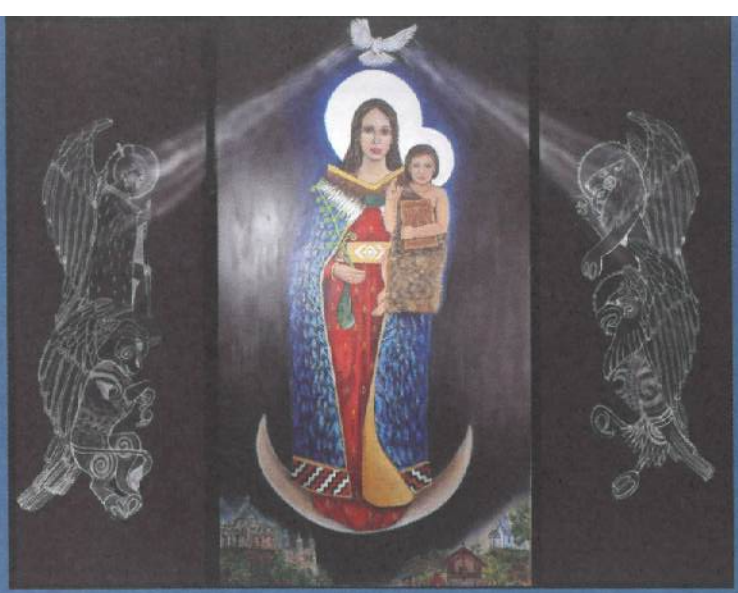


The Angelus

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

2 March 2025, 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest

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

Assistant Priests

Fr Joe Saveasi 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 Forty Days of Lent

On Wednesday this week we begin the Season of Lent, a period of forty days, during which we prepare ourselves to more worthily celebrate the three great feasts of Easter – the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples on Holy Thursday, His Passion and Death on Good Friday and His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Lent is a time for us to reflect upon what Jesus did for us during those days, the most important days of the year for all Christians, and so, understand better why we must follow Him, unite ourselves with Him.

Why forty days? The number forty is a very significant number in the Scriptures, both in the Old and in the New Testaments. Most importantly, for Christians, the number forty reminds us of the forty days Jesus spent in the desert preparing for his public ministry.

In the Scriptures the desert is a place of silence, of solitude. There is an absence of the routines of daily life. In the desert a person is alone, and so, more ready to trust in the mystery of God who dwells in silence. The desert is also a place of temptation, of death. Weak and exposed in a dangerous threatening wasteland, a person is prey to the other great mystery – the mystery of evil, the evil of misplaced pride, trusting in himself alone to overcome all temptations.

This place and time of choice – forty days in the desert – echoes the history of salvation, the history of God's people, the history of their attempts to "choose life". Think of the Exodus, God's people going out from slavery in Egypt and wandering forty years in the desert; at the heart of those forty years we find the forty days of the burdened leader, Moses, on the mountain top, alone with God; and then, the troubled prophet Elijah who journeyed forty days in to the desert to hear once again and more clearly the voice of God.

The forty days of Jesus in the desert not only enters into this history – the temptations of God's people, the temptations of Moses and of Elijah – but he also sums up this history for, in loving, humble fidelity to His Father, he overcomes all temptation. This history becomes His history!

Therefore, to be truly converted to the Lord we must also enter into this history, His history. Only then, at the end of this period of wandering trial, burdened and troubled like Moses and Elijah, yet humbly, constantly trusting in God's hidden presence like Jesus, can we cross over the River Jordan with Him and enter the Promised Land.

Fr Kevin Mowbray sm,

Parish Priest.

DETERMINING THE PRIORITIES FOR OUR PARISH OF ST MARY OF THE ANGELS



St Mary of the Angels and St Joseph's – a shared history and a new future together.

This overview document has been prepared by the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC).

