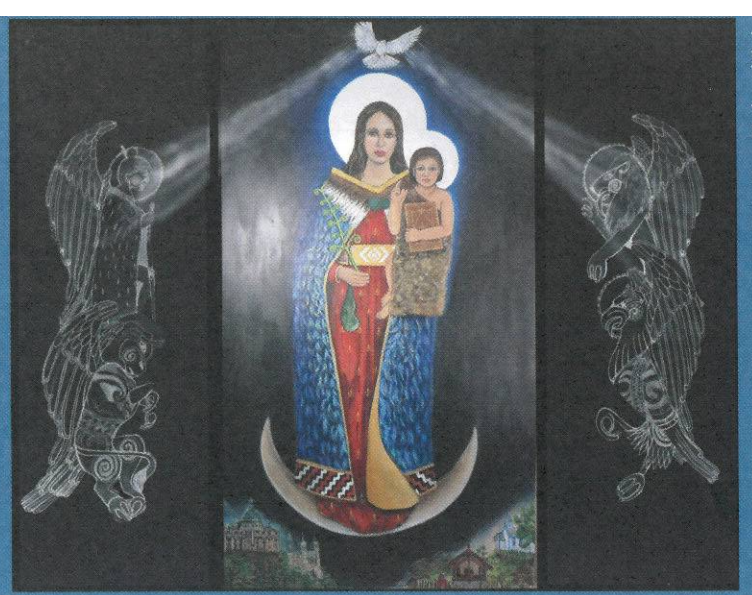


# The Angelus

St Mary of the Angels Parish  
The National Shrine of New Zealand  
Mary, Mother of God, Assumed into Heaven  
www.smoa.org.nz

St Mary of the Angels Church  
17 Boulcott St, Wellington Central (04) 473 8074

St Joseph's Church  
154 Brougham St, Mt Victoria, Wellington (04) 385 0915



Ko Hāua Maria, te Matua Wāhine o te Atua - Holy Mary, Mother of God

## 26 February 2023, 1st Sunday of Lent

The two great keys to the doors of Lent: baptism and repentance. It is a season to say, "I renew my vow to you, my Lord and God; my vow of witness". It is a season to say, "Lord, I have strayed but you have brought me back". How to marry these two keys? In a word, *love*. In love the Lord rejoices to find the stray to bring home. In loving God and neighbour as ourselves our baptismal vow of witness is renewed.

But how is love made visible? How can we touch love? In a word, *service*. To serve God, self and others makes visible and tangible our witness to love. To serve God, self and others is proof of true repentance. In the words of Saint Fulgentius, "...through the gift of love we receive the grace to be in reality what we celebrate mystically in the sacrifice". Now grace is the presence and action of God, and the mystical sacrifice is Jesus' death on the cross. Love, then, is how we make real God's presence and action in our lives that celebrates the mystical sacrifice of the cross. On the cross, the Lord died *for* us. He has given us an example. If he died *for* us, Christian sacrifice is to mystically die *for* others. He came not to be served but to serve. By serving the same way we die in a similar way. The focus of Lent is on *persons* not on things.

Recall the scene from the *Hobbit* movie *The Battle of the Five Armies*. The dwarf Kili dies in the arms of his love, the elf-maiden Tauriel. Turning to the elf-king Thranduil Tauriel says, "If this is love, I do not want it. Take it away, please. Why does it hurt so much? Thranduil answers, "Because it was real". Love can hurt. Service can go unnoticed. This is the reason why love and service form the fertile soil to understand Christian sacrifice.

We can give up many things for Lent but if our focus is on *persons* and on how we love and serve them then, if nothing else, in the eyes of the Lord our sacrifice will at least be real. In love we experience God. By serving we do God's Will. Love and service are the ways of Christian repentance; love and service the proof that our baptismal witness is more than just lip-service.

Fr Michael Young sm—Assistant Priest

### 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  
Fr Frank Bird SM  
francisbird@gmail.com  
Fr Michael Young SM  
mlyoungsm@gmail.com

### Pastoral Worker

Sr Frances Gibbs CSB

### Youth Minister

youth.minister@smoa.org.nz; 04 282 1746

### 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

Mass of Anointing- 4th Saturday of the month

#### ADORATION

Mon-Fri 6.30am - 7.20am  
Friday 11am - Noon, 5.45pm - 6.30pm

#### 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

### St Mary of the Angels Church

Baptisms; 2pm on 2nd and 4th Sundays each month

### St Joseph's Church

Baptisms on 3rd Sunday of each month.

