

For Your Diaries : 2018

13-21 January 2018, Life Teen Summer Camp Aotearoa

Are you 18+ and looking for your next faith-related adventure? Life Teen Summer Camp is currently looking for Summer Missionaries for their upcoming camp! For information visit <https://lifeteen.nz/mission> or email lifeteensummercampnz@gmail.com

23-25 March 2018 Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

A weekend of spiritual and emotional healing for those whose lives have been touched by abortion. All enquiries strictly confidential. Contact Wendy Hill 027 254 9222 or rvnzretreats@gmail.com

29 April - 19 May 2018, Pilgrimage

Extensive pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Jordan planned for 2018 For full brochure and itinerary, contact Pukekohe Travel on 0800 785 386 or tours@pukekohetravel.co.nz.



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A LEGACY OF FAITH



Remembering St Mary of the Angels in your will provides an ideal opportunity to make a statement of your faith and to give resources that will support your Church for years to come.

Please contact the Parish Office for further details.
Phone (04) 473 8074.

Quality Te Aro Offices

5-7 Vivian Street, Wellington

Great location close to Cafe district
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Office suites available at an affordable price. Semi-serviced suites (approx 18sqm) that are fully furnished. There is also a company floor area (approx 200sqm) with 5x partitioned offices, Board room and Meeting room. Shared kitchen and shower facilities. Car parking available in the building at an additional rate.

This is a must see for new businesses on a budget. Earthquake Engineering Evaluation IEP Report NBS 80%.

Contact by e-mail for further information:
mariabaldock@gmail.com

The Angelus

St Mary of the Angels Parish

Church and Presbytery:

17 Boulcott Street,

Wellington Central

Telephone: 473 8074

Parish website: www.smoa.org.nz

St Mary of the Angels is a diverse community which seeks to praise and thank God in a place of calm and beauty and strives to be Christ alive in Central Wellington

24 December 2017, 4th Sunday of Advent - Year B

Christmas Blessings

This is the final Angelus of the year. It is an opportunity for me to reflect on 2017 and to thank so many for their generous contribution to our Parish.

The highlight without doubt was the reopening of our beautiful Church for the Easter ceremonies. The Church closed on 21 July 2013 after the Seddon earthquakes and over the next four years so much hard work went on to strengthen the Church to a very high seismic standard. We owe a great deal to the construction team from L T McGuinness Ltd.

This could never have happened without our generous donors. I especially acknowledge and thank every person who has contributed to the seismic strengthening of the Church. We have raised over \$10 million and that is an outstanding reflection of people's love for St Mary of the Angels. I hope with continued generosity we will complete the outstanding work by Easter next year.

I am very much looking forward to welcoming all our parishioners, friends and visitors to our Church at Christmas. As the trumpets sound for Midnight Mass we have much to be grateful for during this past year as we once again celebrate the birth of Christ in these beautiful and familiar surroundings.

Thank you to those who have carried out the many ministries in the Parish over the past year. Each week we rely on your generosity to ensure things are done so that our liturgies are celebrated in the best way possible and our Church and grounds are looked after for all to enjoy.

This will be my last Christmas newsletter. After Easter next year I have been appointed to Napier. It has been a wonderful nine years at St Mary of the Angels and a real privilege to be your Parish Priest. I didn't anticipate when I accepted my appointment here in 2009 that I would have to close the Church for 4 years and raise an enormous sum of money for seismic strengthening. It has been hard work but through your generosity we have preserved this beautiful Church for future generations.

I hope you are able to spend some time reflecting this Christmas on the moment of grace when God was born as one of us in a stable at Bethlehem. May the Christ of the crib abundantly bless you and your families.

Father Barry Scannell sm
Parish Priest

Parish Priest

Fr Barry Scannell SM
smoapp@xtra.co.nz

Assistant Priests

Fr Kevin Conroy SM

Fr Joe Savesi SM

Pastoral Worker

Sr Frances Gibbs CSB

Director of Music

Robert Oliver

robert.oliver@paradise.net.nz

Parish Accountant

Jeanette Temelo

smoamanager@xtra.co.nz

Parish Office

smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz

MASSES

Sunday 7am, 9am, 11am, 5pm

Monday to 7:30am, 12:05pm,
Friday & 5:15pm

Saturday 11am

EACH MONTH

4th Saturday 11am Mass with
Sacrament of Anointing

ADORATION

Monday to 6:45am-7:30am

Friday

11am-noon

RECONCILIATION

Monday to 11:30am-noon

Thursday 12:30pm-1:00pm
4:30pm-5:00pm

Friday

11:00am-noon
12:30pm-1:00pm
4:30pm-5:00pm

Saturday

10:30am-11:00am
4:00pm-5:00pm

This Week's Readings

First Reading 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16
The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Second Reading Rom 16:25-27
The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Gospel Reading Luke 1:26-38
You will conceive and bear a son.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading Gen 15: 1-6, 21:1-3
Psalm 104
Second Reading Hebrew 11:8, 11-12, 17-19
Gospel Reading Luke 2:22-40

