

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 Saveasi SM

Pastoral Worker

Sr Frances Gibbs CSB

In Residence

Fr Brian Wysocki SM

Director of Music

William McElwee

wmcelweemusic@gmail.com

Parish Accountant

smoamanager@xtra.co.nz

Parish Office

smoaooffice@xtra.co.nz

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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

14 February 2021, 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Coming Clean

The longer we live, the greater the storehouse of our memories. Much of our memory is a mixed bag of things we're proud of and things we'd rather not remember. We've had our successes and failings, good times and bad, fulfilling relationships and ones that ended bitterly, promises we've kept and events we wish would never have happened. In reflective moments we might lament the burden of bad memories, many of us may even look back to the innocent days of our childhood and wish we could turn back the clock and start all over again. Others of us feel racked by guilt or exhaust ourselves with efforts to hide the skeletons in our closets. For whatever our feelings, most of us can relate to the leper in today's Gospel who beseeches the Lord: ***"If you will, you can make me clean."***

Unfortunately, there is no whitewashing that can undo our past; no returning to paradise or recapturing the innocence of childhood. There is good news for us, though, as there was for the leper: we can be made clean. Perhaps not simply through a word from the Lord, but clean nevertheless. What makes us ***'clean'*** is not denying the past or making believe it never happened, but embracing it all as our own. We become clean when we ***"come clean,"*** when we own our lives in their completeness, the bad with the good, the sour with the sweet, the pain with the pleasure - whatever belongs to us. Owning our full past prevents it from ever owning us and having leverage over us in our efforts to build a better life for ourselves.

Rather than simply owning our past, many of us try to control or correct the past with guilt, shame, or recrimination. But it's a futile exercise. Nothing changes the past. Guilt serves only to sap our energies, shame robs us of willpower and determination; recrimination keeps us overfocused on the past and blind to our real present needs. Everyone burdened with the feeling ***"I'm a failure"*** gives witness to this. Owning up to our past, whatever its contents, allow us to deal effectively with its consequences in the present. Instead of languishing in remorse of ***"what might have been"*** we empower ourselves for ***"what can be."***

The past, for good and bad, is little more than a storehouse of experiences that we use in our continuing spiritual evolution. We all make mistakes and, if we are growing, there will be more mistakes ahead. But if we are a little bit wiser and a little more confident of the right thing to do, our failings have served their purposes. And for all our failings we are never failures! Like any work of art, we are composed of shadow and light. It's all part of our picture. We may make mistakes, but we are not mistakes. ***THAT'S THE GOOD NEWS OF TODAY'S GOSPEL.***

Fr Joe Saveasi sm—Assistant Priest

This Week's Readings

First Reading Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46
As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10: 31-11:1
Be imitators of me, as I am Christ.

Gospel Reading Mark 1: 40-45
The leprosy left him and he was cured.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading Genesis 9:8-15

Psalm 40

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel Reading Mark 1:12-15



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$2,322

Automatic Payments: \$3,930

Total: \$6,252

Covid Alert Level 1

While we are at Alert Level 1 ALL Masses and Reconciliation times are running 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
- ◆ Communion on the hand only

Go to www.smoa.org.nz/covid19updates for more information and for Cardinal John Dew's full announcement.

Responsorial Psalm 31

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Happy the an whose offence is forgive,
whose sin is remitted.

O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile. **R**

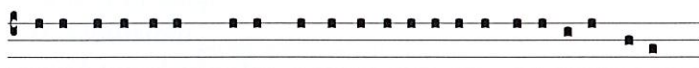
But now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.

I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'

And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin. **R**

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!

O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart. **R**



Tu es re- fu- gi- um me- um a tri- bu- la- ti- one, exsul- ta- ti- o me- a.

Thou art my refuge from the trouble, my joy.

Ash Wednesday

Next week the Masses for Ash Wednesday are 7.30am, 12.05pm and 1.05pm. We are having a combined Ash Wednesday Service held with St Johns Presbyterian Church, 170 Willis St, Wellington. There will be no 5.15pm Mass here at St Mary of the Angels.