Please arrange through Parish Office.



## This Week's Readings

<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Genesis</b>	<b>2:7-9, 3:1-7</b>
<i>Creation of our first parents, and sin.</i>		
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Romans</b>	<b>5:12-19</b>
<i>Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.</i>		
<b>Gospel Reading</b>	<b>Matthew</b>	<b>4:1-11</b>
<i>Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.</i>		

## Next Week's Readings

<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Genesis</b>	<b>12:1-4</b>
<b>Psalm</b>	<b>32</b>	
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>2 Timothy</b>	<b>1:8-10</b>
<b>Gospel Reading</b>	<b>Matthew</b>	<b>17:1-9</b>



## Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection:	\$2,561
Automatic Payments:	\$3,469
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$6,030</b>

## St Joseph's Feast Day - 19 March

It's time for a community get together and what better occasion than St Joseph's Feast Day! After 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's on 19 March, we'll gather in the garden for prayer and then enjoy a BBQ brunch. Please bring a plate to share - a salad or something for dessert.

## Thought for the Week

We should certainly count our blessings, but we should also make our blessings count.

## Mass has been offered for:

**Recently Deceased:** Grania Frazer, Philip Wysocki, Elaine Te'o, Monsignor John Carde, Kevin Jones

**Anniversaries:** Pauline Ritchie, Donald McIvor, Janis Horan, Fr Barry Edwards, Fr Michael O'Meehan sm, Edward Hunt, John Morris, Nelson Nunns, Mary O'Brien, Jack Wills, Aileen Gallagher, Jan Tuinman, Richard Mansor

**Prayers for the Sick:** Henry Prendergast, Noreen Kirwan, Dianne Sweet, Losalia Leo, John Mora, Kerry Barber, Pam Finlayson, Francisca Sparnaay, Shirley Mahony, Samara Jamed, Bill Carroll, Kay De Barnardo, Saturino and Magdalena Vilorio, Adrienne Avery, Jim Meachen, Jane Vetter



*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 Psalm 50

**R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin. **R**

My offences truly I know them;  
my sin is always before me.  
Against you, you alone have I sinned;  
what is evil in your sight I have done. **R**

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R**

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.  
O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise. **R**



Mi-se-ré-re me- i, De-us, de-le i-niqui-tá- tem me- am.

*Have mercy on me, O Lord, blot out my iniquity.*

## Caring Foundation—Cyclone Gabrielle Relief

Bishop Steve Lowe's Caring Foundation has extended their help to reach those affected in the Diocese of Hamilton and Palmerston North. You can make an **online donation** today so that assistance can get to families quickly. [www.caringfoundation.org.nz/donate-3/](http://www.caringfoundation.org.nz/donate-3/). Your donation will be used for food, shelter, clothes and other essential supplies and support services.

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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](mailto:Nicola.Young@wcc.govt.nz)

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**MEETING ABOUT PARISH FINANCES**

**THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE  
PARISH IS INCREASINGLY  
PRECARIOUS!**

FOR SOME YEARS THE PARISH HAS BEEN STRUGGLING TO LIVE WITHIN ITS MEANS. ANNUALLY, PARISH EXPENSES ARE GREATER THAN PARISH INCOME. THIS ANNUAL DEFICIT IS TRENDING UPWARDS. WE CANNOT CONTINUE LIKE THIS. A SOLUTION HAS TO BE FOUND THIS YEAR.

ONE OPTION, TO SUBSTANTIALLY DECREASE OUR EXPENSES, IS TO CEASE PAYING THE VERY EXPENSIVE NATURAL DISASTER INSURANCE COVER FOR ST MARY OF THE ANGELS CHURCH.

THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL AND THE PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK OF THIS POSSIBILITY: SHOULD WE CONTINUE TO PAY FOR THIS INSURANCE OR NOT?

TWO CONSULTATION MEETINGS WILL BE HELD, ONE AT ST MARY OF THE ANGELS AND ONE AT ST JOSEPH'S. WE INVITE ALL OF YOU TO ATTEND AND BE CONSULTED ON THIS IMPORTANT QUESTION.

