

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

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

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.

4 February 2024, 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time—Year B

How far would we go to break the law? Shocked? Well, Jesus was doing just that when he touched the leper. In touching the leper, Jesus had made himself unclean, contravening one of the many purity laws of his day. Some might say, “Big deal! Jesus was simply flouting a Jewish religious regulation”. The problem, however, is that infractions like touching the leper and doing other things, especially things forbidden on the Sabbath, would put Jesus in the cross-hairs of the religious authorities, antagonising them to plot for his demise.

Is Jesus condoning lawlessness? Of course not! But Jesus does throw up a conundrum when he, in Mark's gospel, quotes from Isaiah about the teachers of the Law “the doctrines [you] teach are only human regulations”, then Jesus goes on to say, “You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions”. (cf. Mark 7:6-13). We could quibble about the differences between God's commandments and human traditions but our human traditions often colour the way we interpret God's commandments.

What Jesus seems to imply is that God's commandments always place persons in their particular circumstance before other considerations, which may sound obvious enough but in reality we may be entering murky waters where the circumstances of one's life are at variance to society's regulations and traditions. After all, we are not all cut from the same cloth. Furthermore, applying God's commandments to life ought to be life-giving. It is far easier to treat everyone as just “another brick in the wall” than to admit of differences. In short, life is often complicated and messy.

And it is not as if the Lord has not given us guidelines to live by, like treat others as you would have them treat you, love your neighbour as yourself, forgive and you will be forgiven, and so on. These guidelines are the principles that format our way of life as the Lord's disciples. Still, life is often complicated and messy. Always remember the incident when the woman caught in adultery was brought in front of Jesus. To her accusers he said, “Let anyone who is without sin cast the first stone”. But, equally, he said to the woman, “Woman, has no one condemned you? Neither do I condemn you, go away and sin no more” (cf. John 8:7-11). If we are to be very careful how we judge others, equally, each person remains accountable for their actions.

Fr Michael Young sm—Assistant Priest



OPEN PARISH MEETING
AFTER 9.00AM MASS, 18TH FEBRUARY IN
THE PARISH HALL,
ST MARY OF THE ANGELS.

Early in 2023 the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) tasked the Revenue Subcommittee with researching whether the parish can continue to pay insurance for natural disasters for the Church of St Mary of the Angels (St Joseph's church has not been insured for natural disasters for a number of years). This period of research closed in late 2023. The recommendation of the subcommittee to the PPC was:

“The parish cannot rely on specific fundraising to cover the increasing costs of natural disaster insurance. Such a level of fundraising is unsustainable.

Therefore, natural disaster cover should be discontinued.”

The consequence of this recommendation is that, if there was a major earthquake in Wellington and St Mary of the Angels and St. Joseph's churches were badly damaged or destroyed, we would not receive any compensation from our insurers (other than for demolition costs).

Both the Parish Finance Committee and the Parish Pastoral Council accepted that this recommendation should be supported and communicated to the parish community. No final decision was taken at that point in time to accept or reject the recommendation.

In late November the recommendation of the Revenue Subcommittee was communicated to the parish at a special meeting held after the 9.00am mass. The aim of the meeting was to share the relevant data and to explain the thinking that shaped the recommendation. At that meeting it was announced that a follow-up meeting would be held in February 2024. In this way parishioners would have the opportunity to reflect on what they had heard. The meeting in February would give parishioners the opportunity to put forward *substantial* reasons which would encourage the Parish Finance Committee not to accept the recommendation. This follow-up meeting will be held on SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY AFTER THE 9.00AM MASS IN THE PARISH HALL. You are all invited to attend.

If no substantial reasons are put forward at this meeting which will convince the Parish Finance Committee to reject the recommendation of the Revenue Committee then the Finance Committee will ask the Parish Pastoral Council to accept the recommendation and so discontinue natural disaster cover for St. Mary of the Angels.

If natural disaster cover is discontinued Fire and general insurance will continue for both churches and the parish hall and offices as well as the residential properties at St Josephs. The parish hall and offices and as well as the residential properties at St Josephs would continue to be insured for natural disasters. Demolition insurance, in case of a major event, is obligatory according to Archdiocesan policy and both churches would be continue to be insured for those possible costs.

This Week's Readings

First Reading Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46
As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10: 31-11:1
Be imitators of me, as I am Christ.

Gospel Reading Mark 1: 40-45
The leprosy left him and he was cured.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading Genesis 9:8-15

Psalm 40

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel Reading Mark 1:12-15



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$3,642

Automatic Payments: \$5,624

Total: \$9,266

Upcoming Feasts

14 February—Ash Wednesday

Sunday Mass Parking

If you are interested in obtaining a carpark for Sunday Mass, please contact the Parish office for more information.

Thought for the Week

I am not a product of my circumstances;
I am a product of my decisions.

Responsorial Psalm 31

**R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble,
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

Happy the an whose offence is forgive,
whose sin is remitted.

O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile. **R**

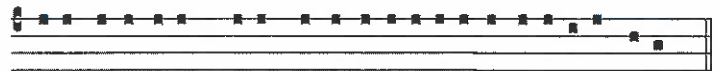
But now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.

I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'

And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin. **R**

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!

