

For Your Diaries : 2019

3 September, Introduction to RCIA

The Adult Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) is the process through which adults are gradually introduced to the Catholic faith and way of life. We will be holding an introductory evening at 7.15pm in the parish hall. Contact the parish office for more information or to enrol.

6 September, SMAYAC Monthly Adoration

Join us for our monthly adoration at 6pm in the church. We will head to capital market (food court) for dinner afterwards.

11 September, Social Justice Week Event

This social justice week, join the Archdiocese of Wellington as they explore fairness and unfairness in our Diocese. An opportunity to learn about the experiences of Wellington Filipino healthcare and construction workers, and the Barangay Assumpta (Kapiti) Servant Team/Filipino Chaplaincy. For more information, contact Lisa Beech l.beech@wn.catholic.org.nz

13—14 September, Wellington Theological Consortium Conference

On *"Lament, Listening, Healing, in response to the sexual abuse crisis in our Church Communities."* Held at St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria, Wellington. www.wellingtontheology.org.nz

16 October, Film Screening—'Unplanned'

The Penthouse Cinema, 6pm. *Unplanned* is a story of hope, about a former Director of a Planned Parenthood abortion facility Abby Johnson. Purchase tickets: www.fan-force.com/screenings/unplanned-penthouse-cinema-cafe/

A Test of Faith

The documentary 'A Test of Faith' provides 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 site. If you would like to see this amazing documentary you can purchase a DVD from the parish office. The cost is \$30 and all proceeds go to the ongoing maintenance of the church.



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LAWYERS

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A LEGACY OF FAITH



Remembering St Mary of the
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an ideal opportunity to make
a statement of your faith and
to give resources that will
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Please contact the Parish
Office for further details.
Phone (04) 473 8074.



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The Angelus

St Mary of the Angels Parish

Church and Presbytery:

17 Boulcott Street

Wellington Central

Telephone: (04) 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*

Parish Priest

Fr Kevin Conroy SM

smoapp@xtra.co.nz

Assistant Priests

Fr Peter McAfee SM

Fr Kevin Mowbray SM

Fr Pat Brophy SM

Fr Joe Savesi SM

Pastoral Worker

Sr Frances Gibbs CSB

In Residence

Fr Brian Wysocki SM

Director of Music

Robert Oliver

chant4robert@gmail.com

Parish Accountant

smoamanager@xtra.co.nz

Parish Office

smoaooffice@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 6:30am-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

1 September 2019, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE COMMON TOUCH

A little known story about David Lange, New Zealand's prime minister in the 1980's:

I was working in the Philippines in 1986 when President Ferdinand Marcos was replaced by Cory Aquino, with the help of 'People's Power'. Soon afterwards David Lange, as prime minister, went on a long-planned visit to China. Taking advantage of that visit he hastily added a trip to the Philippines in order to meet President Aquino. In his luggage was a rolled-up bundle of newspapers addressed to me. Arriving in Manila he handed the bundle to the New Zealand ambassador there and told him to make sure that I received it. The bundle of newspapers was from my mother! She had sent it to David Lange's office after reading about his intention to visit President Aquino. She did this to save herself the spiralling cost of postage – an issue she had lengthily and entertainingly debated with David Lange at a public meeting during the recently-finished election campaign!

How many other world leaders would even bother with such a request? Can we imagine the president of the United States or the prime minister of Great Britain doing the same as David Lange? Yet somehow, deep down, we kiwis expect our leaders to act like that - to have the common touch.

Jesus was such a leader. All through his three years of public ministry he had the common touch. He walked everywhere, slept wherever he could and ate whatever was put in front of him. He worked in the midst of and for ordinary people.

Jesus' common touch reveals the heart of God – out of love for us God has become our servant. He does not come amongst us as a celebrity, a rock-star or a power-broker. His life and death reveal a profound truth about God. He prefers to be hidden, even unknown, in our midst. Our God is humble.

Today, in our Gospel reading, Jesus challenges us to be like Him in all we do or say - to be humble, to have the common touch!

Tall poppies don't thrive in New Zealand! People who are full of themselves, who think they are important, often get cut down to size. That's why, as kiwis, the story about David Lange resonates with us. And long may this be so! Even more deeply, though, it should resonate with us as Christians, disciples of Jesus.

By the way, my mother voted for David Lange in the following election!

Fr Kevin Mowbray SM

—Assistant Priest

This Week's Readings

First Reading Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29
Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord.

Second Reading Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24
You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.

