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

25th February 2024
2nd Sunday of Lent

Jesus, Our Friend

In today's gospel we hear about the transfiguration. Jesus has taken his friends up a mountain to pray so they could be closer to God. While praying Jesus' appearance undergoes profound change, becoming radiant and dazzling. Jesus' true loving self, shining like the rays of the sun.

This week we met with over 100 families who are seeking sacraments for their children. That means we have 100 families who are looking to deepen their relationship with Jesus. We are really excited about the journey we will go on with these families as they prepare to receive either First Holy Communion or Confirmation. Please keep them in your prayers.

At the heart of these programmes, our aim is to deepen our young people's relationship with Jesus. Through the process of learning, belonging and connection they will come to know and see Jesus as their friend. A friend who can be relied upon. A friend who is ever-present, ready to listen and respond. A friend who is walking life alongside them through the good times and the bad. A friend who offers constant companionship, regardless of life's challenges.

We believe that if we can instil this love for Jesus in our young people, it will help to guide and support them as they grow, and their life challenges become more complex.

However, is it just children who need to know that Jesus is their friend? Is it something that adults need to be reminded of too?

During lent, let's try to open that knocking door, and let Jesus in. Be encouraged to see Jesus not as a distant figure but as a close and intimate friend who walks alongside you in your journey of faith. Try to spend a bit more time listening to what Jesus has to say to you in your life. If we listen to and spend time with Jesus, then we too can let our true light shine brightly, just like Jesus on the mountain.

Cathie Hurdle
Pastoral Worker

Rite of Election

Our 20 Catechumens and Candidates joined others in the Diocese at the Rite of Election, where they were encouraged to enter into a time of seeking the Lord during this time, formally known as the period of purification and enlightenment, coinciding with Lent.

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 PRIEST
Fr Monty Bamford
frmonty@cathedralparish.nz

PARISH OFFICE
Anna Tamplin
03 379 1068
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Office Hours – Monday closed
Tues to Fri: 8:30am – 12:30pm

Executive Assistant to the Administrator
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Pastoral Workers
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Kirsten Challies
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Music Director
Michael Collins
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Readings for the Day

Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-12, 15-18; Romans 8: 31-34
Gospel: Mark 9: 2-10
Psalm Response

I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.

Mass offered for Ann Allan, Rona McKay, Frances Baltrop, Peter Collins, Pablo Legón, Pauline Jendro, Gerald O'Farrell, Ian Macadie (recent); Ammal Luke, Nora Riordan, Vera McDonnell, Robert Discon, Joe O'Neill, the soul of Pantaleon (anniversary). Shiney Joseph Special Intention (1)

Stations of the Cross this Friday 1st at 7pm in the church.

Prayer Ministry You will know if there is prayer ministry available when you see it projected at the end of Mass, on the screen at the front of the Church. Please know that we want to prayerfully support you if you or a loved one has a situation that need's God intervention.

Alpha Sign up Weekend Pop into the foyer and sign up for Alpha this weekend. Some of the team will be at the Alpha registration desk after Mass to help you. Or Email Clare cbell@cathedralparish.nz. We have had such a great response to Alpha, so there will be lots of new friends to meet. If you are over 18 yrs old and have not yet received your Confirmation, Alpha is great preparation for the Sacrament later in the year. If you are new to the Parish, or if you have been coming for years but you don't feel you belong, or if you have a desire to refresh your faith, come along. You are encouraged to invite people you know who are questioning faith, Alpha is perfect for them.

Family Mass this Sunday 9:30am There will be morning tea and children's craft in the Assisi Lounge after Mass. We would love for you to join us.

Children's Mass Bags For our young ones are back up and running. Grab one on your way in and return it to the box after Mass for others to enjoy.

Planned Giving As we approach our March 31 Financial Year End if you are considering signing up for Planned Giving Envelopes or you wish to move from Envelopes to donating via Automatic Payment please get in touch with Kirsten in the parish office Ktester@cathedralparish.nz Donations over $5 are tax deductible

Parish Pupil Support Fund Attached to the newsletter this weekend is a flyer asking you to support our Pupil Support Fund. We have families at our Catholic Primary Schools who require assistance with meeting their obligation to pay Attendance Dues to the Diocese. Details on how you can assist are listed in the flyer.

Volunteering in the Parish If you filled out a response card during our Thanksgiving Renewal programme last year, you will have received an online link about you volunteering in the Parish. Please complete this link prior to Wednesday 28th February. If you didn't get the link and would like to volunteer in the parish, scan the attached QR code and sign up.

Lenten "The Call to Holiness" Series Come along to a five-week series, continuing this Thursday 29th, looking at Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation 'Gaudete et Exsultate' on The Call to Holiness in Today's World, run by Kirsten Challies. Five Thursdays in Lent, 7-8:15pm in the Assisi Lounge. More details in the narthex.

Cathedral Parish Emergency Warden Training We have two training sessions coming up for those who are happy to act as Warden's at any of our Masses/Liturgies. Monday 4th March 5:30pm and Tuesday 5th March 3:15pm – both will be held in the Assisi Lounge. Please RSVP to the parish office by Monday 3rd March 2024.

Caritas Lenten Giving Pick up Lenten appeal envelopes from the church pews or the narthex. These can be dropped into the collection plate at Mass, or you can make payment online via the banking details inside the envelopes. Note – if you like to give weekly during Lent, then pick up 6 envelopes.

SVDP Cathedral Parish Conference Needs You. SVDP is looking for new members to help with the great work they do with the vulnerable in our community. If you are interested in knowing about what is involved or joining up as a volunteer, please contact Brian Hutching (021 129 0317) Maurice Lawlor (022 050 7151 or Peter McGurk 029 248 1653). An induction, training, and support will be available. SVDP is an international Catholic Organisation inspired by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Invitation to sign up at The Perpetual Adoration Chapel this Lent To sign up please see the Information provided in the narthex or on the Diocese website Weekly Notices 25 February - Catholic Diocese of Christchurch (cdoc.nz).

Video of NZ experiences of the Synod on Synodality Archbishop of Wellington Paul Martin, SM, Wairarapa parish Priest Fr Dennis Nacorda, and Auckland Vicar for Māori Manuel Beazley have shared their experiences of the Holy Father's Synod on Synodality in Rome last October. This YouTube video is a recording of a Zoom session they held with a live audience on Thursday 15th February 2024. Watch it here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COKdE6mIojU

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