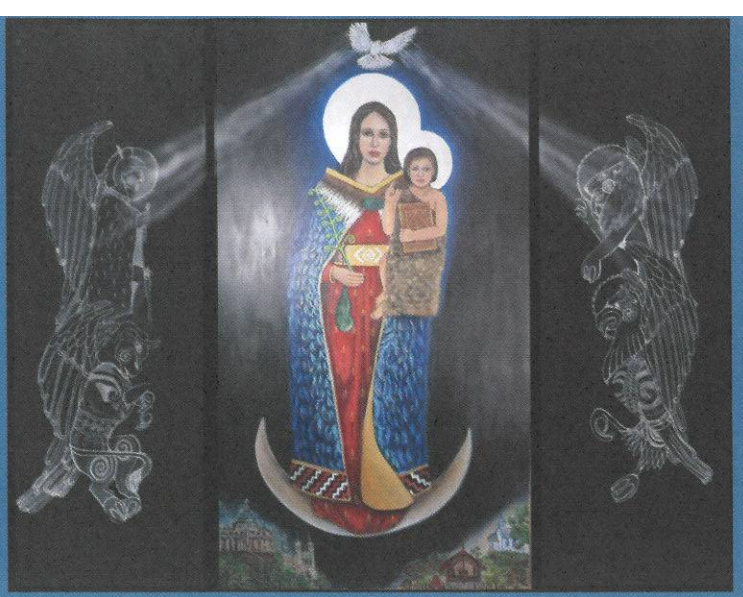


The Angelus

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

19 March 2023, 4th Sunday of Lent

Our Gospel today tell us of the story of the man born blind. Today a man who was born blind is cured. This is such an amazing miracle that the Pharisees need to be assured that this is really the man who was blind, and that indeed, he was blind from birth.

The miracle hides some dark questions. Who is really blind and what is the cause of our blindness? What is blindness? The cured man is challenged by the pharisees. He is surprised that they cannot see what he sees, namely that Jesus is a man from God'. He who was blind can see what those who are blind cannot see. It is the Pharisees who are blind. They cannot see what Jesus has done because their own concern is the Sabbath regulations. They find fault rather than the love of God. Like us, the problem of their particular expectations and understandings, prevent them from seeing the goodness of other people. They are blind to the presence of God.

The sick and the disabled can be a source of hope and encouragement when they show us that despite their affliction they try their best to live to the fullest each and every day. This is God's glory being made manifest. Jesus made use of the clay from the soil and water from the Pool of Siloam to heal the blind man. Nature has a healing power that we can use and see. God has provided us with everything we need to battle with diseases. Again God's glory made manifest.

Openness to God requires us to see beyond ourselves and to move out of our comfort zones. Indeed, if we look for what is wrong that is what we will see. Let's strive to see things as God sees them. The pure in heart will see God.

God's healing power is not only limited to curing the body but also the soul. When we receive the absolution in the Sacrament of reconciliation, we experience God's healing love. When we allow the Holy Spirit to come into our hearts, we begin to be cured of our spiritual blindness. And when God gives us the grace to see ourselves as we truly are, when we are enlightened as to the purpose of our existence we, too can say, 'I was blind, but now I see.' Again God's glory made manifest.

Sister Frances Gibbs—Pastoral Worker

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 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13
In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

Second Reading Ephesians 5:8-14
Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Reading John 9:1-41
The blind went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading Ezekiel 37: 12-14

Psalm 129

Second Reading Romans 8:8-11

Gospel Reading John 11:1-45



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$2,680

Automatic Payments: \$3,594

Total: \$6,274

St. Vincent de Paul Meeting

The next meeting of the City Conference group of the St. Vincent de Paul Society ("Vinnies") will be held in the Mahony Room at the St. Mary of the Angels Presbytery on Tuesday March 21 at 6pm. We are a Catholic faith based charity, inspired by the Gospels, and dedicated to helping those in need through personal contact. If this appeals to you, please join us. New members are very welcome.

Thought for the Week

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

Responsorial Psalm 22

**R. The Lord is my shepherd;
 there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd;
 there is nothing I shall want.
 Fresh and green are the pastures
 where he gives me repose.
 Near restful waters he leads me,
 to revive my drooping spirit. **R**

He guides me along the right path;
 he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness
 no evil would I fear.

