

For Your Diaries: 2020

1 & 8 March, Marriage Preparation Course

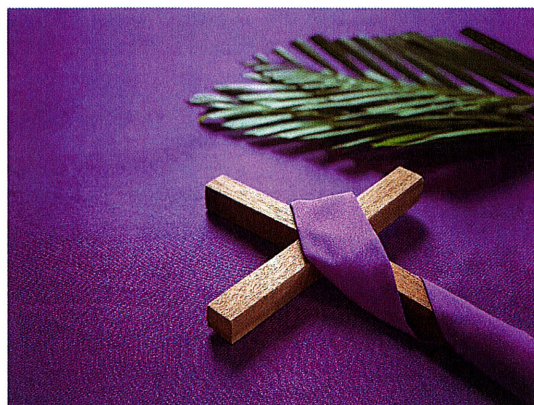
Getting married soon? The Marriage Preparation Course "Love is a Decision" is being held in Wellington on these dates. Contact Felicity Giltrap at marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz to book.

3, 12 & 26 March, *Hear the Cry of the Earth Series*

A series of three evenings to inform and inspire people in the Wellington West area to consider realistic ways to respond to the challenges of climate change. There will be guest speakers, time for discussion, reflection and practical action. 7.30 - 9pm in St Thomas More Church, Wilton. Contact person is Estelle: ev.henrys@gmail.com

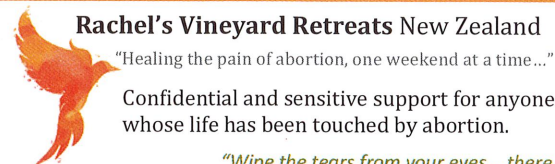
8 March, Young Church Academic Mass

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.



A Test of Faith

The documentary 'A Test of Faith' provides a wonderful insight into the seismic strengthening work that took place at St Mary of the Angels. The documentary also includes 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 site. DVDs are available to purchase from the parish office for \$30, with all proceeds going towards the ongoing maintenance of the church.



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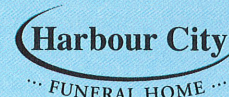
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A LEGACY OF FAITH



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:
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
smoapp@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
smoaooffice@xtra.co.nz

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

1 March 2020, 1st Sunday of Lent

THE TESTING OF THE LORD

Here's the 'agenda' for today – the Gospel reading. See if you can read it over before Mass:

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Human beings do not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these,' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him. (Matt 4:1-11)

Jesus repeats what the people of Israel had done centuries before - except that Jesus puts to rights their inadequate record. They crossed the Red Sea and entered the desert where they were tested but failed various times. Even Moses failed once (when he struck the rock twice). Jesus, after 'crossing' the water in his Baptism by John also goes into the desert. Three times he is tested and each time holds firm against the tempter.

At one stage, I read many commentaries about the meaning of these three tests of Jesus, and found that nearly every writer said something a little different. So we needn't expect a watertight 'answer' to what each stands for. They can be interpreted in many ways with profit. In general we might say that they stand for the innumerable seductions of evil that draw us away from God.

This is the First Sunday of Lent. Time to commit to a tidy up - spiritually speaking. Over a manageable period - I mean the Forty Days. What tricks of the devil draw you away from God? Then how about a Lenten confession? The times are in the Angelus newsletter.

Fr Peter McAfee SM
—Assistant Priest

This Week's Readings

First Reading	Genesis	15:15-20
<i>Creation of our first parents, and sin.</i>		
Second Reading	Romans	5:12-19
<i>Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.</i>		
Gospel Reading	Matthew	4:1-11
<i>Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.</i>		

Next Week's Readings

First Reading	Genesis	12:1-4
Psalm	32	
Second Reading	2 Timothy	1:8-10
Gospel Reading	Matthew	17:1-9



Last Sunday's Collection
Total: \$5,926

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.

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased:	Fr Pat McCann sm
Anniversaries:	Mary O'Brien, Jack Wills, Aileen Gallagher, Jan Tuinman, Richard Mansor, Fr Chris Penders AA
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 50

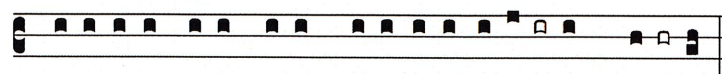
R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. **R**

My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. **R**

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R**

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. **R**



Mi-se-ré-re me- i, De- us, de-le i-niqui-tá- tem me- am.

Have mercy on me, O Lord, blot out my iniquity

Due to St Mary of the Angels helping to host the New Zealand Festival, there will be no 5.15pm Mass on Tuesday 10 March.

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.

Calling tertiary students!

We are looking for tertiary students who would like to be a part of this Mass. If you have any experience in being involved in Masses, do get in touch with us at youth@wn.catholic.org.nz or call Marian Lima on 04 496 1731 / 022 534 2309.

An Encounter with Mercy Series

A teaching series that explores the mystery of forgiveness through the healing ministry of Jesus in the parables of Luke's Gospel. Led by Fr James Lyons on **Wednesday 4 and 25 March, and 1 April** at 7pm, The Chapel of Our Lady of Compassion, Island Bay. Please register by phoning 383 7134 or 383 7769. All welcome.

Caregiver Wanted

Wellington Southern suburb. A kind and compassionate person is being sought after to look after an elderly mother in her own home. Preference would be to look after her from 6pm till 8am daily, however hours and days are up for discussion. A private bedroom is available, and the huose is located in Wellington South. Email angelavn@actrix.co.nz for more information.

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.

2020 Lent Appeal

During Lent, NZ's Catholic Bishops invite us to provide for the needs of the poor through the work of Caritas. Money raised through the Bishops' Lent Appeal helps to fund both development and emergency relief work around the world. You can donate to this appeal each week in Lent by using the Lenten Giving packs that were distributed last week, or you may make a one-off donation by using the single donation envelopes at the back of the church. These envelopes can be returned through our regular weekly collection or posted freepost directly to Caritas. Alternatively, you can also donate online.



Climate Change Lenten Series (Ōtari)

Whakarongo ki te tangi a Papatūānuku: Listen to the cry of the earth is a Lenten series held across 3 evenings to inform and inspire people in Wellington to consider realistic ways to respond to the challenges of climate change. There will be guest speakers, time for discussion, reflection and practical action. It will be held at St Thomas More Church, Wilton on **Tuesdays 3, 12 and 26 March** at 7.30pm. First speakers are Danny Karatea-Goddard and Catherine Gibbs. For more information: ev.henrys@gmail.com

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, and there is also a foodbank list of items at the foot of the St Vincent de Paul Statue at the back of the church. If you can help with any of these items it would be much appreciated.



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