The purpose is to provide a summary of the themes that will guide our thinking and help us to prioritise our mission activities. There are three broad themes:

- Sharing our living faith
- Growing in community
- Working for justice and peace.

Please take time to read through this document. Under each of these themes is a range of activities some already well-established, others yet to be explored. In early November, there is to be an update to our parish on two specific matters – our parish properties and the decision about our insurance commitments.

If you wish to add a comment or need more information, please contact Abby Cummins at the Parish Office:

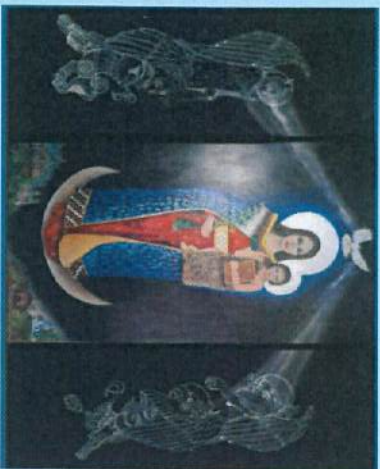
Office Manager, Abby Cummins (office.manager@smoa.org.nz)

PRIORITIES FOR OUR PARISH OF ST MARY OF THE ANGELS FOR THE NEXT FIFTY YEARS

We acknowledge our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and those who have passed on the Faith to us.

To provide guidance for decisions that our Parish Pastoral Council, our priests and our parish committees will be making for the foreseeable future.

Objectives



Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington Vision

"We the Catholic people of the Archdiocese of Wellington, challenged to follow Christ, are called to proclaim the Kingdom of God in our lives, sharing our living faith, growing in community, and working for justice and peace."



SHARING OUR LIVING FAITH

This would include:

1. Providing regular opportunities for the celebration of the sacraments, for a variety of forms of liturgy, for prayer and peaceful reflection.
2. Encouraging strong lay leadership, involving women, working to become more inclusive, educating and forming our people and building strong relationships with other Christians and other faiths.
3. Encouraging a spirituality of welcome, of hospitality and of manaakitanga - to all
4. Promoting and developing St Mary of the Angels Church as the National Shrine of New Zealand: Te Ara a Maria, Mary's Way.
5. Making the care for creation an integral part of our activities.



GROWING IN COMMUNITY

This would include:

1. Building community and journeying together as a participatory church that recognises our bi-cultural partnership and our ethnic diversity.
2. Listening to and involving young people, including young families.
3. Enabling young people to live as disciples through involvement in spiritual, service and leadership activities.
4. Developing links to our Catholic secondary schools.
5. Improving our chaplaincy and support services to tertiary students in our city. Making our parish facilities a hub for Wellington's young adults.



WORKING FOR JUSTICE & PEACE

This would include:

1. Looking at how we can best support people within and outside our community.
2. Supporting both the formation of and continuation of parish groups who work to deepen our understanding of the causes of injustice, and to offer a practical hand up to the disadvantaged in our society.
3. Supporting connections with local and national organisations who work directly to support the vulnerable.
4. Supporting the international church including the mission outreach of the Society of Mary.

Careful stewardship should underpin all our priorities.

This will include:

1. Sensible management of our material resources and ensuring our Parish is financially viable.
2. Maintaining and enhancing our two beautiful churches where we and the wider Wellington community celebrate our Faith in Jesus Christ.

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Sirach 27: 4-7

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 54-58

Victor has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Luke 6: 39-45

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26: 4-10

Psalm: 90

Second Reading: Romans 10: 8-13

Gospel: Luke 4: 1-13



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$3,985

Automatic Payments: \$5,728

Total: \$9,713

Guardians Needed

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.

Thought for the Week

Life is never made unbearable by circumstances,
but only by lack of meaning and purpose.

