

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

smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz

While the nation is in alert level 3, the church building will be closed and there will be no Masses or liturgies celebrated.

- ♦ The parish office will be answering emails remotely
- ♦ A priest will be available via our office phone at (04) 473 8074 from 9am - 12pm.
- ♦ The Angelus newsletter will still be published online each week.
- ♦ Our website will have regularly updated information, as well as links to prayer resources and livestreamed Masses: www.smoa.org.nz

3 May 2020, 4th Sunday of Easter

The Shepherd and the Lamb

Here is the Gospel reading for this Sunday – it's the 'agenda' at all the Masses throughout the world today. You might wonder how it got into our Easter readings. There is no resurrection story here...

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable, but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So, Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full. (John: 1-10)

A few observations:

- 1) Jesus calls himself the Gate. He is the point of entry into the sheepfold which is a safe place at night. Literally they enter 'to be saved'.
- 2) But at dawn it is through the gate that they must go out to pasture. The Gate (Jesus) gives entry to what is life-protecting but also life-sustaining. The pasture is highlighted in the Psalm of the day: 'Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose...' We can read the sacraments here.
- 3) The image of a good shepherd is deeply Jewish. David, the shepherd boy was the model good king. The leaders of Israel were 'shepherds' who alternatively tended or abused God's 'flock' entrusted to them.
- 4) In real life, yes a shepherd would drive off wolves. Sometimes while beating off one he might be attacked by the pack and killed. He defended the flock more for fear of his master or other debts he would incur than for love of the animals. In real life, the sheep were for killing and eating. The poetic image or metaphor was not extended so far as to include this harsh truth. To feed his family, the shepherd might be justly paid with a sheep or he might steal one himself and blame a wolf attack.
- 5) Yet this is not the shepherd that Jesus is. For the sheep he gives his life.
- 6) In the logic of this image now, Jesus is also called the Lamb - the Lamb who is killed and so prevents the Death of them all. He becomes Food to sustain the people. This Lamb offers himself knowingly for love, that they may be saved. The Lamb of Sacrifice is also a central image from the Jewish scriptures.
- 7) All of which brings us back to my first question. The Shepherd is also the Lamb – of Easter.

Fr Peter McAfee SM

—Assistant Priest

Planned Giving Donations & Receipts

Donation receipts have now been sent to parishioners via email. If you have not received your receipt, please contact the parish office (smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz) confirming your email address. If you do not have email, we will post your receipt once we are in alert level 2.

As we cannot take cash or envelope donations during this time, we ask that you make your donations via internet banking. Our details are as follows:

Bank: BNZ
Bank Account: 02 0536 0003242 24
Account Name: St Mary of the Angels Parish
Reference: *[your planned giving number]*
Code: *[your surname]*

If you are unsure of your planned giving number, or are interested in signing up for our planned giving programme, please email smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz

Vocation Sunday

In speaking of the Gospel passage that recounts the remarkable experience of Jesus and Peter during a stormy night on the Sea of Galilee (cf. Mt 14:22-33) Pope Francis says, *"Every vocation is born of that gaze of love with which the Lord came to meet us, perhaps even at a time when our boat was being battered by the storm. We will succeed in discovering and embracing our vocation once we open our hearts in gratitude and perceive the passage of God in our lives."*

Good Shepherd Sunday is a special day of prayer for vocations to the priesthood. Please pray for our seminarians Alfred, Matthew, Kinh and Emilio, for Gerson who is preparing to enter the seminary and for all those discerning the call to priesthood.

Could someone you know become tomorrow's priest?

Pray for this person.

Invite him to consider priesthood.

Affirm his gifts and qualities.

Encourage him to be open to the possibility of priesthood.

Contact Fr David Dowling, Vocations Director: frdavidd@gmail.com or 021 174 4248. Visit www.wellingtonpriests.org or follow us on Facebook at [Wellington Priests](https://www.facebook.com/WellingtonPriests)

PRAY THE
LORD OF THE
HARVEST TO
SEND OUT
LABOURERS INTO
HIS **HARVEST**

LORD
of the harvest...

