

# 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 Hāina Māria, te Matua Wāhine o te Ariua - Holy Mary, Mother of God

2 April 2023, Palm Sunday

## A Holy Week – Then and Now

This week in the news we have witnessed crowds shouting threats, police trying to stop riots, community leaders saying they are not responsible. It is not so different from the celebration of Holy Week which we enter today. Crowds welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem hoping for a strong military savior to change the status quo of occupation by Roman soldiers. They shout 'Hosanna' which comes from the Hebrew meaning 'save us'. Yes, God does save us, but in a way which is so extraordinarily different from what we may want or expect. Salvation seems to be a rather messy business.

There is so much of the world's violence unveiled in the readings. Court proceedings with Pontius Pilate the Governor. Accusations by leaders. Prisoners. Envy. Do nothing to that righteous man. Destroy him. Persuasion of the crowds. I have the power to release. Louder shouting. What evil has he done. This man is innocent. I am innocent of this man's blood. Release. Hand over. Military. Stripping naked. Mocking. Name calling. Striking on the head. Challenging cries to 'come down from the cross!'. Save yourself! As we stand for the long passion reading today, try and listen to what part of the 'passion' strikes you the most and reflect what it may mean 'today'. Then and now, the times may not be so different. The worst of humanity is on show, and the extraordinary tolerance and mercy of God is on show too. Only a few walked away in awe.

I have often been struck by Jesus' silence in the passion. This is extraordinary considering he normally had so much to say. Did he just deeply trust that God was able to work inside all this chaos and mess? Perhaps. What Jesus and the journey of Holy Week does show us is that saving and repairing the world does not happen by 'magic' from one's armchair. It requires a profound commitment to walk the talk of humble obedience to God and to live God's sacrificial love for others. We all end up being stretched and joining Jesus on the cross in some way; offering the gift of our body and blood for the salvation of the world in marriage, family, single life, work, priesthood.

As we wave palms in greeting Jesus on a donkey this Sunday, let us also hold his hand and follow him closely each day this 'holy' week. May we be embraced by God who is able to work inside all the violence and chaos and 'save us'. It's quite different from what we may expect.

Fr Frank Bird—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

**First Reading**      Isaiah      50: 4-7  
*Blessed*


**Second Reading**      Philippians      2: 6-11  
*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.*

**Gospel Reading**      Matthew      26: 14-27: 66  
*I am the resurrection and the life.*

## Next Week's Readings

**First Reading**      Acts      10: 34, 37-43  
**Psalm**      117

**Second Reading**      Colossians      3: 1-4  
**Gospel Reading**      John      20: 1-9



**Last Sunday's Collection**

Sunday Collection:	\$2,860
Automatic Payments:	\$6,011
<b>Total: \$8,871</b>	

## Symbolon

Join us as we watch and discuss the Symbolon series, which explains the "big picture" of the Catholic faith. The next session is 11 April. at 6pm in St Mary of the Angels Hall and the topic is "Penance & Anointing of the Sick: God's Mercy Revealed . 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).

## Thought for the Week

A truly rich person is one whose children run into their arms when their hands are empty.

## Mass has been offered for:

**Recently Deceased:** Fr Mario Dorado OFM, Anne Khangura, Ngo Kian Co, Lorna Crewdson, Henry Prendergast

**Anniversaries:** Laurie Butler, Lucie Halberstan, Fr Mark Beban sm, Fr Jim Beban sm, Hyland.Margaret, Gerard O'Brien, Birja Nand

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

*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 21

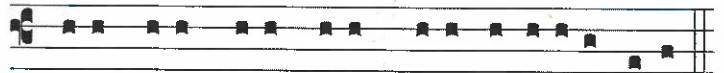
**R. My God, my God,  
why have you abandoned me?**

All who see me deride me.  
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.  
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;  
let him release him if this is his friend.' **R**

Many dogs have surrounded me,  
a band of the wicked beset me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.  
I can count every one of my bones. **R**

They divide my clothing among them.  
They cast lots for my robe.  
O Lord, do not leave me alone,  
my strength, make haste to help me! **R**

I will tell of your name to my brethren  
and praise you where they are assembled.  
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;  
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.  
Revere him, Israel's sons.' **R**



De- us me- us, De- us mé- us, qua-re me de-re-li-quí-sti?

