



9 August 2020 - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

**STAYING
IN TOUCH**

Please register your details online at the [Cathedral of the Holy Spirit](#) or [Our Lady of Lourdes](#) websites. Please include your Surname, Christian name, Email address, Cell and Landline numbers, and Street address and which parish you belong to. Alternatively, you can email the above details to info@lourdesparish.nz, "Registering my details with you".

Pastor's Desk - What is Truth?



Firstly, a word of thanks to June Hurly, Kerry Hocquard, John Hammond, and Phil Gunn for pastoring us with "helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed"; words that "will do good to those who hear" them (Ephesians 4:29).

Words are important and we use so many of them each day. Sometimes we have the right words and other times "words fail us". In the run up to the election we will hear many words. Some will build up and provide what is needed and others will not. Learning to listen is a key skill asked of the Christian. Listening, and waiting, for living-giving words is a challenge, because the live-giving word might not be the one you want to hear. Nevertheless, if they are words of truth, they will set you free (John :31-32).

Truth is something we prize. But like Grace, there is no cheap truth! We search for truth in a world where truth is no longer held as an absolute or even a shared value. In our society we have "your truth" and "my truth". Sometimes there is "our truth", and occasionally there is "the Truth" – that is an absolute that establishes Truth irrespective of my experience or yours, and to which my life and yours must conform.

These days the notion of an absolute truth is hard to shallow because we are very conscious and protective of our individual rights and freedom. Even religious people feel that religious systems deal more in falsehood than they do in truth. The notion of an absolute truth appears to limit freedom and promote narrow-mindedness and bigotry. We see this when religious, social, familial, and civil institutions impose their "truth", using violent means, on unwilling recipients. Their "truth" exists at the expense of an individual's freedom.

As a result, many people hold that truth is moderated or mediated by their own experience, "my truth". For them, truth must reflect their experience of life, because their individual experience is the only absolute! When two people who have made their experience the basis of truth meet, one might say: "that is not true!" to which the other replies: "It's my truth; you can't deny it". How then do we resolve the conflict of two absolute experiences that do not agree? Are both experiences "true" and if they are, are they true in any absolute sense?

When I say "my truth" is the basis of all Truth I am saying that my experiences, knowledge and understanding have a value beyond me; my experience has value for the world and others. My experience becomes the measurement of value that others must use. In this scenario *my truth* and *your truth* might agree or conflict, depending on the question. So, have we arrived at Truth or do we have a negotiated acceptance of half-truths (your half and my half = a whole truth)?

If I say there is an ultimate and absolute Truth and that Truth is found in God, I have said that "God is Truth". If God is Truth, then Truth is external to me and everyone else. If Truth is external to me and you then we need to live our lives in relationship with Truth, because Truth gives us meaning.

How can I know God is Truth? Who is telling me this and can I trust them? If I say that Truth is based in God, then I need to find out how Truth resides in God and what Truth for God looks like. Is there space for me in God's Truth or do I have to give up my truth and my freedom to be in relationship with God? And, if I do, what happens to "me" when I give away "my freedom and my truth" to God?

At this point, the notion of Truth and the existence of God either come into harmony or conflict because (1) if God is truth and (2) if meaning comes from being in relationship to Truth then (3) I have to live in relationship with God. If I am living in relationship with God, the source of all Truth, then Truth becomes relational. Truth is not a set of norms to be followed, but a relationship to be lived.

If Truth sets me free to live, then how I live matters, because my living is an expression God -who is Truth- living in the world.

At this stage I begin to realise that Truth is not about right or wrong, correct, or incorrect, orthodox, or heterodox – it is about something much more important. Truth is about God: those who live in Truth, live in God and Truth sets you free (John 8:31-32).

Where there is no shared experience or understanding of Truth there is no common ground. As a result, questions of freedom, personal choice, authenticity, life, and death become more complex.