BLESS
young people with the gift
of courage to respond to
your call. Open their hearts
to great ideals, to great
things.

INSPIRE
all of your disciples to
mutual love and giving
— for vocations blossom
in the good soil of faithful
people.

INSTILL
those in religious life, parish
ministries, and families with
the confidence and grace to
invite others to embrace
the bold and noble path
of a life consecrated to
you.

UNITE
us to Jesus through prayer
and sacrament, so that we
may cooperate with you
in building your reign of
mercy and truth, of justice
and peace. Amen.

Pope Francis

Please pray for:

Recently Deceased: Sue Loader

Anniversaries: Terry Chamberlain, Fr Kevin O'Donoghue SM, Joseph Hermon, Mariette Hopman

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 and Francisca Sparnaay, Brendan Gilmore, Shirley O'Brien, Pat Johnson, Peter Aston, Henry Prendergast, Barbara and Vic Stairs, Josephine McLean

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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Councillor
Nicola Young

representing Lambton ward

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with a City Council issue*

021 654 844
nicola.young@wcc.govt.nz

St Vincent de Paul Society

Vinnies Foodbank Wellington have had a huge increase in demand since the COVID-19 lockdown began. They need your help, as their shops and churches are now closed so monetary donations are what they are relying on. If you are in a position to do so, please donate directly to:

St Vincent de Paul Society Wellington

Bank: BNZ

Account # 02-0576-0017817-00

Reference: COVID 19

Gianna's Choice

Pregnancy Options and Support. We are here 24/7 to answer your pregnancy questions and talk about your options. Call 0800 367 5433 or text 027 448 8070.

Letter from ADW Liturgy Adviser

Fr Patrick Bridgeman, Liturgy Adviser at the Archdiocese of Wellington, has written a letter addressing restrictions in using church buildings during Covid-19 alert level 3. To read his letter, [click here](#).

Online Masses

Below are links to online Masses—click on the link of your choice and it should open in a new window.

Daily Mass

- ◆ [5pm \(NZ Time\) - Pope Francis](#)
- ◆ [9.30am - St Teresa's, Plimmerton](#)
- ◆ [9am - Diocese of Hamilton](#)
- ◆ [9am - Diocese of Christchurch](#)
- ◆ [Diocese of Auckland \(Different times\)](#)

Sunday Mass

- ◆ [Cardinal John Dew, Wellington](#)
- ◆ [10am - Diocese of Palmerston North](#)
- ◆ 2.00pm on TV - *Shine TV* (Freeview channel 25, Sky channel 201, Vodafone TV Channel 700)

WelCom and NZ Catholic online

The WelCom and NZ Catholic newspapers have been published online. Click on the links below to open the issues.

[For the May 2020 Issue of WelCom, click here.](#)

[For the 3 May Issue of NZ Catholic, click here.](#)

Spiritual Communion Prayer

Spiritual communion is a traditional practice of uniting ourselves to God through prayer. As we are unable to receive Holy Communion at this time, the following prayer can be said while Mass is being celebrated online or at any time during the day.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen

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☐ Cheque

☐ Cash

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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.

Sunday's Readings—4th Sunday of Easter

THEY KNOW HIS VOICE. At times it can be hard to recognise the voice of Jesus as there are many who claim to speak in his name. A useful guide is to look at people's actions. We can listen to those whose lives reveal the qualities of Jesus: love, compassion, justice, self-sacrifice. They are the good shepherds in our midst.