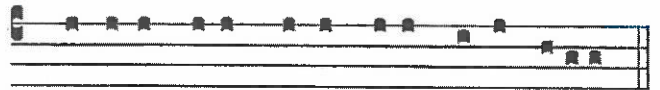
You are there with your crook and your staff;
 with these you give me comfort. **R**

You have prepared a banquet for me
 in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
 my cup is overflowing. **R**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
 all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
 for ever and ever. **R**



Dóminus regit me, et nihil mi-hi dé-erit:

Today if thou shalt hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Lorna Crewdson, Henry Prendergast, Elizabeth Workman, Sr Katrina Fabish

Anniversaries: Wanda Wheeler, Denis Boyd, Deidre Sweeney, Fr Brian Quin sm

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, Fr Mario Dorado OFM,

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

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Nicola.Young@wcc.govt.nz

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Rite 2 Reconciliation

Rite 2 Reconciliation will be held at St Joseph's Church on Tuesday 28 March at 7pm. All are welcome.

Office Manager wanted for NZCBC and Catholic Enquiry Centre

The NZ Catholic Bishops Conference and the Catholic Enquiry Centre are looking for an experienced Office Manager to help make our Wellington office in Thorndon Quay run smoothly. The CEC helps to make the Church more alive and Christ more known by informing and inspiring faith inquirers. The NZCBC is an agency for the national work of the Catholic bishops of Aotearoa NZ. The two agencies work closely together, side-by-side on L5, 204 Thorndon Quay.

Details and to apply: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/nzcbc-cec/>

Volunteer Refugee Resettlement Coordinator

This volunteer role requires a commitment of up to 8 hours per week.

Catholic Social Services (CSS) are looking for someone who is passionate about enabling former Refugees to get a great start in their new life in Aotearoa NZ. CSS collaborates with Red Cross, Catholic, other parishes and community groups in the Wellington area providing household goods to assist in the resettlement of people arriving into NZ via refugee pathways. The coordinator role is to ensure the smooth running of the resettlement project. It is anticipated that there will be 7-10 intakes across a year. For more information please contact Wellington Catholic Social Services on 043858642 or email reception@wn.catholic.org.nz

SMAYACS -

Eucharistic Adoration & Reconciliation

Young Adults Eucharistic Adoration at St Mary of the Angels (Wellington), Tuesday 21 March starting around 5.45pm after the 5.15pm Mass. Reconciliation will be available during adoration. All are welcome to spend time and be with Jesus!

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 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.

Symbolon

Join us as we watch and discuss the Symbolon series, which explains the "big picture" of the Catholic faith. The next session is 28 March at 6pm in St Mary of the Angels Hall and the topic is "Walk through the Mass: Exploring the Sacred Liturgy". 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.

Easter Working Bees

St Mary of the Angels Church—Saturday 25 March, 9am
St Joseph's Church—Saturday 1 April, 9am.

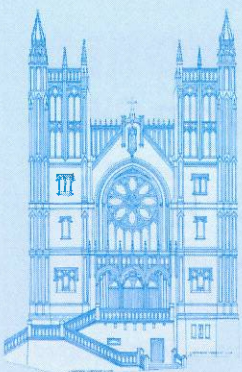
Please come along and help to spring-clean the churches and tidy the grounds in readiness for Easter. Many hands make light work! We'll take a pause for morning tea so please bring a plate if you are able to.

St Joseph's helpers — Please bring garden tools - hedge trimmers would be especially welcome, as are vehicles to help take refuse to the dump.

Youth Mass with

Identity:Identified Wellington Launch Event

Please join us on Sunday 26 March at 5pm to get together for Mass at St Mary of the Angels Church and a meal afterwards. This Mass will include the launch of the new youth New Testament Bible entitled Identity:Identified. Copies will be available to purchase for a reduced price of \$9.95 or 2 for \$15. Archbishop Paul Martin will be the main celebrant. Want to serve at Mass? We are always looking for volunteers, so if you would like to get involved, please get in touch with the Parish Office. See you there and God bless!



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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PLEASE SPECIFY AMOUNT

\$

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.

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.

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/

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 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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Please contact the Parish Office for further details.

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