

For Your Diaries: 2020

17 September, Joshua Men's Fellowship

Come and join other men at 'Loaves and Fishes' next to the Anglican Cathedral of St Paul (corner Hill and Molesworth Streets). A cuppa available from 7pm for a 7:30pm start. The speaker will be Jane Sutherland sharing an amazing story of forgiveness "Forgive a little/love a little; forgive a lot/love a lot." Want to know more? Contact Steve Ready by calling 027 356 9555 or email joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

19 September, Vinnies Book and Fabric Fair

St Vincent de Paul is hosting its Vinnies Book & Fabric Fair at St Anne's Hall (22 emmett St, Newtown) from 8am to 5pm. There is parking outside, between the hall and the church.

20 September, I Want To Sing With You Concert

Fr Chris Skinner SM will be presenting a concert at Our Lady of Kāpiti Church from 2-4pm, with an interlude from Kāpiti Senior Singers. Tickets are \$25 are available to buy from their parish office at (04) 902 8515 or oloktickets@gmail.com

The Nathaniel Report

The latest issue of the *Nathaniel Report* is now available to read online. It is filled with topical articles that include scrutiny of the euthanasia and cannabis referendums being held in the general election this October. This report is published by the Catholic bishops' Nathaniel Centre for Bioethics. To read the report, go to: www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Nathaniel-Report-61-FINAL.pdf

Donating to the Parish

We encourage you to support the life and ministry of St Mary of the Angels through making your weekly offering by direct debit. Direct debit contributions make it easier for us to plan our activities and to budget for expenses more accurately. If you would like to sign up to our planned giving programme, please contact the parish office at (04) 473 8074 or smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz for more information. Thank you for considering this possibility.



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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 Joe Savesi SM

Pastoral Worker

Sr Frances Gibbs CSB

In Residence

Fr Brian Wysocki SM

Director of Music

William McElwee

wmcelweemusic@gmail.com

Parish Accountant

Jeanette Temelo

smoamanager@xtra.co.nz

Parish Office

Alexandra Haddow

smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz

MASSES

Sunday

Currently no Sunday Masses

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

13 September 2020, 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

As We Forgive Those Who Trespass Against Us

Here is the Gospel reading for today's Mass. It will be read and pondered today wherever Mass is celebrated throughout the world.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you". But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.' Matthew 18:21-35

Here are a few observations.

- ♦ This parable illustrates the petition of the Our Father "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."
- ♦ A talent is 35 kg of gold. This crook owes 10,000 talents. It is a colossal figure – it as been estimated to be more than the combined annual produce of the Eastern Provinces of the then Roman Empire. (Today we might think of the international debts under which developing countries struggle.) How he ran up such a debt is not said. But he is clearly an immensely powerful man. And now on his own, there is no way he could ever earn the sum to pay it back.
- ♦ A denarius is the day's wage of a labourer. 100 denarii was a tiny sum by comparison.
- ♦ The 'king' is neither God nor Jewish as Jewish law permitted neither the sale of the debtor's wife and children into slavery, nor the use of torture. (King Herod a Jewish puppet of Rome, however ignored these rules, aping foreign rulers of the time.) The 'worship' of the masters implied when the debtors prostrate themselves also demands a pagan setting.
- ♦ Forgiveness is a lifelong project. "Seventy-seven times" suggests much practice and repetition for the big and small. And often for the same offence which might creep back into my memory and resentment.
- ♦ It is a deeply Catholic approach to read, hold and interpret scripture in its entirety - not in isolation. This parable could well be read alongside the Parable of the Weeds in the Wheat in chapter 13, where the good master is patient allowing maximum time for change and conversion.