Fr Joe Grayland

Prayer Intentions

We Pray for Our Deceased: RIP: Dolores Bagos

Mass intentions: Josie Bell, Betty Barnao, Cheryl and Megan Hunter, Colin Bowe, Margrit & Franz Suter, Agi Poole, and Margi Sargent



Special Prayers for all those suffering with psychological illnesses and their families



We pray for: Andre Griffin, Audrey Murphy, Bettie Beech, Barbara & Graeme Younger, Bernadette Conlon, Chris Kleinsman, Diane Stubbs, Fiona Hurly, Evie Feierabend, Ian Sutherland, Josie Conlon, John Pepperell, June MacMillan, Kathleen Butturini, Kia Reyes, Malia Mavaega, Marian Carey, Maureen Murphy, Maureen Watts, Maria Pascoe, Fr Michael Lloyd, Mike Manson, Mikulas Oros, Melva Widdowson, Michael Quirk, Pat Kauri, Nicola Burmeister, Paul McRae, Peter Morrison-Story, Raymond Jones, Romuald Rudzki, Rebecca Lauvi, Romeo Plamio, Rose Waldvogel, Steve Horgan, Tony Murphy, Tony Winchcombe, Vinnie Carroll, William Lemmon, Tyler, Allan and Wayne.



St Peters College: The Board of Trustees are about to commence the process of appointing a replacement Principal for Kevin Shore, who will be leaving us in September. This is a time when prayer becomes a significant factor to their planning and decision making. Accordingly, we invite all parishioners to mindfully keep this process and the Board Members in your thoughts and prayers.

Special Notices

Please Note: **Memorial Acclamation said during Masses in August:** So parishioners can respond in unison each month we will alternate these responses starting this month of August with:
"When we eat this Bread & drink this cup, we proclaim your own death, O Lord, until you come again!"

New Zealand was consecrated to Mary under the title of the Assumption of Mary in 1838. The Latin word "assumptio" means being 'taken' into heaven. In some parts of the world, they use another Latin word "dormition" which means the "sleeping" of Mary. We will search the Scriptures in vain to find any mention of either the 'sleeping' or the 'assumption' into heaven. These traditions arose independently from early times as ways to explain what happened to Mary. It was not until 1950 that the formal teaching of this church dogma was made official. **Many parishes are dedicated to Mary's Assumption such as St. Mary's Foxton. To celebrate this feast there will be a Mass at the St. Mary Foxton on Saturday 15 August at 9:30am followed by refreshments. There will also be Masses at the Cathedral at 9 am. and Our Lady of Lourdes at 10 am.**



ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER: - We will be retaining the online newsletter.

If you know of anyone who cannot access the emails or the internet or who does not have a printer please print out a copy of the newsletter and pass it onto them. Alternatively, ask them to register with the parish office for a printed newsletter – thank you! Please view the overhead presentation before and after Mass.

Reflection – 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: 1 Kings 19.9, 11-13, **2nd Reading:** Romans 9.1-5

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13.24-43

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Today's readings tell us about the nature of God and belief in God. When Jesus walked on the water, he was revealing his divinity to the disciples. Peter's response can be seen as an incident at the beginning of his faith journey. He wanted to believe, so he stepped out onto the water. The doubts crept in when he felt the force of the wind and the motion of the waves. Peter's faith however saved him. He called out "Lord, save me" – he believed in the end that Jesus had that power. This can be seen as a metaphor for our own responses to Jesus' call. We want to go to Him but there are so many other things that distract us from our goal. We start to drown in the cares and storms of the world. The demands of job and family, paying the bills, passing the exams and so on. But always Jesus is there to take our hand and calm the storm.

As the first reading tells us, Jesus *is* the calm. God is not in the wind or the earthquake, but in the gentle breeze. St Paul confirms in the second reading that Jesus is "God, forever blessed". The apostles in the boat, at the end of today's gospel reading, bow down and say "Truly, you are the Son of God".

I remember hearing this story when I was a child of 6 or 7 and feeling almost indignant at Peter's doubts. After all it was Jesus, God's Son, who told him to come to Him. As an adult, I can appreciate Peter's fears and doubts. But maybe the simple faith of the child still has a place. After all Jesus also said, "Unless you become like little children you will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven".

John Sibbald

Health and Wellbeing

Gentle Reminder in our current times:

- **Stay at home if you're sick** - If you have cold or flu symptoms you should stay home, and call your doctor or Healthline on [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453) for advice about getting tested. If you have symptoms such as a cough, high temperature, sore throat etc, it does not necessarily mean you have COVID-19.
- **Wash your hands** - Washing your hands is one of the easiest ways to keep yourself safe. Wash often. Use soap. 20 seconds. Then dry. This kills the virus by bursting its protective bubble.
- **Do not touch your face** - do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth if your hands are not clean.
- **Cough or sneeze into your elbow** - it will keep the virus off your hands, so you will not spread it to other people and make them sick too.
- **Stay connected** - support each other by keeping the connections and close ties to others that we forged during the COVID-19 pandemic. Your emotional and mental wellbeing is important.

