

## For Your Diaries: 2020

### 31 October, Joshua Men's One-Day Retreat

At Our Lady's Home of Compassion, Island Bay from 8:30am – 5:00pm.  
The theme is "Don't Worry. Trust in Jesus" and the retreat leader is Fr James Lyons. Contact Steve Ready at 027-356-9555 or joshua.wgtn@gmail.com




**ST MARY OF THE ANGELS CHOIR**

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William McElwee  
Director of Music

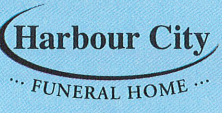
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**A LEGACY OF FAITH**



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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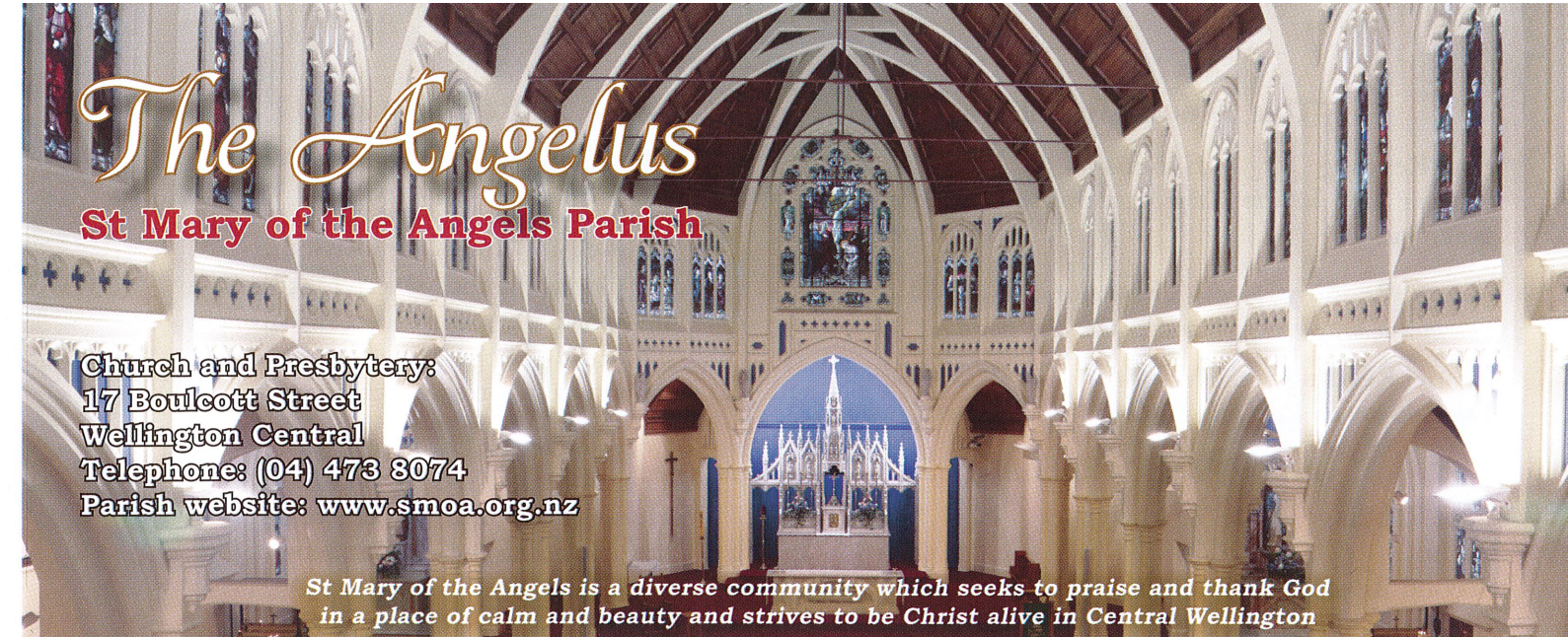
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**The Angelus**  
**St Mary of the Angels Parish**

Church and Presbytery:  
17 Boulcott Street  
Wellington Central  
Telephone: (04) 473 8074  
Parish website: [www.smoa.org.nz](http://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](mailto:smoapp@xtra.co.nz)

