

For Your Diaries: 2020

18 February, Sacramental Programme Begins

Enrolment for the programme preparing children for the Sacrament of Reconciliation is still open - children must be at least 8 years old and must have already been baptised. The first parents' session is on 18 February.

18 February, St Vincent de Paul Meeting

Come and join us in serving Christ by helping the needy. You are invited to attend the first St Vincent de Paul meeting for 2020 at 6pm in the Crypt.

26 February, Ash Wednesday Combined Service

Join us for a combined Ash Wednesday service with St John's Presbyterian Church at 5.15pm in the church.

8 March, Young Church Academic Mass

We invite all students to join us as we celebrate the start to the academic year at the 2020 Young Church Academic Mass at 5pm. This will be an opportunity to pray for students and the coming year. All welcome.

Social Worker Vacancy

Catholic Social Services is seeking a part-time Therapeutic Social Worker to join their team. Applications close 5pm, **Thursday 27 February**. For more information phone 04 385 8642 or email reception@wn.catholic.org.nz

Update your details!

Due to recent changes to the way Inland Revenue are processing material, you can now upload an electronic receipt to your online myIR account to claim a tax credit for your donations. For this reason, we will be working to make the transition to electronic receipts for the end of the financial year. Please take the time to make sure the parish office has the correct email address on file for you by calling 473 8074 or emailing smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz

If you are not currently a planned giver and are interested in making regular donations to the parish, contact the office for more information about our planned-giving programme.



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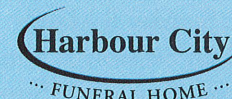
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The Angelus

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 Mowbray SM

smoaapp@xtra.co.nz

Assistant Priests

Fr Peter McAfee 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

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am - 4pm

smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz

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MASSES

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

Mon-Fri 7.30am, 12.05pm, 5.15pm

Saturday 11am

EACH MONTH

4th Saturday Sacrament of Anointing at 11am Mass

ADORATION

Mon-Fri 6.30am - 7.20am

Friday 11am - Noon

RECONCILIATION

Mon-Thurs 11.30am - Noon

12.30pm - 1pm

4.30pm - 5pm

Friday 11am - 11.50pm

12.30pm - 1pm

4.30pm - 5pm

Saturday 10.30am - 10.55am

4pm - 5pm

16 February 2020, 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

From a very early age we are encouraged to do what we are told. When we were young we listened to and learned from our parents; we followed their example and did what they asked us to do. This continued when we went to school, with the teachers setting rules for us to obey. There are rules and laws for the road to help us drive safely with care and concern for other drivers, pedestrians and cyclists.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is speaking of the contrast between the old and new - the Mosaic Law and the Beatitudes. Jesus says, "I have not come to do away with the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to do away with the Law, but to fulfill it."

Religion has rules too, and this is true at the time of Jesus as it is today. There is always the danger that the letter of the law becomes more important than the spirit of the law. There is always the danger that the law becomes more important than the spirit.

When crimes and terrorist acts increase, we look for more laws and tougher penalties in the hope that law, order, justice and righteousness will be assured.

We tend to stress obedience to external rules and laws. We consider as good Christians those people who say their prayers, pay their tithes, come to Mass, and participate in meetings of the parish. That is all good and necessary for our Christian life, but it is not enough.

Only with hearts filled with love will we be able to fulfill the law of Christ and show respect for the weak and excluded. We will realise that we belong to a new family only when we go beyond the law and live in the Spirit of Jesus.

If by following Jesus' teaching today we focus on overcoming anger, developing healthy relationships according to God's will, and practicing truth and honesty in personal and business dealings, our world would likely be a better place to live in.

May we never be robbed of the joy of the Gospel.

Sr Frances Gibbs CSB

—Pastoral Worker

This Week's Readings

First Reading Sirach 15:15-20

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

Gospel Reading Matthew 5:17-37

Such was said to your ancestors; but I say to you.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading Sirach 15:15-20

Psalm 118

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Gospel Reading Matthew 5:17-37



Last Sunday's Collection

Total: \$5,616

Readers Wanted

We are in need of volunteer Readers for Sunday and Weekday Masses. Please get in touch with Sr Frances if you are interested: sisterfrancesgibbs@hotmail.com

Ash Wednesday Schedule

Mass times for Ash Wednesday, 26 February:

7.30am, 12.05pm, 1.05pm

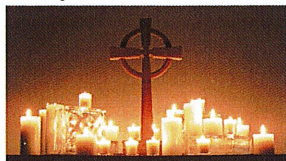
Combined service with St John's Presbyterian Church:
5.15pm

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Dermont Sullivan, Tony Ford

Anniversaries: Miriam Menzies, Grace Smith, Nomaza Sidima-Jacob, Fr Ken Scully SM, Rt Hon Sir Ian MacKay, Imelda Reeve, Thomas Duignan

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, Peter Aston, Henry Prendergast



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 118

R. Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!

