

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

Parish Priest

Fr Kevin Mowbray SM
parish.priest@smoa.org.nz

Assistant Priests

Fr Joe Savesi SM
dennys4life@hotmail.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@extra.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 - 11.50am
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.

24 September 2023, 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Here is a Gospel that evokes very mixed feelings in us who live in today's society. If we are honest with ourselves we must admit that the story of the workers who come in at the 11th hour strikes us as unsatisfactory. Here are wage earners who have hardly dirtied their hands, or worked hard in the heat of the day receiving a full day's pay. Where is the justice in that we ask! Those workers who were employed earlier, criticizing their employer for not showing more respect for the rules of social and distributive justice: that can't be right! And if this is what the kingdom of heaven is like, then we are talking about a world which lacks understanding and logic. We must remember that they agreed on one denarius a day!!

What makes it so much more serious is that Jesus tells this story to justify himself: he has to defend himself against spiteful tongues which reproach him for his preference for people of questionable morality and doubtful integrity. To this accusation, he has already replied that it is not those in good health that need the doctor, but those who are sick. To strengthen this argument still further, Jesus draws attention here to how God acts. 'Why be envious because I am generous?' There is the key to the argument. From time to time some Christians complain that the Church is no longer what it used to be; made up of good practicing Christians. Now she is running after the indifferent people with no standing in the world, no power and reputation! If only that were true! God's ways are not our ways.

The background of the parable is the culture of the time, for Jesus as well as Matthew. The workers of the first hour are the Jewish people, called by God to work in the vineyard. They bear the weight of the day, from Abraham to Moses. Now at the 11th hour Jesus calls the pagans, gentiles to work in his vineyard. 'Thus the first will be last and the last first.' That, the Jewish leaders did not like to accept.

God's action surpasses our calculations and our human way of acting. God surprises us and sometimes it is uncomfortable. Maybe God is asking us to give more than what is just fair, not measuring it out, not trying to judge if it's enough or too little, or too much. True generosity from God is possible even in the midst of adversity.

We need to look at our lives and see the many small and big acts of generosity the Lord has given us and is giving to us. God urges us to give the best we can every moment of our lives.

Sister Frances Gibbs—Pastoral Worker

This Week's Readings

First Reading	Isaiah	55:6-9
<i>My thoughts are not your thoughts.</i>		
Second Reading	Philippians	1:20-24, 27
<i>For me to live is Christ.</i>		
Gospel Reading	Matthew	20:1-16
<i>Why are you jealous because I am generous?</i>		

Next Week's Readings

First Reading	Ezekiel	18:25-28
Psalm	24	
Second Reading	Philippians	2:1-11
Gospel Reading	Matthew	21:28-32



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection:	\$3,734
Automatic Payments:	\$6,144
Total:	\$9,878

Friday Adoration Discontinued

There will no longer be Adoration held after the evening Mass on Fridays. Adoration will still be held on every second Tuesday of the month after the evening Mass.

Upcoming Feasts

- 27 September—St Vincent de Paul, priest.
 29 September—Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels
 30 September—St Jerome, priest, doctor.

Thought for the Week

If it is important to you, you will find a way.
 If not you will find excuses.

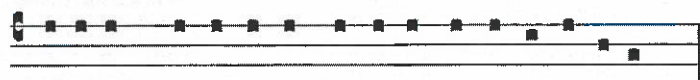
Responsorial Psalm 144

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day
 and praise your name for ever.
 The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
 his greatness cannot be measured. **R.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
 slow to anger, abounding in love.
 How good is the Lord to all,
 compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

The Lord is just in all his ways
 and loving in all his deeds.
 He is close to all who call him,
 who call on him from their hearts. **R.**



Prone est Domi-nus omni-bus invo-canti-bus e-um.

The Lord is nigh unto all them that call on him.

Children's Sacramental Programme

Children who are Year 4 and above are encouraged to join the Sacramental Programme for Confirmation, First Reconciliation and First Communion. Registration for the Confirmation Programme finishes on 21 September. Please contact the Parish Office at office.manager@smoa.org.nz or 04 473 8074 for more information or to enrol your child.

Faith Rosaries

We sell rosaries in the Parish Office designed and hand made by Ngaire Greger from Faith Rosaries. If you are looking for a rosary as a gift or for yourself, please contact the Parish Office to arrange a time to come in.

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Koru Moss, Dallas Trew, Anita Woods, Bill Carroll, Shirley Mahony

Anniversaries: Breda Smith, Olive Va'a, Zoe Moriarty, Norma Burns

Prayers for the Sick: Noreen Kirwan, Dianne Sweet, Losalia Leo, John Mora, Kerry Barber, Pam Finlayson, Francisca Sparnaay, Pat Mahony, Samara Jamed, Kay De Bernardo, Saturino and Magdalena Vilorio, Jim Meachen, Tony Mackle, Dr Bill Glass, Tracey Wernicki, Bernadette Coup, Philippa & Raymond Fagg, Phillip Hickey



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.