**Assistant Priests**  
Fr Peter McAfee SM  
Fr Joe Savei SM

**Pastoral Worker**  
Sr Frances Gibbs CSB

**In Residence**  
Fr Brian Wysocki SM

**Director of Music**  
William McElwee  
[wmcelweemusic@gmail.com](mailto:wmcelweemusic@gmail.com)

**Parish Accountant**  
[smoamanager@xtra.co.nz](mailto:smoamanager@xtra.co.nz)

**Parish Office**  
Alexandra Haddow  
[smoaooffice@xtra.co.nz](mailto: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

## 25 October 2020, 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**THE GREATEST COMMANDMENTS**

The angry encounters between Jesus and his opponents come to a conclusion in today's Gospel. In the final attack, the Pharisees attempt to show Jesus' lack of professional knowledge of the Law. He is showing how they are repeating the traditional unfaithfulness of the custodians of the Lord's vineyard, and he has caught them out in their double standards, so now they turn to the Law. In theory, all the commandments were to be observed with equal seriousness. However, within the 613 commandments of the Law, there had developed an understanding of the lighter and heavier commandments. The scholars and scribes argued over these distinctions. The Pharisees now attempt to trap Jesus into making a damaging statement within this learned discussion.

Jesus cuts the ground from under their feet. They could not possibly argue with Jesus' answer. The first part of his response comes from the Book of Deuteronomy (Deut 6:5), and is central to Jewish faith: "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." The love of God is the first of all commandments. But there is also a second commandment which is like the first: "You must love your neighbour as yourself." This is also part of the Jewish tradition, coming to them from the Book of Leviticus (Lev. 19:18, 34).

Laws hang upon Old Testament passages in the Jewish tradition. Rabbinic discussions look back to the biblical books as the source and explanation of the laws which have developed to meet the developing needs of God's people. Jesus now claims that the whole of the will of God in Scripture hangs upon, is derived from and is summed up in, the double command of love. What God wills is love. All individual commands and obligations must be measured against and judged by the canon of love.

But if it is all summed in the laws that were already found in the Old Testament, what has Jesus introduced into the human story which was not already present? The newness of Jesus' approach has not been to invent the two basic laws. They came to him from his Jewish background. His originality has been to place the love of God and the love of neighbour together. It is impossible to love God and hate your neighbour, and equally impossible to give yourself in love to your neighbour, and claim that you have no love of God. God and the human situation are intimately interwoven, however conscious we are of that truth. This is nowhere more clearly shown than in Jesus of Nazareth, Son of Man and Son of God, but it should also be shown in the love of all who claim to be followers of Christ.

Today's Gospel represents the last argument between Jesus and the teachers of Israel. As we come to the end of a long series of Gospel readings dealing with the clash between Jesus and the false religious practice of the Pharisees, we should remember that the Gospel is read in our liturgy to challenge us, to help us understand better Jesus' way to God. As Jesus argues and teaches through these passages, he is arguing with us and teaching us. There is a Pharisee in each one of us, and we all need to come down from our religious pedestals to learn that there are only two commandments which, in reality, are one; to love God and to love our neighbour.

Fr Joe Savei SM—Assistant Priest

## This Week's Readings

**First Reading** Exodus 22:20-26  
*If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.*

**Second Reading** 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10  
*You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.*

**Gospel Reading** Matthew 22:34-40  
*You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

## Next Week's Readings

**First Reading** Apocalypse 7:2-4, 9-14  
**Psalm** 23  
**Second Reading** 1 John 3:1-3  
**Gospel Reading** Matthew 5:1-12



## Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$2188  
 Automatic Payments: \$2445  
**Total: \$4633**

## Covid Alert Level 1

While we are at Alert Level 1 ALL Masses and Reconciliation times will be going ahead as per the normal timetable, with no restrictions to numbers.

The following is still in place:

- ♦ Communion under one kind only, therefore no Precious Blood is to be distributed
- ♦ No physical contact at the Sign of Peace but an acknowledgment of some nature
- ♦ Communion on the hand only

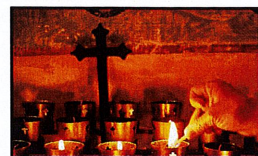
Go to [www.smoa.org.nz/covid19updates](http://www.smoa.org.nz/covid19updates) for more information and for Cardinal John Dew's full announcement.