Mass has been offered for:

Recently deceased: George Bok, Carol Armstrong, Xavier Reidy

Anniversaries: Keith Clapham, Dennis Maccagna, Peter Tawhiki, Ross Meads, Miriam Menzies, Grace Smith, Nomaza Sidima-Jacob, Fr Ken Scully sm, Rt Hon sir Ian McKay

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, Samara Jamed, Bill Carroll, Laurie Butler

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

SMOA Church App

If you haven't already downloaded our new Parish App onto your smart phone, please do! On the app, you'll be able to view the newsletters, Mass times, upcoming events and more. You will also have the option to receive alert notifications, particularly if you are a part of a Parish group or ministry. To download the app, follow the steps below:

1. Go to your App Store or Google Play Store and search "ChurchAppsNZ"
2. Download the app, and then select St Mary of the Angels as a Parish
3. The app will then prompt you to select which "alert groups" you want to be a part of. Select as many or as few of these groups as you like. You will be able to change this later if you need to.

If you need any help setting this up, please do not hesitate to contact Alexandra at the parish office.

Early Lenten Reflections

We invite you to join our series of Early Lenten Reflections to be held in the crypt at St Mary of the Angels on the first three Thursdays in Lent starting at 11.15 am on Thursday 18 February. We will read and reflect on Gospel passages following the theme "A New Way Forward" which is inspired by the words of Pope Francis in 'Laudato Si' highlighting God's presence throughout the highs and lows of our lives. Sessions will finish in time for the 12.05 pm Mass.

WellCath - Wellington group for Catholic Young Adults

If you are a university student or young professional, then come join us for our first event of the year. Dinner and Board Games Evening. 6pm, Friday 26 February at Counter Culture, Te Aro, Wellington. Please RSVP by emailing wellcathyoungadults@gmail.com, texting 0221707585 or by sending us a message on our Facebook page by Sunday 21 February.

Celebrate Love on Valentine's Day

Cardinal John Dew invites you to join in a celebration of married love this coming St Valentine's Day, Sunday 14 February, 5pm at St Joseph's Church, 152 Brougham Street, Mt Victoria, Wellington. For further details please contact Felicity Giltrap at ADW Marriage Ministries (04) 496 1719 or email marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz

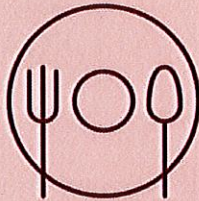
40 Days for Life: Be a sign of hope this Lent and help save lives!

February 17- March 28 – Monday to Friday – 8am to 4pm & Saturday 8am to Noon. Please protect mothers and babies through prayer, fasting, and vigil outside the local abortion centre Te Mahoe in Newtown. The vigil works on a rotating roster of one-hour prayer slots with two to three people needed to cover each hour. A positive, peaceful, and fruitful witness to the precious gift of life. You may be her last sign of hope and her first sign of mercy. To find out more and sign up for your prayer hour(s) please visit fli.org.nz/40daysforlife or contact Clare 021 231 7954 or clare.fli@xtra.co.nz

MULTICULTURAL
DINNER
NIGHT

SATURDAY
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KILBIRNIE



Joshua Wellington

Inviting both men, women and families to a Mass followed by supper on Thursday 18 February at 7.30pm in St Joseph's Church, 42 Ellice Street, Mt Victoria. Fr Peter Ewart sm, Joshua chaplain will be the celebrant. Bring something to share for supper! If you want to know more, please ring Steve Ready 027 356 9555 or email joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

Pa Maria Marist Spirituality Centre

The Programme for 2021 is now available. If you would like an emailed copy, please contact Brian Cummings SM at bgcummings@xtra.co.nz

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St Mary of the Angels is registered with the Charities Commission. All donations are tax deductible and a receipt issued.

New Parishioners

If you are new to the parish, not yet enrolled as a parishioner, or would like to start giving regularly to the parish through our planned giving programme, please fill out one of our new parishioner forms at the back of the church, or our online Google Form at: www.forms.gle/hV7w341HEaNTkKup7

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 do some tidying up for the next Mass. If you are interested in being a regular Greeter please contact the parish office.

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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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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