*O my God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?*

## 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 program, please fill out one of our new parishioner forms available on our website—[www.smoa.org.nz/about/#new](http://www.smoa.org.nz/about/#new).



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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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## Fasting for Good Friday

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

## Planned Giving

Donation envelopes for the new financial year are available for you to collect at the back of the church, listed by surname in alphabetical order. Please check that the number on your envelopes is the same as on your label. If any details are incorrect please contact the Parish Office on Monday 04 473 8074.

A couple of people have changed planned numbers in order to consolidate our system. If you have changed numbers, there is a note with your envelopes to let you know.

Please let us know if you would like to join our planned giving programme, or if you would like to opt to donate by internet banking instead of donation envelopes this year. End of financial year tax receipts will be available by the end of April.

## Christian Meditation Group

Meets weekly Tuesdays 5:30 pm, Garden Room behind St Peter's, Ghuznee St. You are invited to practise meditation with the support of a group, whether you are a new or experienced meditator. Christian Meditation, an ancient form of contemplative prayer, is deeply anchored in the teachings of the Early Christian Desert Fathers and Mothers of the 4th and 5th centuries. It echoes the spirit of the psalmist's words: Be still and know that I am God. Contact: Anne Cave 022-097-2939, annecave@gmail.com

## 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.

## St. Vincent de Paul Cyclone Appeal

The St. Vincent de Paul Society has started a national appeal to help the victims of the recent cyclones that have caused devastating loss in the largest and most widespread weather event ever to impact New Zealand. The Society, through its conference groups in the affected areas, will provide financial help, food, clothing, furniture and advocacy assistance to those affected for as long as the recovery takes. SVDP will be there for the long term. To make a donation you can go online to [svdp.org.nz](http://svdp.org.nz) and receive a tax receipt, or you can place cash in the St. Vincent de Paul statue at the rear of St Mary of the Angels Church. Thank you for your help.

## Oceania bishops complete the response to Synod's working document

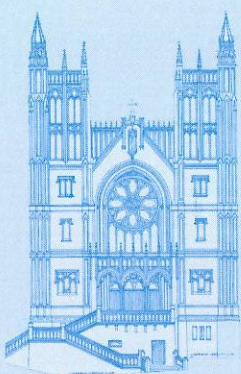
Representative of the four Catholic bishops' conferences in Oceania have approved the region's final response to the Continental Stage working document published last October for the Synod of Bishops for a Synodal Church. The Oceania response will be sent to the Synod Secretariat in Rome before this week's deadline, and be published during the week after Easter. Archbishop Paul Martin SM of Wellington and Bishop Michael Dooley of Dunedin took part in the approval process last week as New Zealand's representatives on the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania executive. Details here: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/synod-oceania/>

## Staying Safe on Social Media

A nation-wide campaign to raise awareness of how everyone can stay safe on our Catholic social media platforms starts next Monday, 20 March. Check our Facebook, Instagram and other social media each day from Monday for tips on how to keep yourself safe. Details of the campaign are here: [www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/socialmedia-safety/](http://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/socialmedia-safety/)

## Taize Prayer Service

We have our Taize service a week early due to Easter. Held on Sunday 2 April, 7pm to 8pm at St Joseph's Chapel at 152 Brougham Street, Mt Victoria. Contact John D [johndalgety57@gmail.com](mailto:johndalgety57@gmail.com) & 027 338 3576.



## 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:

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My contribution will be made by:

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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.



## Achieving Pregnancy Naturally

The Billings Ovulation Method™ can help you to optimise your chances of conceiving naturally. Our Fertility Educators will teach you to recognise your body's natural signs of fertility and pinpoint the most fertile day in your cycle. The Billings Ovulation Method™ is effective, non-invasive and affordable! It is backed by over 50 years of medical research. For a free information leaflet, contact Billings LIFE NZ.

## Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand seeking Experienced Executive Assistant

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand is seeking an experienced Executive Assistant and Office Manager. Please see <https://www.caritas.org.nz/work-with-us> for details or contact Amanda Gregan, Resource Manager on 027 9399 575.

## 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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04 974 8693

[www.rachelvineyard.org.nz](http://www.rachelvineyard.org.nz)

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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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