**ST MARY OF THE ANGELS MEETING: AFTER 11.00AM  
MASS, SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**ST JOSEPH'S MEETING: AFTER 9.30AM MASS, SUNDAY  
26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**Lenten Prayer for Life**

This Lent, join in prayer, fasting and reparation, especially for the 36 pre-born babies who lose their lives through abortion every single day of the year in New Zealand. If possible, please join the peaceful, prayerful witness outside Wellington Hospital every Wednesday in Lent 9 am to 4pm. For all enquiries or to register for a vigil hour, call or txt 021 231 7954 (Family Life International)

**Fasting for Good Friday**

A reminder that Good Friday is a fast day from meat.

**Symbolon**

Join us as we watch and discuss the Symbolon series, which explains the "big picture" of the Catholic faith. The first session is 28 February at 6pm in St Mary of the Angels Hall and the topic is the Sacraments. Light supper provided, if you would like to make a koha please donate directly to St Mary of the Angels. All are welcome, if you have any questions talk to Fr Hayden or send an email to [claredevinenz@gmail.com](mailto:claredevinenz@gmail.com).

**Holy Hour**

You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 28 February at the Connolly Hall Chapel beginning at 7.30 pm to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. This will be the first one for this year. Included in the hour will be prayers, praise and worship, scripture reading and silence, concluding with Benediction. All are welcome.

**Bishops Lent Appeal**

Lenten giving envelope packs are available at the back of the Church today at Mass for the Bishop's 2023 Lenten appeal. You can either use the weekly donation envelopes or use a single donation envelope. You may either return your donation envelopes during the offertory collection or send them to Caritas by a freepost envelope. NZ Post specifies that cash must not be sent through the post. Donations received by Caritas in these envelopes by 31 March 2023 will be sent receipts for the 2022/2023 tax year. Donations received by Caritas after April 1st will be sent receipts for the 2023/2024 tax year.

**Young Adults Cycling Trip**

SMAYACs is planning a weekend trip to cycle the Old Coach Road from Horopito to Ohakune March 17-19. Accommodation is \$30 for both nights, and mountain bike hire is available in Ohakune. For more information, please refer to the SMAYACs Facebook event page and email us at [smayacs@gmail.com](mailto:smayacs@gmail.com) to save your place.

**Children's Day - 5 March**

To celebrate Children's Day, the 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's on 5 March will be child friendly. We hope to see lots of children there.

**ST MARY OF THE ANGELS PARISH ONGOING MAINTENANCE APPEAL**

I would like to help preserve St Mary of the Angels and St Joseph's Churches.

Name:

Address:

Email:  Tel:

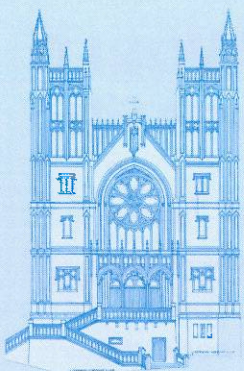
My contribution will be made by:

- Direct Credit
- Cheque *PLEASE SPECIFY AMOUNT*
- Cash \$

Donations can be sent to:  
Ongoing Maintenance Fund  
St Mary of the Angels Parish  
17 Boulcott St, Wellington 6011

**Bank Account Details:**  
**SMOA - Parish Account**  
02-0536-0003242-24  
BNZ, Lambton Quay, Wellington

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





## Solemn Vespers

During the season of Lent after the Friday 5.15pm Mass there will be Solemn Vespers and Adoration. All are welcome.

## Voice for Life

Come join Voice for Life Youth Wellington on the 11th of March from 1 to 3pm at St Mary of the Angels Parish Hall to connect with other 13 to 23 year olds, who are passionate about being a voice for the voiceless. The Abortion Debunked Seminar consists of two 30 minute workshops debunking New Zealand's abortion legislation and pro-abortion arguments with guest speaker Brendan Malone (the National Director of Lifenet Charitable Trust and an experienced Bioethics Instructor). Food will also be provided at the event. Please RSVP to Helena Nagraampa 02041086611 (VFL Youth Leader for Wellington).

## St Bernard's College Lower Hutt Reunion

All old boys and their families are invited to a weekend of activities between Friday 17th March and Sunday 19th March 2023! To register please visit: [www.sbob.org.nz](http://www.sbob.org.nz) or SBC Old Boys on facebook.

## Guardians Needed for Four Time Slots

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. If you would like to consider being a part of this important service to the parish community please contact the parish office on [office.manager@smoa.org.nz](mailto:office.manager@smoa.org.nz) or 04 473 8074.