O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart. **R**



Tu es re- fu-gi- um me- um a tri- bu- la- ti- one, exsul- ta- ti- o me- a.

Thou art my refuge from the trouble, my joy.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Masses St Mary of the Angel's are being held at 7.30am and 12.05pm. A Liturgy of the Ashes with St John's Presbyterian Church will be held at St Mary of the Angels Church at 5.30pm (no Mass). Mass will be held at St Joseph's Church at 6.30pm with Ashes led by the Filipino community.

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Lydia Baltazar, Samara Jamed, Angela Y Jung

Anniversaries: Monica O'Grady, Dorothea Walker, Fr Noel Delaney sm, Keith Clapham, Dennis Maccagna, Peter Tawhiki, Ross Meads, Miriam Menzies, Grace Smith, Nomaza Sidima-Jacob

Prayers for the Sick: Noreen Kirwan, Dianne Sweet, Losalia Leo, John Mora, Kerry Barber, Pam Finlayson, Francisca Sparnaay, Pat Mahony, Kay De Bernardo, Saturino Vilorio, Jim Meachen, Tony Mackle, Dr Bill Glass, Tracey Wernicki, Philippa Fagg, Phillip Hickey, Stephen George, Archbishop Novatus Rugambwa, Joan Wolland



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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9 Francis Place,
PO Box 9639, Wellington
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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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The Time is Now! Ko tenei tonu te Wā!

The time is now to empower vulnerable families to thrive. Lenten Giving Envelopes for the Bishops' Lent Appeal 2024 have been distributed today at Mass. This year, we are using a single giving envelope. By reducing costs, we ensure more of your donations go to those in need. You can give once or weekly, as is your preference. You may either return your donation envelopes during the parish offertory collection or send them to Caritas directly using the freepost option with the envelope. NZ Post specifies that cash must not be sent through the post. Donations received by Caritas in these envelopes by 31 March 2024 will be sent receipts for the 2023/2024 tax year. Donations received by Caritas after April 1st will be sent receipts for the 2024/2025 tax year. Thank you for your generous support.

World Day of the Sick—Sunday 11 February

In his message for the World Day of the Sick, Pope Francis says: "Illness is part of our human condition. Yet, if illness is experienced in isolation and abandonment, unaccompanied by care and compassion, it can become inhumane. On this World Day of the Sick, as the whole Church journeys along the synodal path, I invite all of us to reflect on the fact that it is especially through the experience of vulnerability and illness that we can learn to walk together according to the style of God, which is closeness, compassion, and tenderness."

St Joseph's Tuesday Masses Resume

The 8.30am Tuesday morning Mass at St Josephs Church will resume this Tuesday 13 February.

2024 Bible Diaries

The Bible Diary can be your most treasured companion as you go through this year. Each day features the scripture readings and an inspirational reflection that can set the tone for your own personal conversations with God.

Fundraising for the Mission in India the diaries are available to purchase from the Parish Office for \$20 (or contact Sister Frances).



St Mary of the Angels Parish Donations

To make a donation to St Mary of the Angels Parish please scan the QR code and follow the link to our website.



Columban Calendars

Columban Calendars are available to purchase from the Parish Office during the week or at Sunday Masses for \$12.

Joshua Wellington

Joshua Wellington extends an open invitation to both men and women to come to a *MASS* followed by a light supper on Thursday 15th February 2024 at 7:30pm at 'Loaves and Fishes' next to Anglican Cathedral of St Paul, corner Hill and Molesworth Streets.

Celebrant: Fr Peter Ewart sm, Joshua chaplain
Want to know more? Ring David Monastra 027 4477 280 or email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

Lenten Reflection Programme "The Time is Now"

A reflection group using the Caritas material will be held each week during Lent beginning on Monday 12 Feb at 7pm at St Josephs Church Mt Vic. All are very welcome. You can also work through the reflections which are based on the Sunday Gospels in Lent at home. Go to <https://www.caritas.org/parishes> and look up Lent. Contact John Feeney ph 04 386 4956 for more details.

St Joseph Men's Book Group

Held on Tuesday 13 February at 7.30 pm in the Bill Pearce Room, St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria. Share from what you have read, Books, Magazines, movies or websites etc. Contact John Dalgety johndalgety57@gmail.com.

Taize Chant Group

Taize prayer service held Sunday 11 February from 7.00pm to 8.00pm in the St Joseph's Chapel at 152 Brougham Street, Mt Victoria

40 Days for Life

Prayer and Fasting to end abortion, will take place again in Wellington, Feb 14th-March 24th. For further information, please phone Maria Hammond 0273547367.



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

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.

Volunteer Refugee Resettlement Co-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 so being organised is essential.**

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

EWaste Collection

Saturday 24 February, 9am – 2pm at St Catherine's College, Upper Bourke St, Kilbirnie. Small cash fee per item. 027-245-8859.

Te Kupenga – Catholic Theological College

If you want to serve in the parish community, become a catechist, Christian or youth leader, or want to deepen your understanding of the Catholic faith, come and register at Te Kupenga – Catholic Theological College. We offer programmes that will help you build intellectual faith as you build faith communities. For more information, please visit our website at www.ctc.ac.nz, email us at office@ctc.ac.nz or call (04) 8198380. Scholarships and online options available."

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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