

The Angelus

St Mary of the Angels Parish
Including St Joseph's, Mount Victoria

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
parish.priest@smoa.org.nz

Assistant Priests

Fr Joe Savesi SM
dennys4life@hotmail.com
Fr Hayden Powick SM
haydenpowick@hotmail.com

Pastoral Worker

Sr Frances Gibbs CSB

Director of Music

William McElwee
wmcelweemusic@gmail.com

Parish Accountant

accounts@smoa.org.nz

St Mary of the Angels Church Office

office.manager@smoa.org.nz
04 473 8074

St Joseph's Church Office

st.josephs.office@xtra.co.nz
04 385 0915

St Mary of the Angels Church

MASSES

Sunday 7am, 9am, 11am, 5pm
Mon-Fri 7.30am, 12.05pm, 5.15pm
Saturday 11am

EACH MONTH

4th Saturday -Anointing Mass- 11am

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

St Joseph's Church

MASSES

Sunday 9.30am

Tuesday 8.30am

BAPTISMS

Baptisms will be held only on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 2pm. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

5 December 2021, 2nd Sunday of Advent

At the heart of the season of Advent, is the reality of *waiting*. The Israelites spent a long time waiting for the Messiah and the Kingdom of God to arrive. In the words of Psalm 44 the people cry out to the Lord:

Wake up, O Lord! Why are You sleeping? Arise! Do not reject us forever.
Why do You hide Your face and forget our affliction and oppression?

When we are suffering time seems to move slowly. Anyone who has spent time in a hospital emergency room knows this well. But waiting itself can be a sort of suffering; we deny ourselves gratification in the present for the hope of something better in the future. Good waiting is sacrificial. This is why waiting always implies a waiting *for*. This is true whether I am waiting for a bus, waiting for a friend to text me back, waiting for a visit from my daughter, or waiting for God to enter more deeply into my life.

There are two approaches to waiting. The first is directionless and meaningless waiting. C.S. Lewis said that sometimes serious grief robs the future of any positive hope or joy.

[G]rief ... feels like fear. Perhaps, more strictly, like suspense. Or like waiting; just hanging about waiting for something to happen. It gives life a permanently provisional feeling. It doesn't seem worth starting anything. I can't settle down. I yawn, I fidget, I smoke too much. Up till this I always had too little time. Now there is nothing but time. Almost pure time, empty successiveness.

Lewis could be speaking about our COVID situation. It is frustrating when the sacrifice of our waiting is robbed of any hope of return. Perhaps unknowingly, C.S. Lewis almost perfectly describes the vice of *acedia* or spiritual tiredness. John Cassian says that someone afflicted with *acedia* either sinks into slumber in his room, becoming sluggish when it comes to work, or [paradoxically] becomes restless and a wanderer, trying to find consolation through visiting other people.

All of this sounds familiar to me.

As people of faith, our waiting should take on a sense of trust and hope. The 'wilderness' of the present should be saturated with the hope of the future. This second sort of 'faith-waiting' is modelled by St. John the Baptist. St John does not run from the wilderness of the present, but trusting in God's love proclaims the coming of Christ from the heart of the desert: ... *all mankind shall see the salvation of God.*

Let us not despair at the suffering of waiting, but see our waiting as a faith-charged sacrifice. God does not break his promises.

Fr Hayden Powick sm— Assistant Priest

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Baruch 5: 1-9

Jerusalem—God will show you splendour.

Second Reading: Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

All People shall see the salvation of God.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

Psalm: 12

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$1,956

Automatic Payments: \$4,240

Total: \$6,196

Covid Alert Level Orange

While we are at Alert Level Orange ALL Masses and Reconciliation times are running as per the normal timetable. At SMOA the 5.15pm Weekday Mass and the 7am Sunday Mass are the only Masses that do not require a Vaccine Pass. All Masses at St Joseph's Church require a Vaccine Pass. You must register for the 7am Sunday Mass by visiting www.wn.catholic.org.nz/mass-registrations/ and complete the form. Registrations are open from 9am Wednesday to 12pm Friday.

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

Responsorial Psalm 125

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. **R.**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

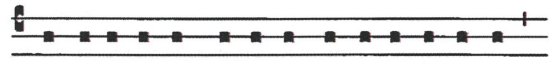
Indeed we were glad. **R.**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.

Those who are sewing in tears will sing when they reap. **R.**

They go out, they go out, full of tears carrying seed for the sowing:

they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. **R.**



Magni-fi-ca-vit Domi-nus fa-ce-re no-bis-cum:



facti sumus laetentes.

The Lord hath done these things for us: we are become joyful.

St Mary of the Angels Carpark

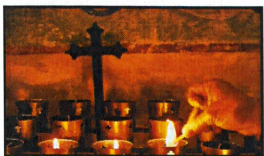
The carpark at St Mary of the Angels is now closed to Parishioners from Monday to Friday. The Church carpark will be available to Parishioners during the day on Saturdays and Sundays.

Mass has been offered for:

Recently deceased: Talitiga Liuaana, Margaret Havell, Fr Barry O'Connor sm

Anniversaries: Alison Mary Kelly, Fred Scoon, William Jenkins, Frances Haughey, James Coyle

Prayers for the Sick: Denis O'Neill, Patricia O'Rourke, Noreen Kirwan, Peter Aldridge, Geoff Sweet, Dianne Sweet,



Losalia Leo, John Mora, Kerry Barber, Pam Finlayson, Francisca Sparnaay, Barbara and Vic Stairs, Shirley Mahony, Samara Jamed, Bill Carroll, Barbara Jones, Mary Buchanan, Bill McLaughlin, John Moore, Barbara Sullivan

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

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Masses not requiring Vaccine Passes

Now we are in the new Traffic Light system the **7am Sunday Mass** at St Mary of the Angels will be a Mass where Vaccine Passes will not be required. Those attending this Mass will need to register attendance on the Archdiocese Mass registration website. We understand a maximum of 50 can register.