First Reading

Acts 2:14, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

Responsorial Psalm 22

**R. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R**

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R**

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:20-25

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Reading

John 10:1-10

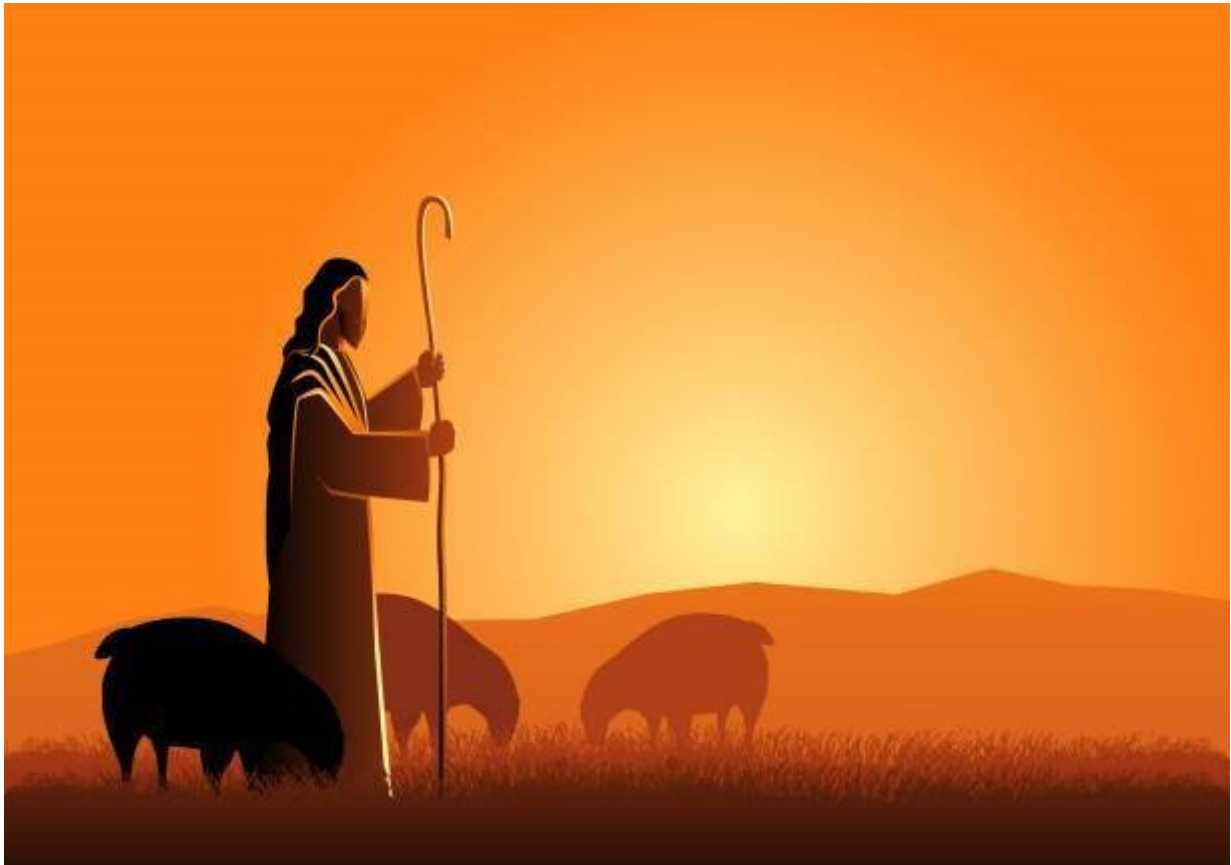
Jesus said:


‘I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.’

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

‘I tell you most solemnly,
I am the gate of the sheepfold.
All others who have come
are thieves and brigands;
but the sheep took no notice of them.
I am the gate.
Anyone who enters through me will be safe:
he will go freely in and out
and be sure of finding pasture.
The thief comes
only to steal and kill and destroy.
I have come
so that they may have life and have it to the full.’