They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. **R**

You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.

May my footsteps be firm

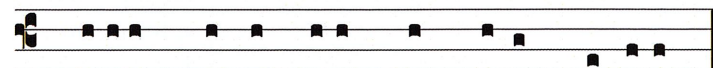
to obey your statutes. **R**

Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word.

Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. **R**

Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end.

Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. **R**



Be-áti qui ámbulant in lege Dómini

Blessed are they who walk in the law of the Lord

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 on Mondays 1.30-2.30pm and Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm.** If you would like to consider being a part of this important service to the parish community please contact the parish office.

Sacramental Programme 2020

The 2020 Sacramental Programme which started with the Sacrament of Confirmation last November resumes next month with preparations for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Enrolment is still open for children who are at least 8 years old and have already been baptised. The meetings for First Reconciliation preparations are as follows:

- ♦ Parents' Session 1: Tuesday 18 February
- ♦ Parents' Session 2: Thursday 5 March
- ♦ Children Session, Blessing & Presentation at Parish Mass: Sunday 8 March
- ♦ Children Session 2: Sunday 22 March
- ♦ Children Session 3: Sunday 29 March
- ♦ Reconciliation Day: Sunday 5 April (Palm Sunday)

Please direct expressions of interest or enquiries to the parish office: smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz

2020 Young Church Academic Mass

We invite all students to join us as we celebrate the start to the academic year at the annual 2020 Young Church Academic Mass on **Sunday 8 March** at 5pm. This will be an opportunity to pray for students and the coming year. The Celebrant will be Cardinal John Dew. All welcome.

Pā Maria Marist Spirituality Centre

The programme at Pā Maria for 2020 is now available - if you would like a copy, please contact Brian Cummings SM at bgcummings@xtra.co.nz

Seasons for Growth Programme

For those who have been touched by change, loss, separation, divorce, illness and more, *Seasons for Growth* can help to process and respond well to such experiences. Greenstone Doors in Lower Hutt will be holding a 6 week programme from **Tuesday 25 February** 1pm - 2.30pm at 15 Dudley St, Lower Hutt for \$15 (subsidies available). For more information or to register, contact office@greenstoneddoors.co.nz

Catholic Social Services will also be offering this programme over 4 sessions on consecutive Thursday evenings 5.30-8.30pm, from **5 March**. These will be held at the Catholic Centre on Hill St, and the cost is \$30 to cover materials and research. Please register by **Wednesday 26 February**, contact Katrin: 385 8642 or seasons@wn.catholic.org.nz

Legion of Mary

The parish "Legion of Mary" seeks new members to enable it to extend its work of visitation of the sick and housebound. It meets each Monday in the Presbytery meeting room at 7.15pm for prayer and teaching. You are invited to attend this meeting and join this apostolate. Enquiries to Neil Coup: 021896924.

Sisters of St Peter Claver Mission Fair

Come and support the Sisters of St Peter Claver raise funds for Catholic Missionary work around the world. The 2020 Mission Fair has something for everyone with a variety of stalls, raffles, food and entertainment – and a great way for the community to come together. 10am to 1pm on **Saturday 22 February** at St Francis de Sales Church Hall and Grounds. Donations of good quality items for sale at the fair are greatly appreciated and can be delivered to the sisters at 1 Mersey St, Island Bay, Wellington or phone 383 8401 for collection.

Call for Voluntary Driving Mentors

Need a new goal in 2020? Here is a chance to make a practical difference in the life of a former refugee. *ChangeMakers Resettlement Forum* is seeking volunteer driving mentors now to help teach learners from a refugee background how to drive in both Wellington and the Hutt. Contact: 027 552 5972 or ttc@crf.org.nz

St Vincent de Paul Foodbank

There has been a 124% increase in demand for food parcels in December from the Vinnies Foodbank in Newtown. Consequently the foodbank is now running very low on all non-perishable items including cereals, tinned fish, tinned vegetables, spaghetti, two minute noodles, rice, long life milk etc. Even laundry powder, soap, toothbrushes, shampoo & conditioner etc. are greatly appreciated. Our collection basket is placed at the back of the church on weekends for these items. There is also a foodbank list of items at the foot of the St Vincent de Paul Statue at the back of the church, as well as a cash deposit box.. If you can help with any of these items it would be greatly appreciated.



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