

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



27 July 2025, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest

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

Assistant Priests

Fr Michael Young SM
mlyoungsm@gmail.com

Pastoral Worker

Sr Frances Gibbs CSB
sisterfrancesgibbs@hotmail.com

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 Sat 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, 2nd and 4th Sundays each month

St Joseph's Church

Baptisms on 3rd Sunday of each month.
Please arrange through Parish Office.

A revolution in two words

Have you noticed that we never start the Lord's Prayer by saying, "Almighty God" or "Lord God," or even just "God"? Instead, we say, "Our Father." The creator of the immense universe – all that exists, has ever existed and will ever exist – is not far-off and impersonal. Instead, Jesus shows us that God is as close to us as our own family members.

Because we have been praying the Our Father our entire lives, we can easily miss how radical this is. Jesus himself prayed the Psalms with great frequency, but none of the 150 Psalms begin with this exclamation of "Father." By inviting us to address God as our Father, Jesus frames all our prayer in the context of a very personal relationship and tells us that we can speak to God with the same tenderness and honesty that we use with our closest friends.

One of the most challenging parts of the Lord's Prayer is that first little word: We don't say **my** Father, but **Our** Father.

Don't get me wrong, each of us is still invited to have a personal relationship with God, just as each child in a family relates to a parent in a particular way. But by praying to Our Father, we're called to leave behind individualistic ways of thinking and overcome division by being joined to a community of faith. Christian prayer is never simply about me and Jesus. Christian prayer is always united with the whole Body of Christ.

If God is our Father, then all people are our brothers and sisters. That person who cut you off in traffic? That politician you cannot stand? That friend or work colleague who spoke badly about you behind your back. You and I are challenged to believe God is their Father too.

"Our" is not the only sneakily significant word in the Lord's Prayer. There's an even smaller, even sneakier, and even more significant word: "as." We ask God to forgive our trespasses **as** we forgive those who trespass against us. We're essentially saying that we are in no position to receive God's mercy unless we first forgive others. As the Catechism states, "Our petition looks to the future, but our response must come first".

So, we say more in this prayer through those two little words than we may first imagine we do. We are saying we never pray alone but always as a member of a community, and, we need to forgive others if we want God to forgive us.

Who knew so much was going on in two little words! What if we lived as though what we were praying was true? How different the world might look!

Fr. Kevin Mowbray sm
Parish Priest

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32
Lord, do not be angry if I speak.

Second Reading: Colossians 2:12-14
He has made you alive with Christ for he has forgiven all our sins.

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13
Ask, and it will be given to you.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23

Psalm: 89

Second Reading: Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11

Gospel: Luke 12: 13-21



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$3696
Automatic Payments: \$6,089.
Total: \$9785

Thought for the Week

Life is not an exact science. It is an art.

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.

Responsorial Psalm 137

R. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you.

I will adore before our holy temple. **R.**

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you.

On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. **R.**

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of affliction you give me life and frustrate my foes. **R.**

You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. **R.**

In qua-cumque di- e in vo-ca-ve-to te, ex-audi me.

In what day so ever I shall call upon thee, hear me.

MASS Cancelled

Due to the shortage of priests, we regret to announce that the 12.05 pm **Wednesday** Mass until **August 13th** has been cancelled.

There will be a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Thank you for your understanding.

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Luisita Orale Naval, Mary-Rose Keller, John Gordon, Marion Alexander, Jadwiga Kolaczynska, Maria Sledzinski, Eileen Gregory, Louis Hannan, Brian Stempa

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



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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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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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.

Join Us To Celebrate THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY!

On August 15th at 6.00pm all the Bishops of Aotearoa New Zealand will gather here at St Mary of the Angels to celebrate the feast of 'Mary, Mother of God, Assumed into Heaven".

This is the patronal feast of our country and the feast of our church, the National Shrine. Everyone is invited to attend this special occasion. Through the intercession of Mary, we will ask God, our Father, to continue to shelter our country from dissension and discord, from violence and from war, to protect us and watch over us.

After the mass there will be an opportunity to meet our Bishops in the church hall where light refreshments will be provided.

Extra car parking will kindly be made available for us by the Baptist community in their parking building opposite their church in Boulcott St.

Please mark this date and time in your calendars.

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

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Program

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) programme will commence again on the 4th of September for anyone who is interested in joining our Catholic Community.

This programme runs from September to April and involves weekly group meetings to learn about and discuss our Catholic Faith.

If anyone is interested in joining this programme please make contact with Fr Michael on mlyoung@gmail.com for a meeting before the programme starts.

Registration closes on 28 August 2025.

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:

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Tel:

My contribution will be made by:

Direct Credit

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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

02-0536-0003-242-24

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 29 July 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

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.

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



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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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