Gospel Reading Luke 14:1, 7-14
All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading Wisdom 9:13-18
Psalm 89
Second Reading Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Gospel Reading Luke 14:25-33

Last Sunday's Collection

Total: \$5,160

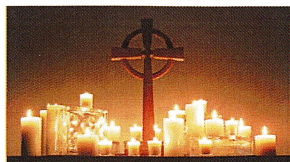


Church Guardians

Each day our church is looked after by Guardians who take it in turn to spend an hour in the church ensuring that the many visitors feel welcome and that they respect our sacred place. **We need more Church Guardians** so that we can keep the church open each day. We are particularly in need of Guardians for Tuesday afternoons and Wednesday mornings. If you would like to consider being part of this service to the parish community please contact the parish office at smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Pauline Hastings, Marjorie Noël Galvin, Rita Mary Dewey, Michael Loftus, Fr John O'Neill sm
Anniversaries: Louis Hannan, Brian Stempa, Patricia Smith, Judith Mary Blair, Carmel Pledger
Prayers for the Sick: Colin Fife, Peter Aldridge, Tony Crawley, John Adams, Fr Tom O'Connor sm, Nancy Grealish, Geoff Sweet, Dianne Sweet, Losalia Leo, Patricia Smyth, John Foden, John Mora, Maria Kim, Andrea Oliver, Kerry Barber, Beatrice (Bea) Stewart, James Ring, Pam Finlayson
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.



Responsorial Psalm 67

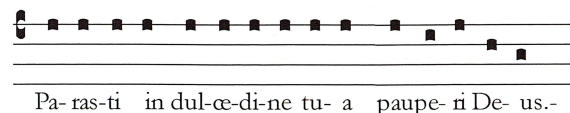
R. God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, they shall exult and dance for joy.
 O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. **R**

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, such is God in his holy place.
 God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. **R**

You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life.

It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. **R**



Pa- ras-ti in dul-æ-di-ne tu- a paupe- ri De- us.-

In thy sweetness O Lord, Thou hast provided for the poor.

Recipes for Restoration

Copies of **Recipes for Restoration** are still available for purchase after Masses and from the parish office. This book is a 'must have' for every parishioner's kitchen, and a great gift idea. The book is now \$15 as we are down to our last few boxes. This price covers the cost of printing and makes a small contribution to the building maintenance fund. Get your copy before they all sell out!

Prayer for Life

Loving God,
 Inspire in us a deepening respect for life and the human dignity of every person.
 Guide and strengthen us in caring, especially for the vulnerable, for those with disabilities, for those who are sick, lonely or depressed.
 Help us to value the elderly and the unborn.
 Encourage us in enabling people with disabilities to live their lives to the full.
 May those considering suicide, rather reach out for help and find it.
 Support and empower all those working to protect life, especially against euthanasia, assisted suicide and abortion.
 We make this prayer with full confidence in your guidance, compassion and love. Amen.

Abortion Legislation Bill

You will be aware that the current government has proposed an alternative abortion law to our parliament, and the bill has passed its first reading. It has now been referred to a Special Select Committee for further consideration and to give the public a chance to comment through the parliamentary submission process. All Catholics are encouraged to have their say. **The submission process closes on Thursday 19 September:** www.parliament.nz/en/ECommitteeSubmission/52SCAL_SCF_BILL_89814/CreateSubmission

Children's Sacramental Programme 2020

Registration is now open for the 2020 programme which begins this coming Term 4 with the sacrament of Confirmation, followed by First Reconciliation in Term 1 and First Communion in Term 2 of 2020. For your child to be eligible, he/she must already be baptised and be at least 8 years old at the beginning of Term 4. First parent's session is on October 17, 7pm at St Thomas More Church in Wilton. For registration and/or further enquiries, please contact the parish office on 473 8074 or at smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz

Volunteer Overseas—The Cagliero Project

We are seeking volunteers for January 2020 departure, working with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities throughout Cambodia, Samoa, East Timor & Solomon Islands. Applications close October 15th. Send us an inquiry - www.cagliero.org.au

Adult Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)

Perhaps you know someone who is curious about the Catholic Faith? The Adult Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) is the process through which adults are gradually introduced to the Catholic faith and way of life. St Mary of the Angels is holding an introductory evening on **Tuesday 3 September at 7.15pm** in the parish hall. Parishioners, please invite someone whom you know to be interested in our Catholic Faith and pray for the RCIA Candidates, Sponsors, and Leaders. If you would like more information or wish to enrol please contact the parish office at 473 8074 or smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz

Urgently Required

We urgently need people to volunteer for the various Masses here on a Sunday and weekdays, as Readers and Ministers of Holy Communion. We have lost several key people as they have moved out of the district. Should you like to be a Reader or Minister of Holy Communion, there would be a training session. This is a very privileged ministry. Please make contact with the Pastoral Team as soon as possible with your name and address, and we will get back to you. —Many thanks, Sr. Frances

Seminar: 'Lament, Listening, Healing'

The Wellington Theological Consortium Seminar for 2019 is on 'Lament, Listening, Healing, in response to the sexual abuse crisis in our Church Communities.' Learn about how restorative justice flows out of the Gospel, and about the Circle Process. The conference will be held **13—14 September** at St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria. For more information and to register, visit: www.wellingtontheology.org.nz

Greenstone Doors—Shoe Sale

Greensone Doors is holding a Brand New Shoe Sale at St Peter and Paul Church Hall, Knights Rd, Lower Hutt on Saturday 21 September 10am-1pm. There will be branded kids shoes, quality women's shoes and a few men's shoes priced from \$5-\$50. Both cash and eftpos accepted.



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