We are in a gifted position after the hard work we all did earlier in the year. Continue to be gentle with yourselves and each other.

CHURCH NOTICES

Cathedral of the Holy Spirit:

The following events are an open invitation to the Palmerston North Catholic Community – all welcome.

Every Sunday	2:00pm	Life in the Spirit Programme: Talk in the Diocesan Hall
11 August	5:15pm	SVDP meeting – Cathedral lounge – all welcome.
13 August	9:30am	Shining Stars – an invitation to all our little people to come and share some song, dance, and morning tea – an invitation to all parents and caregivers from all parishes. We look forward to seeing you all in the Cathedral Lounge. 
15 August	3:00pm	The Cathedral will be hosting a section of the Coast to Coast Rosary for Life and Faith – for more information please contact Rastem Eugenio rastem@me.com & see the noticeboard.
16 August	9.30am	St James School led Mass – please join our school community as they assist at our 9.30 Mass
	6.00pm	Please join the students from Hato Paora as they assist with the Miha Maori Mass at 6.00pm
17 August	12:30pm	Hibernian Catholic Benefit Society – St Patrick's Branch 400 Second Quarterly Meeting and AGM: Cathedral of the Holy Spirit – Gathering Area. Finger lunch served at 12.30pm – please advise if attending for catering purposes to Kevin Frost, Secretary, tel (06) 3577844 or email kfassociates@xtra.co.nz
7 September	6:00pm	Cathedral Café recommences on Monday 7 September. Please book on 357 2891, between 9.00 and 1.00pm Monday to Friday, if you wish to join us.
Attention everyone: More Welcomers are needed for the Roster at the Cathedral, especially for the 6:00pm Mass. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in becoming a Welcomer 357 2891 or office@pncathedral.org.nz		

Cathedral Parish - 11 October – First Communion Start Date



It has taken some time to sort out what and how to do 1st Communion this year with many of our usual patterns thrown into disarray. So finally let us get started in the new 4th term – enjoying the life and energy of the new season.

This year we will be conducting our preparation in four weekly sessions for parents/caregivers and children together! With no separate times for parents! This means that we will need to be more savvy than usual in our organisation of logistics for the “Breakfast” Morning Tea Celebration after Mass in the Diocesan Centre on 8

November. It is imperative that you attend Mass with your children before each session, as the Mass is formative by its nature.

Parish Catechist: Kate Bell – k.bell@pncathedral.org.nz and 0276544004. Mark your calendars and diaries!

All sessions commence with Mass at 9.30am followed by morning tea and session in Diocesan Rooms			
Date	Topic	Date	Topic
11 Oct	We Gather to Celebrate	18 Oct	We Listen to God's Word
25 Oct	One Bread, One Cup, One Body	1 Nov	Belonging and Serving
4 Nov	5pm in the Cathedral – soup and sausages followed by a walkthrough of the ceremony	8 Nov	9.00am 1 st Holy Communion Celebration followed by breakfast in the Diocese Rooms

Our Lady of Lourdes:

Every Friday	10:30am	Reconciliation available on Fridays 10:30-11am after Mass. Adoration available on Friday after Mass from 10:30am to 12pm. No reconciliation on Saturdays. Reconciliation available by appointment with Fr Joe
LOLOL School still have bags of fertiliser left over if anyone is interested in purchasing any. They are 12kg bags @ \$17 each and orders can be placed by phoning (06 358 9727) or emailing office@lolol.school.nz .		

St Mary's Foxton/Shannon:

13 August	10:30am	Mass followed by Sunday Reflections – St Mary's Foxton Church
15 August	9:30am	All welcome to Celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at St. Mary's Foxton – hospitality offered after Mass. It is the Schools Patronal Feast Day so also an opportunity to visit the School Children and Staff.

Reconciliation is available by appointment with Fr. Joe

General Notices:

See **Noticeboard** for more information and details on certain events mentioned below.

