

## For Your Diaries: 2019

### 11 & 18 December, Prayer of the Heart Series

7pm - 8pm with Fr Jeff Drane. This series fosters a sense of mystery and joyful expectation as we approach Christmas. The mystics of our tradition pave the way to the contemplative place within. Held at the Chapel of Our Lady of Compassion, Island Bay.

### 13 & 20 December, Sung Advent Meditations

You are invited to contemplate the Mystery of Christ in Song and Silence. Held after the 12.05pm Mass. The singing will be led by members of the St Mary of the Angels Choir.

### 14 December, Bach Choir of Wellington Concert

A Christmas Festival in collaboration with the Wellington Brass Band and featuring Christmas music for choir and brass, as well as audience carols. 2pm in the church. Tickets \$30 (\$25 concession) from Eventfinda, Marsden Books, or at the door.

### 15 December, Farewell for Fr Kevin Conroy SM

Join us in wishing Fr Kevin farewell after the 11am Mass. This will be held at 'The Precinct' at Boulcott Suites on O'Reilly Avenue.

### 18 December, Carols with the Angels

Our annual Carol Service will be held at 7.30pm in the church. Please join us for this special event in our church that will involve the St Mary of the Angels Choir, Korean Community Choir, Salvation Army Band, and all your favourite carols.

### Guardian Needed: Thursday morning

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 are in need of a Guardian for Wednesdays 3.30—4.30pm immediately, and Thursday 10am—11am from 2020.** If you would like to consider being part of this service to the parish community please contact the parish office on 04 473 8074 or [smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz](mailto:smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz)



**Rachel's Vineyard Retreats New Zealand**  
 "Healing the pain of abortion, one weekend at a time..."  
 Confidential and sensitive support for anyone whose life has been touched by abortion.  
*"Wipe the tears from your eyes....there is hope for your future." Jer31*

[rvnzretreats@gmail.com](mailto:rvnzretreats@gmail.com)  
 04 974 8693  
[www.rachelsvineyard.org.nz](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org.nz)

## MAHONY BURROWES HORNER LAWYERS

For all your legal needs, please contact Tom Mahony  
 DDI (04) 9744703 or email [tom.mahony@mbhlaw.co.nz](mailto:tom.mahony@mbhlaw.co.nz)




**Proud Supporters of**  
**St Mary of the Angels Parish**

**HONDA CARS WELLINGTON**  
 65 Kent Terrace, Wellington

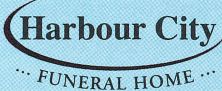
**Stephen Mills**  
 Sales Account Manager  
[Stephen.mills@honda.co.nz](mailto:Stephen.mills@honda.co.nz)  
 04 913 4020 | 022 017 6874





Locally Owned Funeral Directors  
 Caring in our Community


Is dealing with a  
**Locally Owned  
 Funeral Director**  
 important to you?



Harbour City  
 FUNERAL HOME

Wellington  
 56 Onepu Road, Kilbirnie  
 Telephone 387-8301  
[www.harbourcityfunerals.co.nz](http://www.harbourcityfunerals.co.nz)

