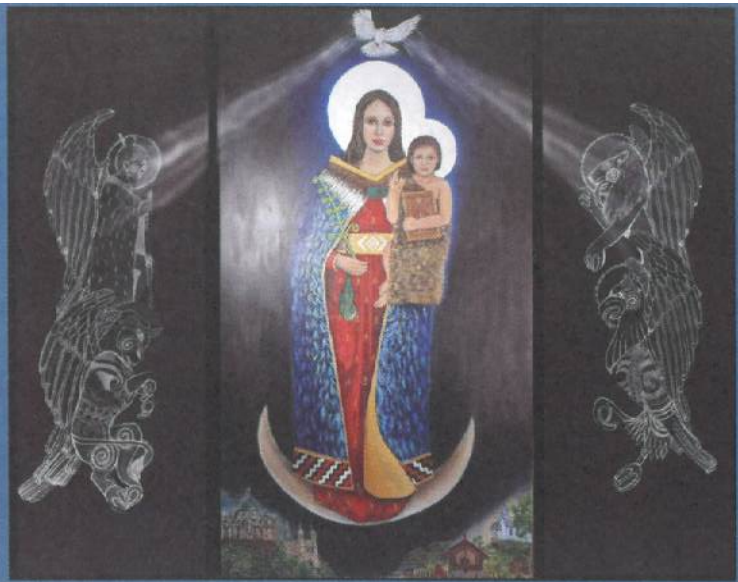


The Angelus

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

23 February 2025, 7th 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.

“Treat others as you would have them treat you” could easily be interpreted as only dealing with people from whom we expect a return favour. But in our gospel reading today Jesus calls his disciples to go beyond acting with return favours in mind. Jesus shows he is not a fan of mind-sets arising from notions enshrined in pithy phrases like “an eye for an eye”, “a tooth for a tooth”, “tit for tat”, and “quid pro quo”. He does away with the “this for that” mentality when he says we have to “love our enemy and do good, and lend without any hope of return”. His reasoning? If we love, or do good, or lend only to those from whom we expect a return then we’re no different from people who act only to ensure a return favour. After all, even scoundrels do as much, do they not?

In a way, doing good to those who treat us badly, turning the other cheek, giving more than is asked, or refraining from demanding back what was stolen, could be seen as ways of preventing “blow back” from people who rant at us for not practising what we preach. But, here, we must be as gentle as doves but as wise as serpents. There’s a saying: “If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime”. Being compassionate, tolerant and merciful should be our “default” setting, but we also have to be wise in discerning between those in genuine need and users who would happily take us for a ride!

Remember Saint Paul’s instruction to the Thessalonians: “We gave you a rule...not to let anyone have any food if they refused to work” (cf. 2 Thessalonians 3:10). There will always be people who would happily bludge off others rather than take responsibility for themselves; people who demand fish to eat but make no effort to catch it for themselves even when given the opportunity to learn. You cannot help an addict by feeding their addiction, nor are we helping bludgers by constantly giving way to their demands. Yes, our “default” setting is to be compassionate, tolerant and merciful, going that extra mile, but we are also to be wise; wise enough to tell the difference by their fruits between the genuine and the bludgers.

Fr Michael Young sm—Assistant Priest

This Week's Readings

First Reading: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 45-49
Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

Gospel: Luke 6: 27-38
Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Sirach 27: 4-7

Psalm: 91

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 54-58

Gospel: Luke 6: 39-45



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$3,355

Automatic Payments: \$5,447

Total: \$8,802

Holy Hour

You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 25 February at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart 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.

Thought for the Week

He who has a 'why' to live can bear almost any 'how'.

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Eugenie Frances Laracy (nee Carmody), Ellis Meachen, Georgina Young, Amy McLaughlin

Anniversaries: Carol Armstrong, Miriam Menzies, Grace Smith, Nomaza Sidima-Jacob, Fr Ken Scully sm, Rt Hon sir Ian McKay, Imelda Reeve, Thomas Duignan

Prayers for the Sick: Terry Pohlen, Kirwan sisters, Dianne Sweet, Losalia Leo, John Mora, Kerry Barber, Pam Finlayson, Francisca Sparnaay, Pat Mahony, Saturino Viloria, 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 102

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **R.**



Miserátor et misé-ri-cors Dó-minus:

The Lord is compassionate and merciful.

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*

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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.

CathNews New Zealand

The Bishops Conference this week launched the renewed CathNews New Zealand project. This ministry supports Catholics and people interested in the Church in accessing news and other content of interest. It draws from material that has already been published and includes original content. The best way to receive CathNews New Zealand is by signing up to the newsletter, which is sent on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Visit the CathNews New Zealand website and sign up at <https://cathnewsnz.com>

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 Feeny 043864956 for more information.

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

Passionist Family Groups Planning 2025

Sunday 23 February after 9.30am Mass at St Joseph’s Church. Please come along with some ideas and a month you’re happy to organise. Any queries contact Mary-Ellen Leen 0273336440 or maryellenleen@icloud.com

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.

Children's Day - 2 March

To celebrate Children's Day, the 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's on 2 March will be child friendly. We hope to see lots of children there.

St Vincent de Paul

A sincere thank-you to those who donate supplies into the St. Vincent de Paul food basket or give money through the QR code at the rear of St. Mary of the Angels church. This has helped us provide much needed care for many people.

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 25 February 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 dlukose001@gmail.com

The Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation Course

Love is a Decision - online registration closing soon for the March Course, consecutive **Sundays 2 & 9 March 2025**, Wellington. For queries, please email marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz



ST MARY OF THE ANGELS PARISH ONGOING MAINTENANCE APPEAL

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Tel:

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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.

Sad? Tired? Angry? Prayer is not enough!

Catholics everywhere need to remain informed and educated about what is happening around us. Jesus taught us that we need to seek both holiness and justice. For example, he said "the laborer is worthy of his hire". Today that translates into "a just days' pay for a just days' work"

This Jubilee Year St Mary of the Angel's is offering you an opportunity to be a person who seeks justice. Hardship and poverty are being addressed slowly by a Christian movement called "Living Wage Aotearoa".

Next Sunday, 23rd February, after the 9am, 11am, and 5pm Masses, we are offering a 15-minute workshop on 'Living Wage Aotearoa' in the St Mary of the Angels Parish Hall.

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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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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