## Mass has been offered for:

**Recently Deceased:** Tony Crawley

**Anniversaries:** Keegan Lawrence, Margo McAuley

**Prayers for the Sick:** Peter Aldridge, 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, Joe Haddow, Samara Jamed



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 17

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,  
 my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
 My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
 my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
 The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
 when I call I am saved from my foes. R

Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
 Praised be the God who saves me.  
 He has given great victories to his king  
 and shown his love for his anointed. R

## Greeting Ministry at SMOA

It is always great to be welcomed into Mass by a friendly face! We are seeking more Greeters—volunteers that welcome parishioners and visitors to our church as we gather for Sunday Mass. You will need to arrive 10 minutes before Mass and check that the tables at the church entrances are tidy, and then welcome people as they come in. At the end of Mass the Greeters will tidy up so the church is ready for the next Mass. If you are interested in being a regular Greeter please contact the parish office by emailing [smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz](mailto:smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz) and in the meantime, we encourage you to step in as a Greeter if there is no one there when you come to Mass.

## 2021 Columban Calendars

Columban calendars for 2021 are available to purchase from the parish office. They are \$12 each (cash only).

"Here I am, send me!"

Isaiah 6:8

Your generosity makes it possible for missionaries to continue reaching out and empowering people like Zyrhrrie and her family.

Thank you also to parishioners who have become monthly giving MISSIO-NZ friends.

For more information about the work of MISSIO around the world, please contact us at [info@missio.nz](mailto:info@missio.nz) or write to us P.O. Box 31 596 Milford Auckland 0741

(09)489 6549 - [www.missio.nz/donate](http://www.missio.nz/donate)



Thank you for supporting this year's MISSIO-NZ Church Appeal through your heartfelt gifts and prayers.



**A friendly reminder:**  
**Please do not park in the church carpark from Monday to Friday.**  
 There are only a few parks available to parishioners, with the rest being hired by people who must be able to have access to them. You may be towed if you are parked in a reserved space.

## 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 once you receive it.** Contact Alexandra at the Parish Office: (04) 473 8074 or [smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz](mailto:smoaoffice@xtra.co.nz) if you have any queries.

## Cathedral Fundraiser: Fr Chris Skinner in Concert

See Fr Chris Skinner in concert on **Saturday 31 October** at 2pm in the St Mary's College Hall on Guilford Terrace. Tickets are \$25 and will go towards Sacred Heart Cathedral Strengthening and Restoration Project. To buy tickets, email Josie at [31octconcert@gmail.com](mailto:31octconcert@gmail.com)

## Holy Hour

You are invited to a Holy Hour on **Tuesday 27 October**, 7.30pm in Connolly Hall, Guildford Terrace to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. This Holy Hour will include prayers, Scripture, singing, times of silence and conclude with Benediction followed by supper.

## Sacramental Programme

Children who are Year 4 and above are encouraged to join the Sacramental Programme for Confirmation, First Reconciliation and First Communion. Please contact the parish office at [smoa.office@xtra.co.nz](mailto:smoa.office@xtra.co.nz) or 04 473 8074 for more information or to enrol your child.

## Weekday Rosary Group

The rosary is said in the church at 11.30am Monday-Thursday, and after the midday Mass on Friday. All are welcome to join.

## Seek—Explore Your Call

An opportunity for young adults (18+) to explore different vocations as Catholics. How are you called to serve God with your talents & gifts? What does vocation look like in 2020? Held on **Sunday 8 November**, 1-5pm at Home of Compassion, Island Bay. The afternoon will conclude with a Young Church Mass at 5pm. To register please email [youth@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:youth@wn.catholic.org.nz)

## 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 for the following time slots:

- ♦ Mondays 1.30-2.30pm
- ♦ Tuesdays 1.30-2.30pm, 3.30-4.30pm
- ♦ Wednesdays 3.30pm-4.30pm

If you would like to consider being a part of this important service to the parish community please contact the parish office.



9 Francis Place,  
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