

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 Savei 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.

12 December 2021, 3rd Sunday of Advent

What Must I Do?

In the first part of today's Gospel three different groups of people ask John the Baptist what they must do for the coming of the Lord. "All the people, tax collectors, and soldiers" raise the same question. Each one of them asks: "What must we do?" The answer does not lie in some pious action. The Baptist points out that they will respond to the ways of God by being what they should be to their neighbours.

The tax collectors and the soldiers are not told to change their way of life. However, they are to share surplus goods with the poor, exact only what is due, inflict no violence and intimidation. The world will never be without soldiers and tax collectors but they must develop a sense of belonging to others and responsibility for others. In making these demands, John the Baptist is at the crossroads of salvation history. He looks back to God's original plan: women and men, made in the image of God are to care for one another. But he also points forward to the person of Jesus whose teaching, life, death and resurrection set a pattern of self-giving love that forms the basis for all Christian life.

As John himself teaches, Jesus is the mightier one, and thus more will be demanded from the followers of the risen Christ than the followers of the Baptist. The newness which Jesus will bring is a baptism with the Holy Spirit and with fire. John is not the Messiah, as some may have suspected. John is followed by the more powerful one, and his baptism of repentance will be surpassed by the more powerful baptism of the Messiah - "with the Holy Spirit and fire."

Like the first readers of this Gospel, we also attempt to live the values of a Christian community in the midst of hostility, or worse, apathy. To accept Jesus as the Christ and Saviour, the stronger one, inevitably leads to the challenge of living in a Christian community, even though this is sometimes demanding and even painful. Today's Gospel insists that the hostility and apathy to our Christian lives, however fashionable they may appear to be, make no ultimate sense. They are chaff, fit only for the fire which will never go out.

Fr Joe Savei sm—Assistant Priest

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18
With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7
The Lord is near.

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18
What, then, must we do?

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Micah 5: 1-4

Psalm: 79

Second Reading: Hebrews 10: 5-10

Gospel: Luke 1: 39-44



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$2,637

Automatic Payments: \$7,100

Total: \$9,737

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 12

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. **R.**

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. **R.**

Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **R.**

*Sing and shout for joy, for great in your midst
is the Holy One of Israel.*

Divine Mercy Prayer Meeting

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

Advent Meditations

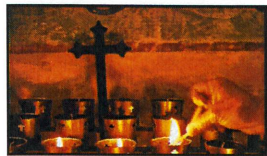
Please join members of the choir for a short meditation on the O antiphons for Advent in Our Lady's chapel after Thursday 12.05 mass.

Mass has been offered for:

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

Anniversaries: Daniel McKone, Maurice O'Brien, Janina Knopp, Teresa Vital, Helen Parris, Shona Rippin, Fr George Duggan sm

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

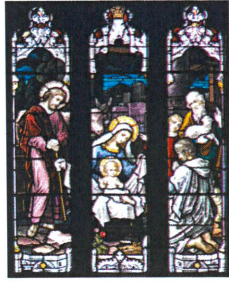
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L I M I T E D

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St Mary of the Angels Christmas Cards

St Mary of the Angels Christmas Cards are now available for purchase from the Parish Office.
\$15 for a pack of 12



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 have been sold and the raffle will be drawn on Christmas Day.



St Joseph's Men's Book & Discussion Group Meeting

Christmas Function, Visitors Welcome. Held Tuesday December 14 at 7.30pm at **32 Ellice St - adjoining St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria**. Bring a Book, Magazine or website highlight from 2021, one only. For more info contact John Dalgety 027 338 3576.

Synod Timing

The bishops believe dioceses and parishes will be welcoming the Vatican's four-month extension for the local phase of the Synod process. The deadline of the first (local) phase of the two-year international synodal process has been extended from next April to next 15 August. NZCBC Secretary Bishop Steve Lowe says the original timeframe was difficult for Southern Hemisphere countries because of our summer holiday period, with the Covid-19 restrictions making face-to-face contact hard. More information: www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/local-synod-timing/

Marist Messenger

Marist Messengers are available to purchase for \$6 from the back of the Church. Details on subscriptions are available inside each book as there is unfortunately no promotion this year due to lockdowns. If you can't make it into the Church please contact the Parish Office and we can send it out to you.

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

Carols with the Angels

Our annual *Carols with the Angels* concert will be held on **Wednesday 15 December** at 7.30pm here at St Mary of the Angels. Please join us for this special event in our parish, which will feature the St Mary of the Angels Choir under director William McElwee, organists David Trott and James Young, and your favourite carols. Vaccine Passes are required for those over 12 to attend this event.

The St Vincent de Paul Society

Throughout the year we provide food, pregnancy assistance and social worker support for people in need.

Your contributions to the Poor Box and the Food Basket at the left-hand exit door of St Mary of the Angels church help us to meet the increasing demand for Vinnies' welfare services in Wellington.

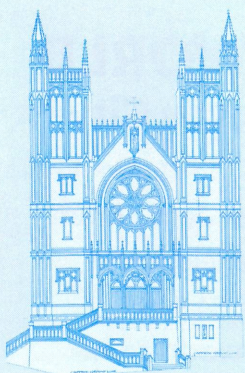
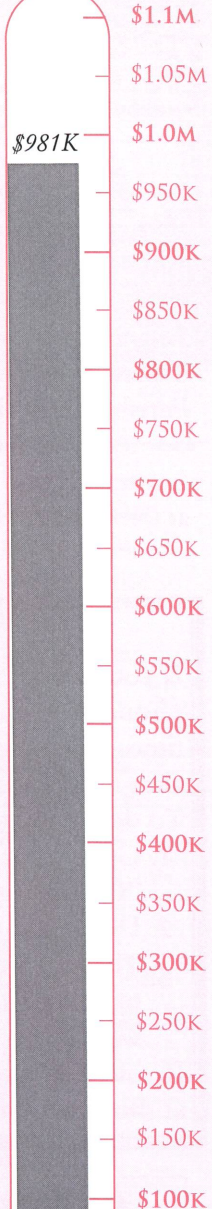
At Christmas this year we hope to add a few extra little treats for those who must come to our Food Bank for help.

All your donations are warmly welcomed. Thank you for your support and God bless your generosity.

Food for Faith

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

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.

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.

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

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.



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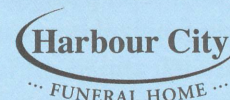
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A LEGACY OF FAITH



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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