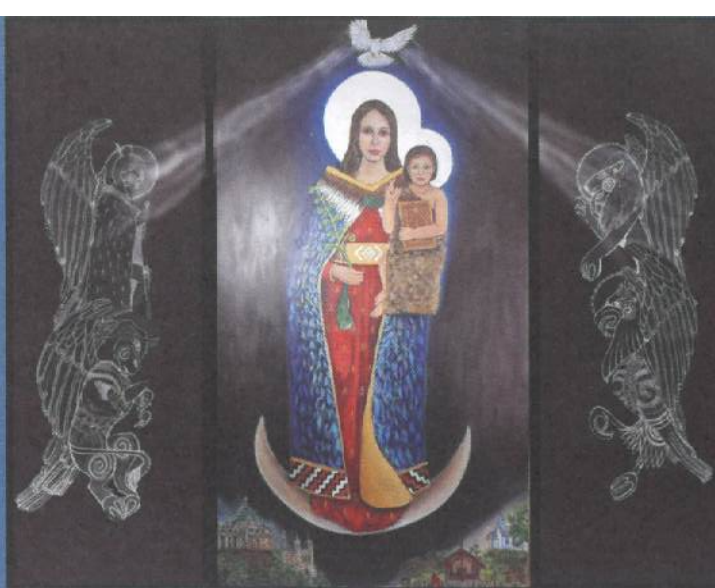


The Angelus

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 Hīna Maria, te Mātua Wāhine o te Ariā - Holy Mary, Mother of God

15 December 2024, 3rd Sunday of Advent—Year C

Parish Priest

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

Assistant Priests

Fr Joe Savei SM
dennys4life@hotmail.com
Fr Michael Young SM
mlyoungsm@gmail.com

Pastoral Worker

Sr Frances Gibbs CSB

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

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.

The underlying direction of the Season of Advent is a movement from expectation of the Lord's return, to anticipation of the Lord's immanent emergence in the preaching of John the Baptist, to the manifestation of the Lord's arrival at Christmas: expectation-anticipation-manifestation are the markers that anchor our Advent Season.

In today's gospel reading there are also three markers which point to the way in which the Season of Advent prepares us for the celebration of Jesus' birth. These three markers are found in our gospel reading today in the one question asked three times in succession, "What must we do?" The people asked John the Baptist, "What must we do?" John's answer, "Share what you have". The tax collectors asked John the Baptist, "What must we do?" John's answer, "Be fair in what you do". The soldiers asked John the Baptist, "What must we do?" John's answer, "Be satisfied with what you have": share-be fair-be satisfied, are the three markers which point to how we are to prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth.

These three markers – share-be fair-be satisfied – evoke a feeling of expectancy among the people, an expectancy which John fuels into a frenzy of anticipation by announcing the coming of Promised Messiah whom John feels unfit even to undo the straps of his sandals. We, of course, will celebrate the manifestation of this Promised Messiah at Christmas. This overarching trajectory of sharing, being fair and being satisfied spans the underlying movement of Advent from expectation to anticipation to manifestation. This threefold trajectory of sharing, being fair and being satisfied show us how we make the Season of Advent a period of preparation for the day of Jesus' birth. We are to share what we have. We are to be fair in what we do. We are to be satisfied with what we possess.

But there is also a warning that weaves its way through our Advent movement from expectation to anticipation to manifestation. The Lord's coming will also bring judgement; a judgement that will separate those who listen to him from those who reject him. Like a winnowing-fan, the Lord will separate the wheat from the chaff – a separation that begins with his nativity and ends with his final return when the good (the wheat) will be gathered in, and the bad (the chaff) will be burnt.

Fr Michael Young sm—Assistant Priest

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

The Lord is near.

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

What, then, must we do?

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Micah 5: 1-4

Psalm: 79

Second Reading: Hebrews 10: 5-10

Gospel: Luke 1: 39-44



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$4,185

Automatic Payments: \$4,343

Total: \$8,528

Carols with the Angels

Our annual *Carols with the Angels* concert will be held on **Wednesday 18 December** at 7pm here at St Mary of the Angels Church. Please join us for this special event in our parish, which will feature the Salvation Army Brass Band, St Mary of the Angels Choir, The Korean Choir, Wellington Young Voices, organists David Trott and James Young, and your favourite carols. Free entry with a collection.