Need help?	Offer help
<p><u>Need someone to talk to?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellington Catholic Social Services social workers—working remotely, can help identify appropriate sources of assistance, 0274055469 or reception@wn.catholic.org.nz Need to Talk helpline—staffed by paid counsellors 24/7. Free phone or text 1737 <p><u>Emergency food assistance</u></p> <p><i>Society of St Vincent de Paul:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellington area, Newtown office essential packs: Call 04 389 7122, Text 021 215 7098 or email info@vinnieswgtg.org.nz Hutt valley: 04-568 6408 Kapi-Mana: 04-237 5968 <p><i>Compassion Centre Soup Kitchen:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 132 Tory St, Wellington. Serving 1 meal a day, everyday during the COVID-19 lockdown, 1.30-2.30pm <p><i>Foodbanks:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A number of foodbanks are operating during the lockdown. Please see foodbank.co.nz for information on how to access foodbanks during this time. <p><u>Assistance with benefits, hardship grants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Social Development: 0800-559-009 Hutt Valley Benefit Education Service Trust hvbest@xtra.co.nz, 0284246295 or 04-529-8108 Wellington Benefit Rights Service 04-210-2012, 0212927636 or benefitrights@gmail.com <p><u>Legal advice</u></p> <p><i>Community law centres:</i> Offices are closed during the lockdown but most are continuing to offer free legal advice by phone and email:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellington & Hutt Valley Community Law: 04-499-2928 Porirua Community Law: info@pkclc.com or 04 2376811 Wairarapa Community Law: 06-377-4134 or info@wairarapacclc.org.nz Manawatu Community Law, incl. Otaki & Levin: reception@mancomlaw.org.nz (06) 356 7974, 0508 FOR LAW (0508 367 529) <p><u>Violence in the home</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's refuge: 0800 REFUGE or 0800-733-843 For more information womensrefuge.org.nz Shakti: Support for migrant and refugee women of Asian, African and Middle Eastern origin. 0800-742-584 <p><u>Support during pregnancy and for young mothers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenstone Doors (Lower Hutt): online counselling and practical support 04-566 5037 or info@greenstoneddoors.co.nz St Vincent de Paul, essential baby packs: 04 389 7122, 021 215 7098 or info@vinnieswgtg.org.nz 	<p><u>Opportunities to support wellbeing and support work during the COVID-19 lockdown:</u></p> <p>As most services are operating remotely, and because of COVID-19 restrictions, organisations are mostly unable to accept donated goods at this time. Please contact any of the organisations above if you want to discuss the suitability of any donated items.</p> <p><u>Ways to support financially:</u></p> <p><i>Wellington St Vincent de Paul essential services response</i> Account number: 02-0576-0017817-00 Reference: COVID19 www.vinnies-wellington.org.nz/donate</p> <p><i>Kapi-Mana St Vincent de Paul</i> Plimmerton conference supplying food parcels in Porirua Account number: 06-0549-0128322-00</p> <p><i>Compassion Soup Kitchen:</i> www.soupkitchen.org.nz/donate/donate-money</p> <p><i>Upper Hutt Housing Trust:</i> Would appreciate donations to assist with purchasing warm winter clothes and blankets www.uhht.org.nz/?page_id=91</p> <p><i>Wellington Catholic Social Services:</i> Account number: 02-0560-0213864-000 wn-catholicocialservices.org.nz/Donate</p> <p><i>Challenge 2000 youth development agency:</i> Support to families that Challenge 2000 works with: Account number: 01-0519-0057600-00 www.challenge2000.org.nz</p> <p><u>Foodbanks</u></p> <p>Details on how to donate to a range of foodbanks are available here: www.foodbank.co.nz/donate</p> <div data-bbox="917 1648 1388 2018" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>This resource is taken from the Archdiocese of Wellington's website</p>  <p>Archdiocese OF Wellington</p> </div>

During this lockdown, we are sending out the Angelus newsletter, as well as other liturgical resources and reflections, through an email distribution list. If you would like to subscribe to this mailing list, [Please fill out the form here.](#)



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