**A LEGACY OF FAITH**



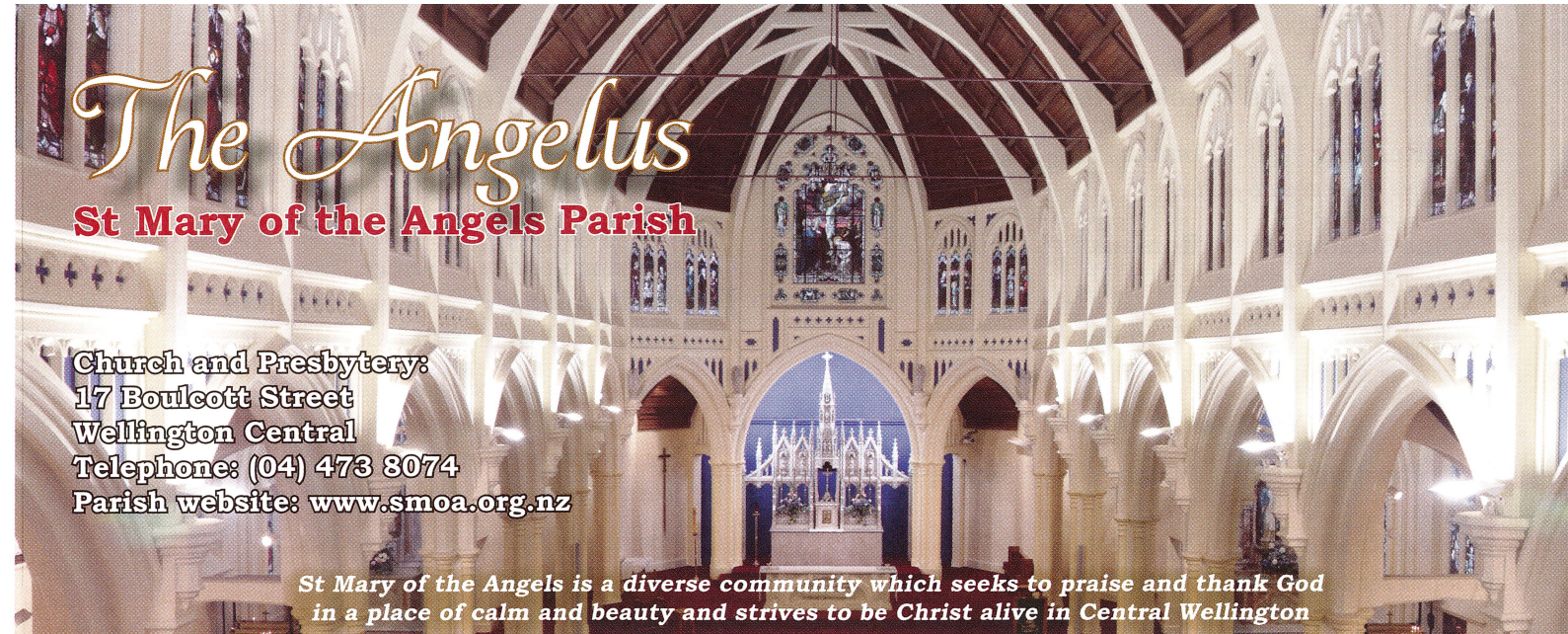
Remembering St Mary of the Angels in your will provides an ideal opportunity to make a statement of your faith and to give resources that will support your Church for years to come.

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



**NEW WORLD**  
**Wellington City**

Open 7 days 7am - 11pm  
 279 Wakefield Street  
 Ph 04 384 8054  
[www.newworld.co.nz/wellingtoncity](http://www.newworld.co.nz/wellingtoncity)



**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](http://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  
[smoaapp@xtra.co.nz](mailto:smoaapp@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](mailto:chant4robert@gmail.com)

### Parish Accountant

[smoamanager@xtra.co.nz](mailto:smoamanager@xtra.co.nz)

### Parish Office

[smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz](mailto:smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz)

### MASSES

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

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

Saturday 11am

### EACH MONTH

4th Saturday 11am Mass with  
 Sacrament of Anointing

### ADORATION

Monday to Friday 6:30am-7:20am

Friday 11am-Noon

### RECONCILIATION

Monday to Thursday 11:30am-Noon  
 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 December 2019, 2nd Sunday of Advent

Perhaps you are familiar with the movie, Lawrence of Arabia. One of his lines is, "The desert is clean." Often in literature and the spiritual life the desert is associated with a place of purification, spiritual seeking and returning to the essentials of life. John the Baptist's vocation is to lead people to that desert place where God will speak – speak to the heart.

It is when we listen with our "heart," the deepest part of our being, that repentance (metanoia) is possible. This term carries the double connotation of changing our mind and our behaviour.

Why is so much attention given to John the Baptist? John wears symbolic clothes and eats symbolic food. His clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt recalls the prophet Elijah and in particular a chilling incident (I Kings 1:1-18) in connection with Ahaziah, the king of Israel who had sustained a nasty accident. Instead of calling on God for help he called on a pagan god. Elijah confronted the king for his lack of faith in the God of Israel. Elijah, in the account is described as, "A hairy man, with a leather belt around his waist." John the Baptist is continuing the vocation of Elijah. He confronts Herod with his adulterous behaviour. John the Baptist does not tolerate deception and values honesty above everything. This unflinching honesty is a core component of repentance.