Parish Office Closing

The Parish Office will be closed from Tuesday 24 December 2025 until Tuesday 21 January 2025. For emergencies during this time please email sisterfrancesgibbs@hotmail.com or parish.priest@smoa.org.nz

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Simon Taylor, Denia Nunns,

Anniversaries: Helen Parris, Shona Rippin, Fr George Duggan sm, Phyllis Clifford

Prayers for the Sick: Terry Pohlen, Kirwan sisters, Dianne Sweet, Losalia Leo, John Mora, Kerry Barber, Pam

Finlayson, Francisca Sparnaay, Pat Mahony, Saturino Vilorio, Dr Bill Glass, Stephen George, Greg Hayward, Neni Beres, Yvonne D'Souza, Joan Wolland, Julia Choquette, João Pereira, Stephanie Butler, Maisie Sinclair, Pauline & Brian Wilkins, John Ellis, John Price



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 12

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.

With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. **R.**

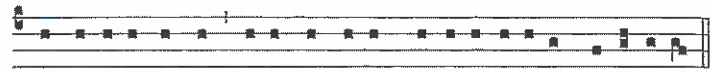
Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. **R.**

Sing a psalm to the Lord

for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy

for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **R.**



Exsulta, et lauda: qui- a magnus in me-di- o tu- i sanctus Isra- el.

*Sing and shout for joy, for great in your midst
is the Holy One of Israel.*

2025 Appointments

Fr Barry Scannell sm will be joining St Mary of the Angels Parish in 2025 after Easter. Fr Barry has been Parish Priest of Napier for the last 6 years and will be joining us as an Assistant Priest. Sending a very warm welcome back to Fr Barry

Carparks for Rent

The few church carparks have come up for rent Monday-Friday. If you are interested, please contact Abby in the Parish Office—04 473 8074

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Councillor

Nicola Young

representing Lambton ward

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with a City Council issue*

021 654 844

Nicola.Young@wcc.govt.nz

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National Shrine Prayer

E te Atua , Creator of heaven and earth,
Source of all life, giver of all that is good,
We pray for Aotearoa New Zealand

And for all who come to her shores and make it their home.

We recall with gratitude our forebears in the Faith,
Who dedicated this country to the care of Mary,
Mother of God, assumed into heaven.

Pour out your Spirit upon us as we seek to respond to you,
Bringing your peace and harmony to this sacred land.

May we continue to praise you as we carry the Good News
of Jesus Christ to our brothers and sisters.

We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord. Amen.
Mary, assumed into heaven; pray for us.

2025 Bible Diaries

The Bible Diary can be your most treasured companion as you go through next 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.

Columban Calendars

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

Food for Faith for Advent

Sign up at www.foodforfaith.org.nz to prepare for Christmas receiving daily email encouragements from Fr. John O'Connor's Food For Faith website.

Holy Smoke Candles

We have two new candles available in the office, Christmas Angels and Christmas trees. The Angels are \$15 for small, \$20 for large and, the Christmas trees are \$20. We still have Our Lady candles and Nativity candles available. Please purchase from the SMOA office or order online by emailing holsmokecandlesnz@gmail.com.



Annual Donation of Good to St Vincent de Paul Christmas Shop

Many thanks for the generosity of the Passionist Family Groups and Parishioners of our Parish. Your donations this year will go towards helping to provide gifts to 70 plus families in need in our community.

If you missed out on gifting and would still like to, all St Vincent de Paul stores are collection points for the Christmas Shop or you can donate money to bank account:

St Vincent de Paul Society Wellington
02-0576-0017817-00

Reference: TOYS

Your money will be put to good use replenishing stock when required.



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

5

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.

Catholic BnB

Catholic Hospitality in New Zealand and Australia, payment per night is \$50 for one guest and \$30 for each additional guest, e.g a couple would pay \$80 per. night for bed and continental breakfast. This is a wonderful way for Catholics to meet and enjoy the company of other Catholics . To purchase a book of details of hosts (\$15) , contact Marie Anderson, 027 280 0611 or email marie.ian@xtra.co.nz

The Jesse Tree

During Advent we reflect on how God was revealed to people in Old Testament times before the coming of Jesus. Matthew's Gospel (1:1-17) links the Old and New Testaments. He sets out the genealogy or whakapapa of Jesus' earthly family through which history, knowledge, philosophies and spiritualities were handed down until the birth of Jesus.

The Jesse tree is a visual reminder of this. The name comes from Isaiah's prophecy (Isaiah 11:1) that the Messiah or Saviour would come from among Jesse's descendants. The symbols on the tree are based on centuries of Christian tradition. They are explained further in the Parish App.

We will add 4 symbols each week of Advent beginning with the Creation (Earth), Adam and Eve (tree), Noah's Ark, and Abraham and Sarah (stars).

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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