<p>† Palmerston North Young Family Ministry Facebook page – https://www.facebook.com/PNYoungFamilyMinistry/ Contact: Basia McIntosh at BMcintosh@pndiocese.org.nz phone: 021 082 03750.</p>		
<p>† Kia ora all year 6 to 9 students and your Whanau! This is your official invite to join our Junior Youth Group! Youth group runs from 5:30-7:00pm every Friday night at the Diocesan centre on Amesbury street. Come along for a night of fun, food, and good times! Stay blessed, Bridget Kelly bkelly@pndiocese.org.nz</p>		
<p>† Vote for Life – www.righttolife.org.nz see website or church noticeboard for more information.</p>		
<p>† Flashes of Insight - Conversations on Worship after Liturgical Lockdown with Professor Thomas O'Loughlin of Nottingham University, England. Thursdays 13 and 20 August. This is an online ZOOM conversation. Please book here: https://cathnews.co.nz/letstalkliturgy/ - Bookings close at 5:00pm Wednesday evening New Zealand time!</p>		
<p>† Mary, the Mother of God – with Br Kieren Fenn fms, Monday's on Zoom 24 Aug to 28 Sep - \$25 per session – see church noticeboard</p>		
<p>† An Ignatian Retreat for Our Times - A retreat inspired by the words of Pope Francis, Mondays on Zoom, 10 August, 17 August 2020. Mornings 11am-noon, or evenings 7pm-8pm. If you are interested, contact Nicola McCarthy or Murray Adams from the Diocesan Retreats Team. Nicola McCarthy n.mccarthy@xtra.co.nz / 021 2922342 or Murray Adams m.c.adamsfam@xtra.co.nz / 027 3574302 – see church noticeboard.</p>		
<p>† Ignatian Spirituality NZ is offering a 6 day Residential Silent Individually Guided Retreat –25 October, 10am to 30 October 4pm. St. Francis Retreat Centre, 50 Hillsborough Rd, Auckland.</p>		
<p>† St James School – Taking Enrolments now for 2021. Contact School office 06 357 9719 to request an enrolment pack.</p>		
<p>† CathNews reports news about and of interest to the Catholic Church. This Catholic News has focus on New Zealand and the South Pacific – read online CathNews New Zealand</p>		
9 August	2:00pm	Book Launch – God's Cocaine by Terry Wilson 121 South Str. Fielding
11 August	7:00pm	Young Adults Interfaith Forums – Café Royale – Sqaure Edge – Racism

NZCatholic For sale in the church foyer.

The Op shop is in desperate need of: **Children's Toys** - please keep us in mind when having a clean out. **Warm children's clothing.** We are still looking for firewood to assist a household - if you can help please phone Mike Keenan 021 1858969. **All welfare requests to the shop 06 3576779.**



Cathedral of the Holy Spirit	Kotahi Ano (Together as One)
<p>197 Broadway Ave, Palmerston North</p> <p>Phone 06 357-2891</p> <p>Email office@pncathedral.org.nz</p> <p>Website www.pncathedral.org.nz</p> <p>Parish Priest (Acting) Fr Joe Grayland</p> <p>Cell 027 777 8096</p> <p>Email priest@lourdesparish.nz</p> <p>Parish Manager Steph Grantham 027-4408544</p> <p>Catechist Kate Bell 027-6544004</p> <p>Music Ministry Julie Randall & Rastem Eugenio</p> <p>In residence</p> <p>Monsignor Brian Walsh VG</p> <p>Monsignor David Bell 021 2576771</p> <p>Email: monsbell@gmail.com</p> <p>Fr. Vijay Dung Dung vijayhgn@yahoo.in</p>	<p>Our Lady of Lourdes Parish & Sacred Heart Rongotea</p> <p>Pastoral Coordinator Kate McNamara</p> <p>Phone: 06 358 3667</p> <p>Email: office@lourdesparish.nz</p> <p>Website: www.lourdesparish.nz</p> <p>Priest: Fr. Joe Grayland</p> <p>Cell 027 777 8096</p> <p>Email: priest@lourdesparish.nz</p> <p>St. Mary's Foxton/Shannon</p> <p>Parish Coordinator Eleanor Jacobs</p> <p>Cell 021 064 4584</p> <p>Email foxtoncoordinator@lourdesparish.nz</p> <p>Newsletter Notices for all Parishes contact:</p> <p>Claire Jacobs info@lourdesparish.nz</p> <p>Hospital Chaplain: Kathleen Field – 021 509 436 kathleen.field@midcentraldhp.govt.nz</p>
Schools:	
<p>St. James Primary School (06) 357 9719 office@stjamescatholic.school.nz Principal: Tom Sheehan</p> <p>St. Peter's College: (06) 354 4198 office@stpeterspn.school.nz Principal: Kevin Shore</p>	<p>Our Lady of Lourdes School (06) 358 9727 office@lol.school.nz Principal: Caroline Deazley-Gilligan</p> <p>St Mary's Primary School Foxton (06) 363 8177 info@stmarysfoxton.school.nz Principal: Mary Kleinsman-Powell</p>