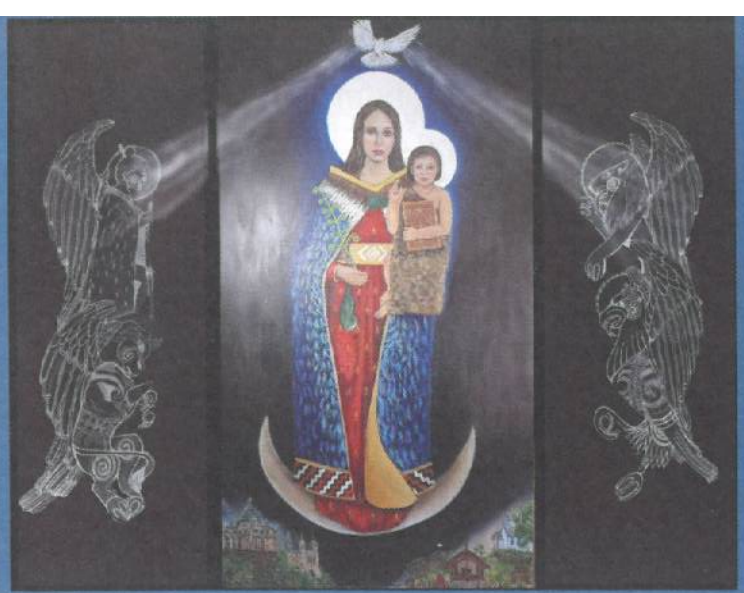


The Angelus

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 Hāta Mariri, te Marua Wāhine o te Atua - Holy Mary, Mother of God

23 March 2025, 3rd Sunday of Lent

The Patient Concern of Jesus for his People

The news media every day tells us of wars, murders, accidents, all sorts of catastrophes. In today's Gospel Jesus refers to two such reports which were very much in the news of his day. He does not do so in the manner of old-time preachers who would exploit a drama in the parish in order to press their people to go to confession. That is not the way of Jesus. For him violent deaths were not to be considered as divine punishments for sin. Rather, he seized upon the news of the day to warn his companions against allowing their consciences to become dulled, or, perhaps even worse, to slowly allow their consciences to become too accommodating.

If our consciences are no longer sensitive to the way we constantly miss the mark in all we do and say we run the risk of not being able to hear the urgent call to conversion demanded for entry into the Kingdom of God. Then we become like the fig tree in the second half of the Gospel – a tree that bears no fruit, a tree whose very existence is proof that it is a failure. Alive but not life-giving.

Fortunately, God, for his part, resembles the farmer who, patient beyond the limits of what is reasonable, allows his unfruitful fig tree just a little more time. If you like, God offers you and me another year of grace!

Another year of grace - such was the ministry of Jesus, such is the time of the Church before the Lord's return, such is the time of our own lives marked out, as they are, by a certain number of Lents. These are times and seasons of favour, 'favouring' our salvation.

Like the farmer, Jesus is patient with each one of us, beyond the limits of what is reasonable. How his patience ought to provoke in us an impatience with ourselves! While we have the time granted to us, while we still enjoy favourable times and seasons, it is never too late to change our ways. But it is high time for us to start. To once again listen to our conscience with sensible sensitivity, to listen to that small yet insistent voice within that urges us to 'choose life', to do good and avoid evil in all that we do and say.

Already in the third week of Lent, yet another favourable season granted to us, let us begin today!

Fr. Kevin Mowbray sm
Parish Priest

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

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.

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15
This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12
All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.

Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9
Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Joshua 5: 9-12

Psalm: 33

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21

Gospel: Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$4,043

Automatic Payments: \$5,352

Total: \$9,395

Holy Hour

You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 25 March 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

In the end, it's not the years in your life that count.
It's the life in your years'

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Francisca Sparnaay, Georgina Young

Anniversaries: Fr Brian Quin sm, Fr Michael Tomasi, Laurie Butler, Joan Smart, Mavis Henderson-Newport, Anita Rae

Prayers for the Sick: Terry Pohlen, Kirwan sisters, Dianne Sweet, Losalia Leo, John Mora, Kerry Barber, Pam Finlayson, Pat Mahony, Saturino Vilorio, 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, 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 does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed,
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons. **R.**

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him. **R.**



Mi-se-ra-tor et mi-se-ri-cors Domi-nus.