Fr Peter McAfee SM

—Assistant Priest

This Week's Readings

First Reading Sirach 27:30-28:7
Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Second Reading Romans 14:7-9
Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

Gospel Reading Matthew 18:21-35
I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy seven times seven.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading Isaiah 55:6-9
Psalm 144
Second Reading Philippians 1:20-24, 27
Gospel Reading Matthew 20:1-16



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: -
Automatic Payments: \$3285
Total: \$3285

Readings

The full Readings for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Sunday 13 September) can be found at this link:
<https://universalis.com/20200913/mass.htm>

Online Mass

Sunday Mass, 9am | Archdiocese of Wellington
www.youtube.com/c/MCSHWWellington

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Peter Aston, Daniel Mathenge

Anniversaries: Pip Baxter, Noeline Stewart, Francis Renouf, Peter Feenan, Gillian Lescher, Joan Lynch, Helen Havasi, Freda Fernie, Mary Dysart, Fr John Aitken sm, Pepe Va'a, Mary Chinnock

Prayers for the Sick: Peter Aldridge, Tony Crawley, John Adams, Geoff Sweet, Dianne Sweet, Losalia Leo, John Foden, John Mora, Kerry Barber, Pam Finlayson, Paul and Francisca Sparnaay, Brendan Gilmore, Pat Johnson, Barbara and Vic Stairs, Shirley Mahony, Doug Matthews, Carol Armstrong



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 102

R. The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **R**

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **R**

His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. **R**

For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. **R**

Covid Alert Level 2

We currently have our normal timetable running on weekdays and Saturdays—there are no Sunday Masses until we are at Alert Level 1. Please adhere to all restrictions and contact-tracing procedures when you are in the church.

For up to date information regarding the church during this time, visit our webpage:
www.smoa.org.nz/covid19updates



2021 Columban Calendars

Columban calendars for 2021 are now available. They are \$12 each and can be purchased from the parish office (cash only).

Zoom Series: Mary, the Mother of God – A Contemporary Understanding of Mary

A series with Br Kieran Fenn via Zoom. The topic for the session this **Monday 14 September** (7-8.30pm) is *Mary in the Gospel of John*. The fee is \$25 per session. Special fees for groups of more than 2 persons. For more information and registration: info@studyjoy.nz

Compassion Soup Kitchen Annual Appeal

Have you ever been really hungry? The Compassion Soup Kitchen have been serving meals to Wellingtonians in need for 119 years. Support their annual appeal by donating online at: soupkitchen.org.nz/donate/annual-appeal

Be informed about the End of Life Choice Act Referendum

- The End of Life Choice Act is not an option of 'last resort'. It will not just apply to the 'exceptionally difficult cases'. It does not require that a person first make use of available treatments or counselling, nor that they first receive palliative care. A person does not need to be in physical pain.
- If euthanasia becomes legal in NZ, people will access it because they think they lack other choices. Even though quality palliative care is effective, there is no corresponding legal right to access palliative care. Under current law, people can already say 'no' to treatments and can receive whatever level of pain relief they need. These days, no-one need die in pain.

The EOLC Act is badly drafted and seriously flawed. Whatever one's views about the idea of euthanasia, it is not 'compassion' to vote for a dangerous law.

See www.riskylaw.nz or www.votesafe.nz or www.carealliance.org.nz or www.nathaniel.org.nz

Authorised by John Kleinsman, 15 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon, Wellington

Spiritual Communion Prayer

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

A Message from St Vincent de Paul Foodbank Appeal

Our 29th August St Vincent de Paul Foodbank Appeal at two Wellington area supermarkets was unable to proceed due to Covid-19. The demand for the support from the SVdP foodbank remains high, so if any parishioners would like to contribute, online donations would be welcome & can be made here: www.vinnies-wellington.org.nz/donate
Please use 'SMOA' in the Reference field.

Joshua Men's Fellowship



Come and join other men on **Thursday 17 September** at 'Loaves and Fishes' next to the Anglican Cathedral of St Paul (corner Hill and Molesworth Streets). A cuppa available from

7pm for a 7:30pm start. The speaker will be Jane Sutherland on *'Forgive a little/love a little; forgive a lot/love a lot.'* Contact Steve Ready by calling 027 356 9555 or email joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

Updating Our Database

We are still in the process of updating our parish database and asking parishioners to verify their contact details. **We ask you please to respond to our email or text message once you receive it.**

Should you have any questions on this matter please contact Alexandra at the Parish Office: (04) 473 8074 or email smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz



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