John's diet is a combination of locusts and wild honey. Locusts were one of the plagues which God, through Moses, brought upon Egypt. The purpose of the plagues was to soften the heart of Pharaoh so he would let God's people go from slavery. The locusts symbolised divine judgement, not to be vindictive but geared to bring about change. John swallows down divine judgement (Ezekiel 2:10).

The wild honey recalls the God-given food of Ezekiel. God shows Ezekiel a scroll and tells him to eat it then to speak to the people of Israel. When Ezekiel eats the scroll, it becomes as sweet as honey in the mouth. The harshness of divine judgement becomes the sweetness of human fulfilment.

Repentance begins by entering the desert, the spiritual centre of our beings, our hearts. However, if we go there we have to be prepared to listen to the voice that cries in the wilderness. This voice is determined to make us strip away the camouflage of self-deceptions. It sounds harsh but why then did, "... Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and the whole Jordan district ..." go to listen to the voice in the wilderness? It is because deep down they desired to be real, to live with integrity, to live lives that recognise the God who loves beyond imagination, and knowing this truth, to respond by both loving God and neighbour.

Fr Kevin Conroy SM  
 —Parish Priest



## This Week's Readings

**First Reading** Isaiah 11:1-10  
*He judges the poor with justice.*

**Second Reading** Romans 15:4-9  
*Christ, the hope of all people.*

**Gospel Reading** Matthew 3:1-12  
*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.*

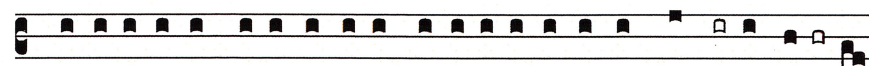
## Next Week's Readings

**First Reading** Isaiah 35:1-6, 10  
**Psalm** 145

**Second Reading** 2 James 5:7-10  
**Gospel Reading** Matthew 11:2-11

## Last Sunday's Collection

Total: \$4,987



O-ri- é-tur in di- é-bus e-jus justí-ti- a et a-bun-dán-ti- a pa- cis

*In His days shall justice spring up, and abundance of peace.*

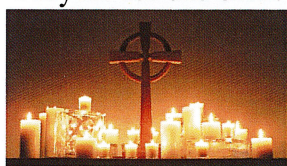
## Carols with the Angels

Our annual Carol Service will be held on **Wednesday 18 December** at 7.30pm. Please join us for this special event in our church that will involve the St Mary of the Angels Choir, Korean Community Choir, Salvation Army Band, and all your favourite carols.

## Mass has been offered for:

**Anniversaries:** James Coyle, Daniel McKone, Maurice O'Brien, Janina Knopp, Teresa Vital

**Prayers for the Sick:** Peter Aldridge, Tony Crawley, John Adams, Fr Tom O'Connor sm, Geoff Sweet, Dianne Sweet, Losalia Leo, Patricia Smyth, John Foden, John Mora, Kerry Barber, Pam Finlayson, Paul Sparnaay, Brendan Gilmore, Shirley O'Brien, Pat Johnson



*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 71

**R. Justice shall flourish in his time,  
and fullness of peace for ever.**

O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement. **R**

In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R**

For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor. **R**

May his name be blessed for ever  
and endure like the sun.  
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,  
all nations bless his name. **R**



**THE  
CARDINAL'S  
CARE APPEAL 2019**

The 2019 Cardinal's Care Appeal envelopes have been distributed this week. All funds raised through this year's Care Appeal will be directed to **Catholic Social Services** and used to support outreach, facilitation and capacity building within communities across the Archdiocese. These services are the best approach to reach and to benefit those on the peripheries of our society and those in greatest need of God's love and our unconditional support. The work of Catholic Social Services does and will continue to make a difference in the lives of countless people, but it is your support that makes this work possible! Please join us by making even a small gift today. If everyone gives a little, together we can make a big difference.

