

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

10 May 2020, 5th Sunday of Easter

Fr James Lyons – A reflection on priesthood

To give and not to count the cost! St Francis of Assisi put these words as part of his beautiful prayer and I have pondered this as I've reflected on my own situation. St Francis quite literally stripped himself of everything to let his dream of following Christ become a reality. Has my dream cost me as much?

Yes, I said goodbye to my family when I entered the seminary and I put aside the possibility of marrying and becoming a parent. I denied myself a career that likely would bring financial security and the independence of adulthood to make my own decisions and mostly please myself.

The cost of all that did not register at first. The dream of priesthood was very appealing. I didn't look back. What I had left behind struck me one day not long before my ordination. I started to reconsider my choice.

But the wonderful example of the priests who had served in my home town – their presence and their love of the people, their availability and friendliness – told me they were happy and that the road they had taken was worthwhile.

That example alone is what spurred me on and I'm deeply grateful for it.

After more than 50 years as a priest, I readily admit my giving has cost me very little. I bought a great bargain! I remain close to my blood-family, yet enjoy the love, confidence and support of a much bigger family through lives grafted to mine through the people I have lived amongst. Joy and contentment far outweigh any sense of loss or disappointment.

My ability to love has not been compromised through lack of a family of my own; it has been expanded and enhanced. My mistakes have taught me and personal failures, while troubling, remind me that, no less than those I serve, I need understanding, compassion and forgiveness.

As a way through life, priesthood and the pastoral ministry that defines it, has fulfilled every need.

So, if you're thinking of being a priest, just give yourself. Don't worry about the cost. It's minimal. In fact, as St Francis of Assisi discovered, it gets refunded over and over!

Rest in Peace, Sue Loader



I would like to make mention of Sue Loader's death. Sue passed away in April. Sue and her husband John were parishioners here at SMOA for many years. They were both very involved in many of the activities in the community, such as washing and ironing church linen and various committees attached to the church, as well as befriending many people. Nothing was too much trouble for them, they were always first to come forward. Both saw many Parish Priests and Curates come and go. In spite of this they continued and supported them in many ways. For the past few years Sue has been unwell and travelling each week from Paraparaumu became impossible. Our sympathy and prayers are with John, his son Paul and family. Sue you are now in the room that the Father has prepared for you. Rest in peace Sue. —*Sr Frances Gibbs CSB*

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.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

Happy Mother's Day!

Commercially focussed or not, each of us remembers with love, the many ways we were nurtured and cared for by our mother. The gifts and values we have inherited – faith, strength, compassion, generosity, kindness and gentleness to name but a few, stir up vivid examples of these being witnessed to us from our earliest years. This Sunday we give thanks for the beauty and richness of all mothers. As we pray in gratitude for what we have received, we remember mothers today, who face homelessness, domestic violence, poverty and disregard for all they have to offer.

Let us pray and give thanks to God for all mothers, living and dead.



Please pray for:

Recently Deceased: Sue Loader, Patricia Kane

Anniversaries: Christopher Eastwood, Anasetasia Churchward, Fr Augustine Hill SM, Pua Magasiva, Oinah MacPherson, Mary Egan

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

*Please contact me if I can help
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.

WelCom and NZ Catholic online

Click on the links below to open the most recent 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

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)

Help Needed

Some of you may be aware that Catholic Social Services provides support to Kahungunu Whanau Services, a Kaupapa Maori social service agency, and Housing First Provider.

Over the lockdown period Kahungunu has continued to place individuals and families without homes into permanent or transitional housing. They have secured 9 properties for permanent housing over the next few weeks, but because of the large numbers of people they have settled recently (150 people) Kahungunu have used up their store of donated goods and other possible sources of supply have been put on hold.

They urgently need the following items:

- ◆ Double or queen beds with mattress and base
- ◆ Drawers
- ◆ Pots and pans
- ◆ Couches
- ◆ White ware (if possible)
- ◆ Microwaves
- ◆ Linen and blankets

Any help is appreciated. Contact Paul Alsford on p.alsford@wn.catholic.org.nz or 021754145 to arrange a contactless pick up.

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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—5th Sunday of Easter

I AM THE WAY. In every age there are people who claim to know the way to a full and happy life. Often their ideas flourish for a while and then fade. But there is one way to the fullness of life that has stood the test of time—and that way is Jesus. If we follow Jesus, the Way, we will come to the fullness of life and truth, and communicate this life to others.

First Reading

Acts 6:1-7

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm 32

**R. Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R**

For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. **R**

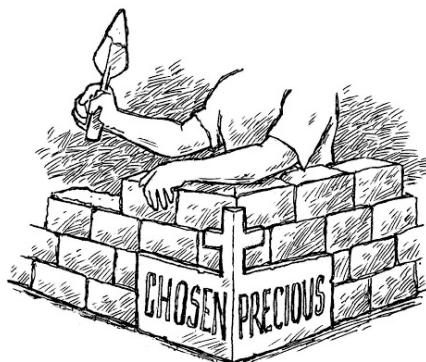
The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **R**

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:4-9

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.



Gospel Reading

John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Trust in God still, and trust in me.
There are many rooms in my Father’s house;
if there were not, I should have told you.
I am going now to prepare a place for you,
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,
I shall return to take you with me;
so that where I am
you may be too.
You know the way to the place where I am going.’


Thomas said, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?’ Jesus said:

‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.
No one can come to the Father except through me.
If you know me, you know my Father too.
From this moment you know him and have seen him.’

Philip said, ‘Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.’ ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip,’ said Jesus to him ‘and you still do not know me?’

‘To have seen me is to have seen the Father,
so how can you say, “Let us see the Father”?
Do you not believe
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?
The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:
it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.
You must believe me when I say
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;
believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.
I tell you most solemnly,
whoever believes in me
will perform the same works as I do myself,
he will perform even greater works,
because I am going to the Father.’



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@vinnieswgtgtn.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@vinnieswgtgtn.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-catholicsocialservices.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; margin-top: 20px;"> <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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