The Lord is compassionate and merciful

Food for Faith for Lent

Fr. John O'Connor offers brief daily encouragements for those seeking greater maturity in relationship with Jesus Christ. Sign up to receive daily emails at www.foodforfaith.org.nz

L.T.
M^cGuinness
LIMITED
BUILDING CONTRACTORS

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

DEVINE LAW
LIMITED

For your legal requirements
legal knowledge, human wisdom
Phone Fintan Devine on (04) 495 3747
Email fintan@devinelaw.co.nz
www.devinelaw.co.nz

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.

Planned Giving

Donation envelopes for the new financial year are available for you to collect at the back of the church, listed by surname in alphabetical order. Please check that the number on your envelopes is the same as on your label. If any details are incorrect please contact the Parish Office on Monday 04 473 8074.

Please let us know if you would like to join our planned giving programme, or if you would like to opt to donate by internet banking instead of donation envelopes this year. End of financial year tax receipts will be available by the end of April.

St Brigid's School Food Festival

Come and celebrate the vibrant cultures within our school community. Held at St Brigid's School, Johnsonville on Friday 28 March from 5-7pm.

24 Hours for the Lord

Make some time to be with our Lord Jesus in prayer and adoration, in communion with Catholics around the world in this Jubilee Year. Held at Sacred Heart Cathedral, starting with an Opening Liturgy at 5:30pm on Friday 28th, there will be ongoing prayer and adoration until the Vigil Mass at 5:30pm on Saturday 29th March. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available.

All are welcome to join the St Joseph's Church community from 4pm-5pm on Saturday 29 March.

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

Mass Cancellations

Evening Masses will resume on Monday 24 March.

One in our Midst

A new book by Fr James Lyons, features titles of Mary in the Litany of Loreto and the national shrine Te Ara a Maria.

He will be here for the 11am Mass next Sunday 23 March with copies for sale at \$25 each. All proceeds support the mission of the Sister of Our Lady of Compassion.

Caritas Lenten Reflection Programme.

Parish Group meeting Mondays in lent. 7.30pm in St Joseph's church, Mt Victoria. If you would like to follow the programme at home, please visit www.caritas.org.nz Lent Communities 2025 for a link to download the programme.

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



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.

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 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 dlukose001@gmail.com

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

Divine Retreat Centre NZ Wellington Unit

The Divine Retreat Centre Wellington Unit is thrilled to announce that Fr. Sunil Nagothu SVD will be leading a midday Lenten retreat at **St. Martin De Porres Church in Avalon on Saturday, March 29, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 2.00 PM.** We'll conclude this special gathering with a Holy Mass. We warmly invite you to join us for this significant event to celebrate and worship the Lord as we spiritually prepare for the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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..."

Confidential and sensitive support for anyone whose life has been touched by abortion.

"Wipe the tears from your eyes....there is hope for your future." Jer31

info@rachelsvineyard.org.nz

027 254 9222

www.rachelsvineyard.org.nz

Mahony Horner Lawyers



Know where you stand

www.mhlaw.co.nz



Everard & Antonella Aspell

for all your Real Estate Requirements

Everard Aspell
0274 445 248
everard.aspell@raywhite.com

Antonella Aspell
0274 453 088
antonella.aspell@raywhite.com

RayWhite

Licensed under REAA 2008

Harbour City
" FUNERAL HOME "



Serving the Archdiocese of Wellington for 35 years.

Wellington

56 Onepu Road, Kilbirnie

Phone: 387 8301

hcfh.co.nz



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.



NEW WORLD
Wellington City

Open 7 days 7am - 11pm

279 Wakefield Street

Ph 04 384 8054

www.newworld.co.nz/wellingtoncity