

For Your Diaries : 2019

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

19 September, Joshua Catholic Fellowship Wellington

Men are invited to come along and join us at 7.30pm (fellowship from 7pm) in Connolly Hall. For more information contact Steve Ready 027 356 9555 or email joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

21 September, Greenstone Doors—Shoe Sale

Greensone Doors is holding a Brand New Shoe Sale at St Peter & Paul Church Hall, Knights Rd, Lower Hutt from 10am—1pm. All kinds of shoes priced from \$5-\$50. Both cash and eftpos accepted

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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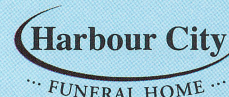
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A LEGACY OF FAITH



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.



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The Angelus

St Mary of the Angels Parish

Church and Presbytery:
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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 Sinesi 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

8 September 2019, 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading today's Gospel sounds very harsh to me, I can't imagine hating my brothers and sisters. We are a close family! Does the Lord really mean that I have to hate them?

The cost of discipleship is a hard reality. Perhaps this is the reason Jesus used the word hate. Discipleship becomes harder when it would demand that I hate my own life. Jesus stresses emphatically that following him is not a part time commitment. It must be a full time commitment. This includes leaving those I love and cherish in life. My priority is to follow the Lord. It also means sacrificing possessions and relationships. His vision and mission become my own and priority.

Today is the feast of Mary's birthday. Being a feast on a Sunday, Sunday takes precedence. The Church celebrates three birthdays of importance: Mary's birthday on 8 September, the birth of Christ on Christmas Day, and John the Baptist's birthday on 24 June. This Friday the 12th we also celebrate the Holy Name of Mary, a special feast for our Marist communities. Let us pray and keep our Marist Community in prayer and thank God for the work they do here at St Mary of the Angels and beyond. This is a chance also to pray for vocations to priesthood and religious life. The 8th of September is also is my profession day—62 years.

Mary the Mother of Jesus has always occupied a special place in the hearts of Catholics. Orthodox Christians also celebrate her birthday as one of the 12 "great feasts" of the Orthodox Church. In recent years, the surge of interest in women's roles in the Church have led many of our non-Catholic friends to a fresh and deeper appreciation of Mary. She is also venerated by Muslims—in every Muslim mosque a prayer niche in the wall is dedicated to Mary.

It is very appropriate then, in these times of great suffering and peril for humanity that we invoke Mary in prayer in the Rosary, and in the Angelus which is said each day for the protection of the unborn child. Mary is our advocate, let us ask her intercession and protection in our daily life.

Sister Frances Gibbs CSB

—Pastoral Worker

This Week's Readings

First Reading Wisdom 9:13-18
Who can comprehend the will of the Lord?

Second Reading Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very dear brother.

Gospel Reading Luke 14:25-33
All who do not renounce their possessions cannot be my disciples.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14
Psalm 50

Second Reading 1 Timothy 1:12-17
Gospel Reading Luke 15:1-32

Last Sunday's Collection

Total: \$5,590



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: Marjorie Noël Galvin, Rita Mary Dewey, Michael Loftus, Fr John O'Neill sm

Anniversaries: Marie McWilliams, Fr Regis O'Reilly, Gerry Zuccollo, Pip Baxter, Noline Stewart, Francis Renouf, Peter Feenan, Gillian Lescher

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 89

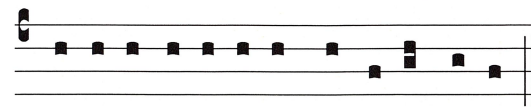
R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. **R**

You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. **R**

Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever. Show pity to your servants. **R**

In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. **R**



Domi-ne, re-fu-gi- um fac-tus es no-bis-

Lord, thou hast been our refuge.

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' and a great gift idea. The book is \$15, with the price covering the cost of printing and making 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

Ecclesia Dei Society of NZ Retreat

You are warmly invited to attend a retreat hosted by the Ecclesia Dei (Latin Mass) Society of NZ from **Friday 27 September—Sunday 29 September** at the Home of Compassion, Island Bay. Bishop Basil Meeking, Emeritus Bishop of Christchurch, will lead the retreat and he will give three inspiring talks on The Spiritual Combat. The Latin Mass will be offered each day. Rosary, devotions, Adoration, Reconciliation and time for meditation during the retreat. Cost: \$30. Contact: Neil (021 896 924), Melda (027478201) or email janetcurran@jtcurren.co.nz

Volunteer Overseas—The Cagliero Project

Seeking volunteers to work with with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities throughout Cambodia, Samoa, East Timor & Solomon Islands. Applications close **October 15th**. January 2020 departure. www.cagliero.org.au

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 **17 October**, 7pm at St Thomas More Church in Wilton. For registration or further enquiries, please contact the parish office on 473 8074 or smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz

Social Justice Week: 8—14th September

Fair, You Say? He Tika, Ki Tō Titiro?

"And what is tenderness? It is the love that comes close and becomes real. It is a movement that starts from our heart and reaches the eyes, the ears and the hands." — Pope Francis, TED talk, 2017

Each year in September, NZ Catholic Bishops Conference give us Social Justice Week to consider Catholic social teaching on an issue of social justice in New Zealand. This year the theme for parishes is *Fair, You Say?*, using Cardinal Cardijn's SEE-JUDGE-ACT method. Many human realities come to mind when reflecting on the theme of fairness. What is important is our desire to understand those affected, and then act out of love. Let us take this time to notice the inequity or injustice in our communities, then discern how to act in fairness. For more information or resources, there are brochures at the back of the church, or you can go to: www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week

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



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