The **5.15pm Weekday Mass** has resumed and will also be a Mass where Vaccine Passes are not required. There is no need to register for this Mass.

Christmas Jigsaw Raffle

In the Year of St Joseph a jigsaw to please the whole family. Have fun together dismantling and reassembling the jigsaw. Tickets are 1 for \$2 or 3 for \$5. All proceeds to the Parish Centre Project. Tickets on sale after each Sunday Mass in the Season of Advent.



Change of Sunday Mass Time at St Joseph's

The Sunday Mass time at St Joseph's Church is now 9.30am.

Adult Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)

Perhaps you know someone who is curious about the Catholic faith? The Adult Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) is the process through which adults are gradually introduced to the Catholic faith and way of life. St Mary of the Angels Parish will be holding an introductory evening for those interested on **Tuesday 14 December at 6pm** in St Joseph's Church. All are welcome. Parishioners, please invite someone whom you know may be interested in our Catholic Faith and pray for the RCIA Candidates, Sponsors, and Leaders. If you would like more information please contact the parish office at 04 473 8074 or email office.manager@smoa.org.nz

Food for Faith

Food for Faith offers brief daily reflections for Advent. Sign up at www.foodforfaith.org.nz.

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil.

Amen

WellCath - Christmas Movie Night

WellCath is a social group for Catholic young adults in the greater Wellington region.

Our last event of the year will be a Christmas Movie Night in Tawa! Dinner and drinks provided. Held on Friday 10 December at 6pm. For more details of the event or if you need transport from Wellington City please text 022 1707 585 or email wellcathyoungadults@gmail.com
Please note this is hosted in a private flat so vaccination certificates are not required.

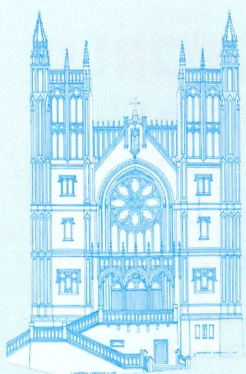
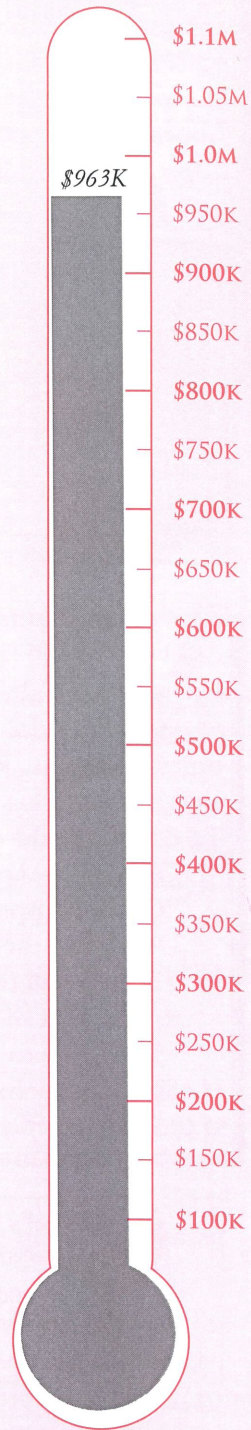
Divine Mercy Prayer Meeting

Held by Zoom on Sundays at 3pm.
Meeting ID: 799 6918 9260
Passcode: hra2h3

Social Justice Hui

What are the needs of our combined St Mary's and St Joseph's city church communities? What is our mission? Come along and listen to a short presentation from a range of groups in our church community. Join in discussion and reflection to better identify the needs and our role in supporting each other and especially the vulnerable in our community. Held in the Bill Pearce room at St Joseph's Church on Saturday 11 December from 4pm to 6pm.

PARISH CENTRE APPEAL



ST MARY OF THE ANGELS PARISH CENTRE FUNDRAISING APPEAL

I would like to help preserve the St Mary of the Angels Parish Centre.

Name:

Address:

Email:

Tel:

Bank Account Details:

SMOA - Parish Centre Upgrade
02-0536-0003242-50
BNZ, Lambton Quay, Wellington
Please provide your name and address (or Parish Planned Giving/Envelope number) as reference. All donations are tax deductible and a receipt will be issued.

I would like to make a regular payment of \$ to be paid each month year for 2 years.

I would like to make a one-off payment of:

\$50,000 \$20,000 \$10,000 \$5,000 \$2,000 \$1,000 \$500 \$200 Other \$ please specify

Please return your completed slip following your donation to ensure we have your details to issue a receipt.

Kotahitanga Annual Appeal

The KOTAHITANGA Annual Appeal is an invitation to join with one another and Catholic Social Services to support our local communities through the actions of Kotahitanga – unity, togetherness, and collective action. Working together with local groups and individuals to address community needs is the best way forward and has been proven by the success of our initiatives in 2020/2021. Please consider helping us to help our local communities by making a donation to the Kotahitanga Annual Appeal. To donate online, please visit:


<https://wn-catholicsocialservices.org.nz/donate?src=nav>



Orpheus Choir Wellington

COLOSSAL CHORALE

Sunday 5 December 2:30pm
St. Mary of the Angels
KOHA ENTRY



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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 Abby at the parish office.

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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