## Church Tour Guide Pamphlets

We are interested in having new tour guide pamphlets professionally printed for the church. Our current pamphlets are very popular and used by many visitors. We hope that a new design and revised guide will give parishioners, tourists, and non-parishioners an introduction to the history and meaning of our church building. The approximate cost to have these typesetted and printed would be \$1000 for one year's supply, so we want to gauge if there is any interest in helping fund this. If you can help in any way please contact the parish office.

## Maxwell Fernie Book

A few weeks ago *The Perfection of Sound* was successfully launched in the Crypt of the church. The book relates the story of the design and construction of the organ by Maxwell Fernie in 1958 and is based on the voluminous and fascinating letters Max exchanged with parish priest Fr McHardy, Crofts the organ builder and the pipe makers from Finchfield in the UK. It is a handsome volume of 284 richly illustrated pages, published in a limited edition of 200. Many copies sold on the day, for the launch price of \$99.00. We wish to let you know that this price will be maintained until the end of 2019, at which point the price will be \$120. If you would like a copy, please email the Maxwell Fernie Trust at [Maxwellfernietrust@gmail.com](mailto:Maxwellfernietrust@gmail.com) as soon as possible, or buy through the publisher's website [www.steeleroberts.co.nz/product/the-perfection-of-sound/](http://www.steeleroberts.co.nz/product/the-perfection-of-sound/)

## Farewell for Fr Kevin Conroy

As many of you know, Fr Kevin Conroy will be leaving his position as Parish Priest at the end of the year to be part of the Provincial Administration Team at the Society of Mary NZ Headquarters. Fr Kevin has been a wonderful presence in the parish and he will be missed by all of us. Please join us in wishing him farewell on **Sunday 15 December** after the 11am Mass at 'The Precinct' at Boulcott Suites on O'Reilly Ave. We also invite you to take this opportunity to show Fr Kevin your appreciation by making a cash donation as a farewell gift - please hand these in to the parish office or to Sr Frances before 15 December.

## Columban Calendars

2020 Columban Calendars are still available for sale from the parish office or from Sr Frances. These calendars are an iconic Catholic calendar well-known for its traditional paintings and liturgical information. They are \$12 each.

## Carol Singing at Wellington Hospital

Come and join us Carol Singing around the Wards on Christmas Eve **24 December** at 7pm. Please gather at the Atrium at 6.45pm and we will divide into two groups, spend about an hour singing in various wards concluding with a light supper.

## St Vincent de Paul Toy Shop

Do you or someone you know need help with presents for the kids this year? The Vinnies Welfare & Services Hub transforms into a toy shop over December. Make a 15-minute 'shopping slot' booking to pick and wrap the gifts you would like for your children. To book or for more information call 04 389 7122, email [info@vinnieswgtm.org.nz](mailto:info@vinnieswgtm.org.nz) or drop into Level 1, 207 Riddiford Street Newtown.

Access Criteria: You must live within the Wellington City area, be the parent/caregiver, be able to show a Community Services Card or benefit breakdown, and be picking for children aged 0 - 16 years.



9 Francis Place,  
PO Box 9639, Wellington  
Phone (04) 384 8455 Fax (04) 801 8455  
Email: [ltm@mcguinness.co.nz](mailto:ltm@mcguinness.co.nz)



*Feeling a little peckish?*  
Dukes Arcade • Great food, coffee, service  
Office catering available  
Phone 499 7769 • Mobile 0274 461 650

## Councillor

**Nicola Young**

representing Lambton ward

*Please contact me if I can help  
with a City Council issue*

**021 654 844**

[nicola.young@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:nicola.young@wcc.govt.nz)

**DEVINE LAW  
limited**

For your legal requirements  
*legal knowledge, human wisdom*

Phone Fintan Devine on

(04) 495 3747

## ST MARY OF THE ANGELS ONGOING MAINTENANCE APPEAL

I would like to help preserve St Mary of the Angels Church

Name:

Address:

Email:

Tel:

My contribution will be made by:

☐ Direct Credit

☐ Cheque

☐ Cash

PLEASE SPECIFY AMOUNT

\$

Donations can be sent to:  
Ongoing Maintenance Fund  
St Mary of the Angels  
17 Boulcott St  
Wellington 6011

Bank Account Details:  
02-0536-0003242-23  
Bank of New Zealand  
Lambton Quay  
Wellington

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