## 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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## A LEGACY OF FAITH



Remembering St Mary of the Angels or St Joseph's 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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## An update on the financial situation of the Parish

### Summary

The budget breakdown overleaf summarises our current position, which is this: the **financial situation of the Parish is increasingly precarious.**

This is a situation that we need to address with urgency this year. These notes are to give you information about what we need to do and how we will proceed.

1. Annually, Parish expenses are greater than Parish income. This annual deficit is trending upwards.
2. We need to put in place a plan which increases our income **and** decreases our expenses. We also need to put a plan in place which addresses the longer term financial security of the parish.
3. Decreasing expenses is the first step. The four most significant expenses are:
  - a. **Rates** – these are fixed and we cannot change them
  - b. **Archdiocese levies** – these are a fixed percentage of our income
  - c. **Salaries** – these have been looked at already and are set to a minimum for Parish Administration
  - d. **Insurance – we will be reviewing our insurance this year.**

### Understanding our Insurance commitment

4. All Parish buildings must have **General Damage Insurance** (ie fire, flood, theft, storm damage) plus **Demolition insurance** (ie safe demolition following a catastrophic event). This is required by the Archdiocese.
5. Parishes may choose to pay for additional **Natural Disaster insurance**, which provides “functional replacement” cover. The St Mary of the Angels Church currently has this additional cover in place – St Joseph’s Church does not (a decision taken when St Joseph’s was part of Wellington South parish).
6. **We need to talk.** On Sunday 26 February, we will be holding two meetings (one after the 9.30am Mass at St Joseph’s and one after the 11am Mass at St Mary’s) to discuss the implications of:
  - a. **Keeping or ceasing** the additional Natural Disaster insurance for St Mary’s church
  - b. **Reinstating** the additional Natural Disaster insurance for St Joseph’s church (NB – this may not be possible to do).

**St Mary of the Angels Parish  
Statement of Financial Performance  
Proposed Budget Financial Year 2023/24**

	<b>Proposed Budget Financial Year 2023/24</b>	<b>Forecast Financial Year 2022/23</b>
Sunday and other mass collections	359,623	363,225
Less Support for the Clergy	(132,924)	(140,662)
Less Levy to the Diocese	(54,001)	(53,845)
<b>Net Collections</b>	<b>172,698</b>	<b>168,718</b>
Rental of properties	66,160	66,120
Parking	60,120	61,647
Votive candles	17,396	18,308
Subsidy Brigidine Sisters	15,808	15,808
Hire of the hall	6,330	6,330
Baptisms, funerals, weddings	7,300	5,000
Bequests/donations	-	600
Other revenue	9,742	6,073
<b>Revenue other than collections</b>	<b>182,856</b>	<b>179,886</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>355,554</b>	<b>348,604</b>
Salaries, wages and stipend	149,262	143,251
Insurance	120,000	88,356
Rates	63,966	62,315
Repairs and maintenance	28,006	35,955
Building maintenance	27,516	20,000
Stationery, printing and other office costs	21,439	22,534
Light, heat and gas	17,096	18,842
Bread, wine, candles and other altar costs	14,321	12,143
Telephone, internet and website	5,348	5,313
Audit fee	8,000	4,300
Vehicle running costs	3,370	4,032
Music, pastoral and RCIA costs	5,843	4,042
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>464,167</b>	<b>421,083</b>
<b>Net Operating Deficit</b>	<b>(108,613)</b>	<b>(72,479)</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
Depreciation – Buildings	158,900	158,900
Depreciation – Church organ	29,580	29,580
Depreciation – Other	624	459
Total Depreciation	189,104	188,939
Overall Deficit for the Year	(297,717)	(261,418)

**Comments on Insurance**

The budgeted amount for insurance of \$120,000 is largely for natural disaster cover, but also includes cover for other perils such as fire, vandalism and theft. This amount is an estimate only and is based on premium rates which do not reflect the potential impact of recent events in New Zealand and elsewhere.

This amount includes cover in the event of a natural disaster for:

- Functional replacement (not full reinstatement) of the SMOA church building on Boulcott Street.
- Demolition only of the St Joseph's church building (not reinstatement or functional replacement).

Reducing the cover on the SMOA church building to demolition only in the event of a natural disaster would result in savings to the budgeted amount for insurance of approximately \$55,000.

Increasing the cover on the St Joseph's church building to include functional replacement cover in the event of a natural disaster would increase the budgeted amount of insurance by approximately \$45,000.

Even with any significant savings from a reduction in insurance costs, the Parish will still need to work together to increase income and reduce other costs to address the deficit.