9 Francis Place,
 PO Box 9639, Wellington
 Phone (04) 384 8455
 Email: ltm@mcguinness.co.nz

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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Church Life Survey—Finishing 26 September

Our church is part of this nationwide survey of church attenders. This is a confidential opportunity for you to have your say on the life of our church and be heard by our leaders. Please take 10-15 minutes to either fill out a form available at the back of the Church, by visiting <http://tinyurl.com/smoap>

which will take you through to the survey or by using this QR code. The survey ends on 26 September 2023.



Please contact the Parish Office if you have any enquires.

Paper surveys can be handed to Sister Frances or Mary Crewdson at Sunday Masses, or into the Parish office during the week.

Holy Hour

You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 26 September at the Connolly Hall Chapel beginning at 7.30 pm to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Included in the hour will be prayers, praise and worship, scripture reading and silence, concluding with Benediction. All are welcome.

Pro Life 101

Inviting all youth to participate in VFL Youth Wellington's PRO-LIFE programme where we meet once a month to watch and discuss a series of informational videos on how we can better protect and promote the pro-life message. The first session will take place on the 30th of September at Saint Mary of the Angels Parish Hall from 5pm to 6:30pm. In this session, we will explore the essential things we need to keep in mind if we want to have a fruitful conversation with someone else about the issue of abortion. Please bring a gold coin donation for pizza.

To RSVP, please direct message the VFL Youth Wellington instagram (@vflyouthwelly) or text Helena (02041086611).

109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees Prayer

God, Father Almighty, grant us the grace to work tirelessly for justice, solidarity and peace, so that all your children may enjoy the freedom to choose whether to migrate or to stay.

Grant us the courage to denounce all the horrors of our world, and to combat every injustice that mars the beauty of your children and the harmony of our common home.

Sustain us by the power of your Spirit, so that we can reflect your tender love to every migrant whom you place in our path, and to spread in hearts and in every situation the culture of encounter and of care.

Pope Francis, 2023

Urgently Needing Readers

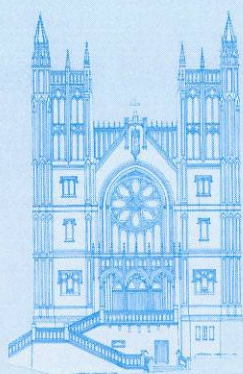
We are looking for Readers for the 7am, 9am, 11am and 5pm Sunday Masses. If you are interested or want to know more please contact Sister Frances on sisterfrancesgibbs@hotmail.com. There will be formation for those who have volunteered.

Caritas Vacancy

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, is seeking applications for a part time Finance Assistant. To view more details please visit: <https://www.caritas.org.nz/work-with-us>

Aged Care Ministry.

Yesterday the first formation day for Aged Care ministers took place in St Joseph's Church. Numerous volunteers took part in this first stage of formation for this developing ministry. If you are interested in volunteering in this Ministry, which focusses on visiting aged, sick and dying people in retirement homes and hospices, please contact Sister Frances by emailing sisterfrancesgibbs@hotmail.com or Fr Kevin on parish.priest@smoa.org.nz



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:

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Tel:

My contribution will be made by:

☐ Direct Credit

☐ Cheque

☐ Cash

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.

Current of Grace Wellington

Everybody is welcome at the Current of Grace Wellington event "I am moving over the nations will you follow me?" on Saturday 7th October 2023 at St Joseph's Church Mt Victoria between 10:00am and 3:30pm. Speaker; Josie Olsen. Healing service led by Fr John Rea SM. Bring your own lunch. Refer to poster on the noticeboard. Want to know more? Ring Steve Ready 027-356-9555 or email: currentofgracewellington@gmail.com

Compassion Soup Kitchen Fundraiser—Play Death and Taxes by April Phillips

New Players are back at the Gryphon with April Phillips' side-splitting financial farce that sends up the corporate world of insurance, investments and KiwiSaver!

Running from 21-30 September at the Gryphon theatre Ghuznee St, Wellington with the Soup Kitchen Fundraiser being held on Wednesday 27 September. Tickets are \$35.00 with a complimentary glass of wine. Bookings available on www.newplayers.org.nz

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.

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.



Rachel's Vineyard Retreats New Zealand

"Healing the pain of abortion, one weekend at a time..."

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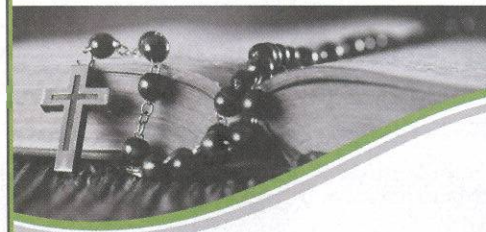
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A LEGACY OF FAITH



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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Wellington City

Open 7 days 7am - 11pm

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Ph 04 384 8054

www.newworld.co.nz/wellingtoncity