Last Sunday's Collection

Total: \$5,309



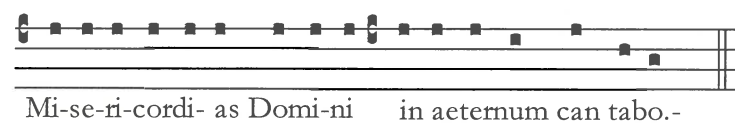
Responsorial Psalm 88

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
 through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
 Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
 that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R**

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
 I have sworn to David my servant:
 I will establish you dynasty for ever
 and set up your throne through all ages.' **R**

He will say to me: 'You are my father,
 my God, the rock who saves me.'
 I will keep my love for him always;
 for him my covenant shall endure. **R**

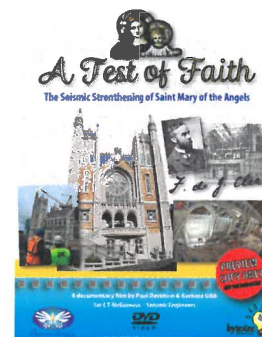


The mercies of the Lord I will sing for ever.

A Test of Faith

Those who attended the premiere launch of the documentary 'A Test of Faith' were treated to a wonderful insight into the construction work that has taken place over the past four years with the seismic strengthening of the Church. The documentary also included the story of the Church in Wellington from 1843 and in particular the three Churches that have been built on the present St Mary of the Angels Church.

If you would like to see this amazing documentary you can purchase a DVD at Mass today or from the Parish Office. The cost is \$30 and all proceeds go to the Seismic Strengthening Fund.



Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Brian Yates, David Winstanley, Peter Prior

Anniversaries: Ron McDonald, Su Yen Bok, James Glover, Diana Bartram, Marie Giles, Paul Giles, Helen McKone, Fr Bryan Montgomery sm, Lois Palentine, Mary Hutchens, Sheila Mahony, Euphemia Taylor, Margaret Heister, John O'Brien, Fr Brian O'Connell sm, Mary Hutchins, Edward Haughey, Gordon Ashbridge, Bertrand Weir, Margaret Philpott, Margaret Baxter

Prayers for the Sick: Mary Anne Merrin, Mary Rose Keller, Geoff Sweet, Dianne Sweet, Margaret Such, Bryce Toimata, Colleen Kennedy, Gil Lescher, Mary Crompton, Jenni Rowell, Teresa Jeong, Dr Peter Brooke, Richard Wright, Losalia Leo, Patricia Smyth, John Foden, Imelda Reeve, Jan Tuinman, John Mora, Maria Kim, Carol Aldridge, Maureen McDonald



Please remember these and any others in the Parish who are ill. If you know of anyone confined to their home or who needs a visit with Holy Communion, please contact Sister Frances at the Parish Office.



*Three angels playing music for Mother Mary and baby Jesus
 by Bouguereau*

Cardinal's Care Appeal

This year the Archbishop's Advent Appeal has been rebranded as the Cardinal's Care Appeal Envelopes. Gifts to the 2017 Care Appeal will provide food, housing, counselling, security and support to countless men, women and children who need help through Church agencies and will also launch critical initiatives that have arisen from the 2017 Synod. Funds directed to support Synod initiatives will be distributed through a grants process that will boost organisations, ministries and individuals that serve our Church and strengthen our communities. Envelopes are available on the tables at the entrances to the Church.

Life Teen Summer Camp Aotearoa

Are you 18+ and looking for your next faith-related adventure? Life Teen Summer Camp is currently looking for Summer Missionaries for their upcoming camp! Camp will run from the 13th till the 21st of January 2018 in Otaki. Life Teen Summer Camp is a great way for young people to engage in their Catholic faith (and serve teenagers from all over New Zealand). For information visit <https://lifeteen.nz/mission> or email lifeteensummercampnz@gmail.com

Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide Update

David Seymour's 'End of Life Choice' bill has had its first reading in Parliament and has been referred to a Select Committee. The bill seeks to legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide in New Zealand for those over 18 years with a terminal illness or an irremediable condition. The bill passed its first reading by a significant margin of 76 votes to 44.

The Health Select Committee conducted an inquiry last year about the issues of euthanasia and assisted suicide, releasing their report in August 2017. Over 21,000 submissions were received, of which 80% were opposed to the legalisation of euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Legalising euthanasia or assisted suicide would endanger the lives and wellbeing of people who are vulnerable, including those suffering from mental health issues, elderly people, and the disabled.

You can find further information on the Nathaniel website www.nathaniel.org.nz/euthanasia.

Thank You

We sincerely thank those who came during the week to help prepare the Church for our Christmas Liturgies. We also thank Angie Bok who helped Sister Frances with the flowers. This generosity combined with those who helped in the garden a couple of weeks ago has ensured our Church and grounds are looking great for the birth of Christ.

ST MARY OF THE ANGELS EARTHQUAKE STRENGTHENING APPEAL

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St Mary of the Angels is registered with the Charities Commission. All donations are tax deductible and a receipt issued.

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