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Francisca Sparnaay, Eugenie Frances Laracy (nee Carmody), Ellis Meachen, Georgina Young

Anniversaries: Jack Wills, Aileen Gallagher, Jan Tuinman, Richard Mansor, Fr Chris Penders AA, Phil Busby

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

Finlayson, Pat Mahony, Saturino Vioria, Dr Bill Glass, Stephen George, Greg Hayward, Neni Beres, Yvonne D'Souza, Joan Wolland, Julia Choquette, João Pereira, Stephanie Butler, Pauline & Brian Wilkins, John Ellis, Mary Lucy, Catherine Ravenhall

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 91

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. **R.**

The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **R.**

Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing sap when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just.

In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **R.**



Bo-num est confi-te-re Do-mi-no.

It is good to praise the Lord.

Carparks for Rent

The few church carparks have come up for rent Monday-Friday for \$86.25 inc. GST. If you are interested, please contact Abby in the Parish Office—04 473 8074

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Masses at St Mary of the Angels Church 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 5pm (no Mass).

Mass will be held at St Joseph's Church at 6.30pm with Ashes led by the Filipino community.

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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.

A Night at the Paris Opera

TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND 2025

Featuring: **André Heyboer** (Baritone)

Chris Hainsworth (Organ & Piano)

Where: St. Mary of the Angels, 17 Boulcott Street

When: Tuesday March 11th at 7.30 pm

André Heyboer and Chris Hainsworth are touring Aotearoa in March 2025 with their stunning concert “A Night at the Paris Opera” and this will be their only concert in the Wellington region.

This event is promoted by the Wellington Organists Association – please contact the Treasurer, Peter Franklin for further details

treasurer.woa@gmail.com. There is no admission charge for attendance - suggested koha of \$20.

Caritas Lenten Reflection Programme.

The theme for Lent is “Restoring Hope: your compassion in action.” Each year in Lent Caritas provides a weekly reflection programme based on the Sunday Gospels. You can join our parish study group to work through the programme . First meeting Monday 3rd March 7.30pm at St Joseph’s Church Mt Vic. You can also work through the programme at home by down loading the material from the website ...<http://www.caritas.org.nz/lent-resources>. Ph John Feeney 043864956 for more information.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ,
our brother,
and the flame of love enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your kingdom.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the
treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

Join in a great Prayer for Life this Lent!

Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday - pray for an end to abortion.

Sign up and receive educational resources and daily prayer intentions. Join the peaceful prayer vigil near the abortion place on Wednesdays. Find out more at www.FLI.org.nz/prayerforlife

Envelope Planned Givers

With the end of the financial year coming up and cash being less readily available, now is the best time to switch to bank transfer if you are currently giving by planned giving envelopes. If you wish to know more or make the switch to bank transfer/automatic payment. Please contact Abby in the Parish Office to help set you up.

Mass Cancellations

Due to the lack of Priests there will be no weekday 5.15pm Masses from 3 March to 21 March. Evening Masses will resume on Monday 24 March.

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.



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 *PLEASE SPECIFY AMOUNT*
 Cash \$

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.

Otari Parish starts "No Greater Love-A Biblical walk through Christ's passion" .

Thursday 13th March from 6.30 to 8.30 pm for 5 consecutive Thursdays ending on 10th April just before Holy week.

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for each one of us. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary and will experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you. Every session starts with a small group discussion, followed by a tea & coffee break and ends with a powerful 30 minute video. Please register at the parish office - office@otariparish.co.nz before 8th March. A Koha would be appreciated.

Catholicism Series Bible Study

The Genesis to Jesus team brings you the "Catholicism Series" - a series designed to help ordinary Catholics grow in their knowledge of key Catholic topics like Mariam, Lent, Angels & Saints, Catholic Art & Architecture and more while deepening their understanding of our rich faith. 10 Video sessions in all, held every second Tuesday with the next session on Tuesday 11 March from 6-7pm at St Mary of the Angels Parish Hall. Koha appreciated; light supper provided. If you need more information, please contact Donaldson at drukose001@gmail.com

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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