individually and that we as a group had received during the pilgrimage.

Communion of Saints One of the highlights of the pilgrimage for me was our encounter with the saints. From St. Vincent de Paul in Paris to St. Bernadette in Nevers, we saw the places where many saints lived, ministered, and died. We were also fortunate to see the incorrupt bodies of many saints in whom holiness was manifested in a particular way by being preserved from normal decomposition. To see the bodies of these saints, the houses they lived in and the places they worshipped was to witness the reality of the *communio sanctorum*, the communion of saints. We take our place in the Church's history along with those champions of the faith who have gone before us.

The Church Universal When we were processing to the place for the final vigil, it was astounding to see all the different flags representing all the different countries and groups present at World Youth Day. Our pilgrimage was a wonderful expression of the universal Church. To see that the Catholic faith is not limited to one people, or culture or country or language or time or place is to realise that our Church really is "Catholic," or universal. The final Mass presided over by Pope Francis, which was attended by 700 bishops, 10,000 priests and over 1.5 million Catholics was something that will stay with me for a long time.

The Primacy of Christ More than any sociological metrics or psychological benefits from being around so many young people, World Youth Day reminded me of the primacy of Christ. Christ became man in a specific time and specific place 2,000 years ago to redeem all of humanity from their enslavement to sin. Living in relationship with him brings a level of fulfilment that no thing or no one else can. This fulfilment leads to a deep joy, a joy that remains in spite of the deepest earthly suffering. Kneeling with the thousands of other young people in adoration during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was a reminder to me that Christ wants to be part of our lives whatever circumstances we find ourselves in.



The pilgrims that attended World Youth Day are hosting an evening on Tuesday the 12th September, 7:30pm at the St Teresa's Parish Hall Riccarton. This is an open invitation to anyone who would like to hear about the pilgrimage and the impact it has had. After the presentation, you are welcome to stay for a light supper and cup of tea. For more information, please contact Grace at gchallies@cdoc.nz or Stephani at youngadults@christchurchwest.org.nz.

We thank the Cathedral Parishioners for all their prayers and support for our pilgrimage.

God bless

Father Monty Bamford
Assistant Priest

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 Saturday
and Public Holidays
9:15am
Tuesday to Friday
7:30am 12.05pm

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 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 Vincent Barboza
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Fr Monty Bamford
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PARISH OFFICE

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Tues to Fri: 8:30am – 12:30pm

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Pastoral Workers

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Music Director

Michael Collins
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Readings for the Day
Ezekiel 33: 7-9; Romans 13: 8-10

Gospel: Matthew 18: 15-20

Psalm Response

**O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.**

Mass offered for Matt Hanley, Mel Cole, Mary Hughes (recent); Ju Yeon (Aloysius) Kim, John Hoare, Herbert Fahey, Joan Hill, Debbie and Hannah Bull (anniversaries). Tony Tully (Special Intention). Keane Family

Holidays Father Simon is on annual leave for two weeks. He returns 23rd September.

Parish Prayer Intentions

1. For provision of Musicians and Cantors for our Sunday Masses
2. For Alpha Day next Saturday.
3. For all married couples, especially those attending the up-and-coming Marriage retreat.



Next Sunday at 4:30pm Mass we will be celebrating Confirmation of 37 young people and 5 adults. This will be a busy and full Mass, you may wish to attend another Mass. Please keep our Confirmation Candidates in your prayers.

Fire Warden Training If you are available to be a fire warden during Sunday Mass, we invite you to attend a Warden Training session to be held in our Assisi Lounge on Thursday 28th September. There are two time slots available – 1:30pm and 5:30pm. Please advise the office if you are able to attend.

Invitation to join our Prayer Ministry Team Parishioners are invited to attend a one-hour induction session later this month to learn about prayer ministry and hopefully join our team. Full training and support will be provided. There is no greater privilege than to pray with another person. Please think and pray about this opportunity. If you are interested contact Kirsten Challies kchallies@cathedralparish.nz or Maurice Lawlor (0220507151)

SVDP Cathedral Parish Conference 102 people were assisted this week. The pantry needs the following items: tetra milk packs, cereal, jam, soap powder and sweet biscuits. Thank you for your continued support.



Mission Circle The next meeting will be on Tuesday 12th September at 1:30pm in the Assisi Lounge. All parishioners are invited to join with us for an afternoon of fun, including games of housie, raffles and afternoon tea. Please bring a small plate for afternoon tea, a grocery item for a Housie prize and also a raffle prize. Housie cards are 30c each. All proceeds are forwarded to the various Catholic Missions we support. Any queries phone Diana 942 1705 or Gaye 960 5328.

Joshua Men's Fellowship meets on Wednesday 13th September at 7:30pm at Christ the King parish centre, Greers Road, for praise and worship, fellowship and prayer. All men welcome.

3-Day Guided Silent Retreat from home - Pope Francis's 'Call to Holiness' Create and enjoy some respite from the busyness of your calendar year, to soak in Pope Francis' exhortation. Be guided through reflections over the course of the 3 days, receiving daily spiritual direction, without accommodation or food costs to limit you. From 5:30pm Thurs 28th Sept to 5:30pm Sun 1st October. Cost \$40. For more information contact Kirsten Challies kchallies@cathedralparish.nz

Save The Date Parish Family Fun Afternoon Sunday 15th October 2-4pm. Pop the date in your calendar. More information to follow.

Save the Date Parish Twilight Christmas Market.  Tuesday 5th December 5pm-7:30pm. Entertainment, food, stalls. Pop this date in your calendar. We will be calling for stall holders and food vendors soon.

If you would like to help in any way with the Twilight market, contact Clare cbell@cathedralparish.nz.

Advent with Carmel Silent Retreat 24th - 26th November will be held in Rochester & Rutherford Hall, 77 Ilam Road. Live in \$240, day only \$120. Contact Megan Emery benedictus@windowslive.com.

Annual Second-hand Catholic Booksale St Augustine's Bookshop is holding Christchurch's first annual Catholic Second-hand Book Sale at Christ the King Centre (90 Greers Rd, Burnside). It will held on 23rd & 24th September between 10am-4pm. There will be well over 1,500 Catholic books for sale at a cheap price covering a huge range of categories. EFT-POS will be available. If you have any Catholic books to donate beforehand, please drop them off at Christ the King or ring Dan on 022 1751 789. Proceeds will go to John Paul II Centre for Life.

NZ Catholic for sale in at the back of the Church. Price \$4.00.