

## For Your Diaries: 2019 & 2020

### Wednesdays, Christian Meditation

Come and join us in Christian Meditation (CM) at 2pm every Wednesday in the church; being still, silent and simply one with the prayer of Christ.

### 24 December, Christmas Eve

Reconciliation at 11.30am-12pm, 12.30-1pm

Christmas Vigil Mass, 8pm—Carols from 7.30pm

Midnight Mass—Carols from 11.30pm

### 25 December, Christmas Day Masses

Masses at 7am, 9am, 11am

### June & July 2020, Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

Join Mir Pilgrimages on a group pilgrimage to Medjugorje 17 June – 2 July 2020. For further details and to request a brochure, contact Patricia Parsons at info@mirpilgrimages.co.nz or 0274 219 064.



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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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come.

Please contact the Parish  
Office for further details.  
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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*

## 22 December 2019, 4th Sunday of Advent

Here we come to the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent. In the next few days we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus, Christmas day. For many this will be a time of rush, anxiety, getting away for our break, and many other things that add stress to our lives! Most of all it is family time when we make connections with our loved ones.

During this season of Advent we have been looking at the new Church year. For the past four weeks we have been preparing our Christmas liturgies with anticipation expressing our longing for deeper personal and communal experience of God-with-us.

Advent is a time when we ourselves prepare for the coming of Christ. We have so many opportunities here at St Mary of the Angels - Reconciliation and attendance at our daily Masses are wonderful ways to really prepare for this great feast.

As we begin this new Church year in our Advent preparation for Christmas may our hearts be touched and motivated by the small simplicity of the Christ child waiting to be recognised in the ups and down of our lives.

Christmas celebrates what Jesus is still doing in our lives - bringing peace, offering fulfilment, and enhancing joy and tenderness. This remarkable mystery of Christmas is worthy of celebration anywhere for the entire human race.

This is the reason for the Christian season, God wants to be with us and save us through his Son, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh!

We take this opportunity to thank many people who have worked so hard during this year: Fr Kevin Conroy and the Marist community who have led us in wonderful and prayerful liturgies, the office staff, Robert Oliver and choir members for the 11am Mass and 5pm Mass, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Guardians, ladies who look after the Altar linen, my flower lady, cleaners, Sunday morning tea people, overhead operators, organists, pianists, the liturgy committee, finance committee, parish council, St Vincent de Paul members, Legion of Mary, counters each week, our sick and housebound, and finally you - the people who attend our Sunday and weekday Masses. The list could go on, I apologise if I have left anyone out. Thank you all for your faithfulness and commitment to our beautiful church here, St Mary of the Angels. We pray that you have a happy and holy Christmas, and every blessing for the coming year. Safe travels!

Look forward to seeing you all in 2020.

*Sister Frances Gibbs CSB*

—Pastoral Worker

### 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

4<sup>th</sup> 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



## This Week's Readings

**First Reading** Isaiah 7:10-14  
*The virgin will conceive.*

**Second Reading** Romans 1:1-7  
*Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.*

**Gospel Reading** Matthew 1:18-24  
*Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.*

## Next Week's Readings

**First Reading** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14  
**Psalm** 127  
**Second Reading** Colossians 3:12-21  
**Gospel Reading** Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

## Responsorial 23

**R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm. **R**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things. **R**

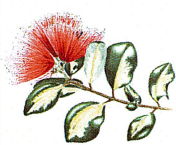
He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.  
Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R**

## Last Sunday's Collection

Total: \$5,309



Please note that Mass and Reconciliation times during the Christmas and New Year season differ from the usual schedule. See the full timetable on our website at [www.smoa.org.nz/christmas](http://www.smoa.org.nz/christmas) or see the leaflets at the back of the church.

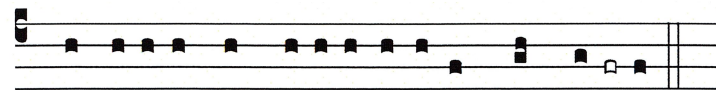


The parish office will be closed from Tuesday 24 December 2019 until Tuesday 21 January 2020.



The next Angelus to be printed will be for Sunday 26 January 2020.

Have a blessed Christmas and a happy new year!



Intro- i-bit Rex gló-ri-ae! ipse est Rex gló-ri-ae.

*Let the Lord enter! He is the King of Glory.*



## Visit the Suzanne Aubert Heritage Centre & Resting Place

You are invited to visit the Heritage Centre, Chapel and Resting Place of Suzanne Aubert and discover more about the life and work of Suzanne Aubert, the woman of great faith who is being considered for canonisation. Visit us at Our Lady's Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay. We are open 10am to 3pm (Sundays 12 noon to 3pm) every day with the exception of the statutory holidays. For more information, please contact Deirdre Meskill 04 282 1953 or [visitorexperiencemanager@compassion.org.nz](mailto:visitorexperiencemanager@compassion.org.nz)

## 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.

## Household Goods Urgently Needed

Catholic Social services are working with a Kaupapa Maori Housing first provider. This organisation provides homes for our vulnerable homeless whanau. Right now they have the opportunity to house two families before Christmas. However we desperately need household goods - furniture, bedding, towels, blankets, pots, cutlery, crockery, microwave, electric jug, toaster, vacuum cleaner. If you can help with any of these items please contact Karen Holland at Catholic Social Services 04 385 8642

## Family Life Catholic Gifts

*Family Life* still have a good variety of Nativity Sets large and small to bring your focus closer to the Christ Child as we head towards Christmas. There is also a large range of gift ideas such as Statues, Rosaries, Jewellery, Books, etc. We greatly appreciate your support, as sales support Gianna's Choice Pregnancy Centre and Family Life Apostolate. We invite you to view our website - [catholicgifts.co.nz](http://catholicgifts.co.nz) - or give us a call on (09) 629 0820, and we'll be very happy to assist you.

## Parish Pastoral Council

It is with joy that I announce the members of the Parish Pastoral Council: Elizabeth Mathenge, Wes Wernicki, Sarah Pinto, Andy Williams, Jo Walton, Suzanne O'Rourke. On Monday 16 December the Council met for the first time and I left the meeting having a sense of great hope for the future of our parish. Working alongside the Pastoral Team the Council will be responsible for the "big picture" in and of the parish. On the parish's behalf I express my gratitude to them for agreeing to be on the Council.

—Fr. Kevin Conroy, SM

## 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 Mary of the Angels Korean Community

Congratulations to our Korean community on their 25 years of faithful dedication here at St Mary of the Angels. Our sincere thanks and prayers for them.

## Guardians Needed

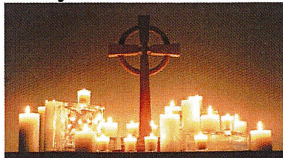
Each day our church is looked after by Guardians who take it in turn to spend an hour in the church ensuring that the many visitors feel welcome and that they respect our sacred place. **We are in need of a Guardian for Wednesdays 3.30—4.30pm immediately, and Thursday 10am—11am from 2020.** If you would like to consider being part of this service to the parish community please contact the parish office.

## Student seeking 2020 accommodation

18 year old Catholic seeking suitable accommodation for his first year at university, from February through November 2020. Proximity to the Kelburn Campus is preferred. Contact Ben - 020 401 57046

## Mass has been offered for:

**Recently deceased:** Elizabeth Ezukwo, Gerard Hosking  
**Anniversaries:** Ronald McDonald, Kura Turner, James Glover, Diana Bartram, Marie Giles, Natalie Duncan, Noel Scahill  
**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.*

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