

For Your Diaries : 2019

19 February, St Vincent de Paul Meeting

The first meeting for 2019, will be held at 6pm in the. We welcome any new members, who would like to join us.

20 February, Homeless in our community: *What can we do together?*

Council. Held at the Wellington Islamic Centre, 9 Queens Drive, Kilbirnie on Wednesday 20 February, 7pm.

21 February, Untold Blessings

Back for 2019 with our screening of Bishops Robert Barron's DVD's. Join us for the first session (Finding the Centre) of the three part series called *Untold Blessings* from 6-7.30 pm. The next viewings will be 21 March and 18 April.

21 February, Joshua Wellington

Extending an open invitation to men and women both older and younger for Mass followed by supper at 7.30pm in St Joseph's Church, 42 Ellice Street, Mount Victoria. Please bring some finger food to share!

26 February, Michael Mangan Workshop

This We Believe: Music for Sacraments of Initiation with Children. At 7pm-9pm Ss Peter & Pauls Church L. Hutt. Please register before Monday 26 February with Ann Williams a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz. Entry by Koha.

28 February, Singing for Children

Young Angel Voices begins on at 4.30pm for an hour, in the Choir Room. Boys and girls, aged 8 - 12 years old, learn great songs, to read music, and have fun with their voices, with Robert and Andrea Oliver.

28 February, 'Believe' Young Adult Formation Programme

Every fortnight continuing 28 February at 6pm in the parish hall. Supper provided.

14 March, A 'Good Friday' Liturgical Workshop

Held at 6.45pm-9pm at the Catholic Centre. Please register with Ann Williams before Friday 8 March at a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz



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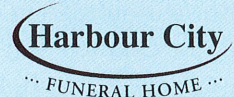
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*St Mary of the Angels is a diverse community which seeks to praise and thank God
in a place of calm and beauty and strives to be Christ alive in Central Wellington*

17 February 2019, 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Surprisingly, I begin this reflection with a quote from the actress Mae West. Mae West observed: "I've been poor, and I've been rich. Believe me, rich is better." It is puzzling that in today's Gospel Jesus calls poor people happy. To help us unravel this puzzle we need to understand who Jesus had in mind when he referred to the "poor".

What are some of the ways we use the word "poor"? We may have seen the word, "poor" on a school report card. We may have been with friends dissecting the effort of our favourite sport's team and the general consensus was that the team put on a poor display. We also use it to refer to someone who has little material wealth. Material poverty, not freely chosen is an evil thing. Jesus' intention was not to approve of the poverty that is evident in many parts of the world even in parts of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Who and what did Jesus have in mind, then, when he said, "How happy are you who are poor...?" To help us we will explore material poverty a bit more. People who are without material wealth, are often without power. We might say that they are without clout. A poor person may be labelled as helpless and without influence. Often connected with helplessness and lacking influence, is the tendency to be oppressed and exploited. What can also happen is that people who find little or no comfort or security from the things of this world put all their trust in God. And it is this final point that helps us understand what Jesus meant in the Sermon on the Mount when he said, "How happy are you who are poor; yours is the kingdom of God."

Thus, the poor whom Jesus called happy were those people who come to realise that they cannot depend on the things of this world for happiness. So they seek their happiness in God alone. God means everything to them. Material things mean next to nothing to them. These people, as Jesus said, are happy.

And so to understand what Jesus meant when he said, "How happy are you who are poor," we might reword his statement this way: "How happy are they who realize that they cannot depend on the things of this world for happiness but rather put all their trust in God."

*Father Kevin Conroy sm
Parish Priest*

Parish Priest

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Fr Kevin Mowbray SM

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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 6:30am-7:20am
Friday

Friday 11am-Noon

RECONCILIATION

Monday to 11:30am-Noon
Thursday 12:30pm-1:00pm
4:30pm-5:00pm

Friday 11:00am-11:50pm
12:30pm-1:00pm
4:30pm-5:00pm

Saturday 10:30am-10:55am
4:00pm-5:00pm

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