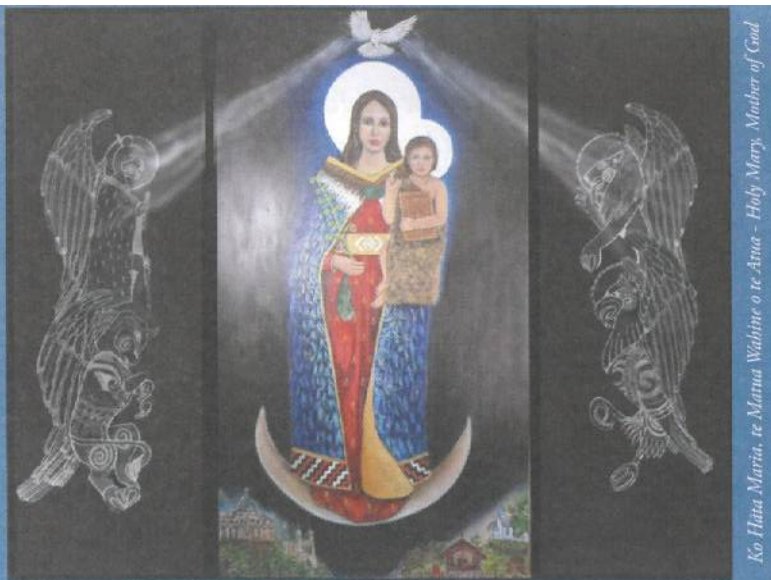


The Angelus

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



24 August 2025, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest

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

Assistant Priests

Fr Michael Young SM
mlyoungsm@gmail.com
Fr Barry Scannell SM
b.j.scannell@xtra.co.nz

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.

"God is love and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them" (cf. 1 John 4:16). Since God is love, salvation is pegged to love. All who live in love are not lost because God lives in them. Christians do not have a monopoly on love. So, Christians are not the only ones who are saved!

In that case, what does Jesus mean when he says in our gospel reading today, "Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed"? What is this "narrow door"? The quick answer is "Faith in Jesus". Well, yes but, you see, faith does not guarantee entry! Faith may get us to the narrow door, but faith is not a free pass! Why? Because it is Jesus who opens the door to us. After all, he is the gate (cf. John 10:9), so it is he who scrutinises those who may gain entry. It becomes a question of whether we pass his scrutiny, whether we pass muster?

In the words of our gospel reading, we may knock and say, "Lord, open to us". But the Lord may answer, "I do not know where you come from". We may remonstrate with him, "We once ate and drank in your company and taught in our streets" (Perhaps for us, an oblique or cryptic reference to Word and Sacrament?). However, as we know, external performances can mask the hypocrite or the wolf in sheep's clothing. We may be fooled by the keeping up of appearances, but the Lord is not fooled. The Lord exposes the heart. So, God forbid, we hear him say to us, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me!" It is then that we, who thought ourselves first by our faith, will find ourselves not only last but also left out!

You see, faith may give us a privileged run to the narrow door. But obligation comes with privilege. Despite the privilege of faith, we are judged by the heart where the obligation to love is exposed. In opening the door to us, the God of love looks to recognise himself in us!

So, we are back where we started. Salvation is pegged to love. All who live in love are not lost because God lives in them; and, seeing himself in them, God cannot deny his own self (cf. 2 Timothy 2:13).

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 66: 18-21
They will gather all of your people from all nations.

Second Reading: Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13
The Lord disciplines those he loves.

Gospel: Luke 13: 22-630
From East and West they will come to take their place in the kingdom of God.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29

Psalm: 67

Second Reading: Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$3780
 Automatic Payments: \$5,179
Total: \$8,959

Thought for the Week

Thought for the Week

Lord God, may your Word and your Eucharist deepen our Faith in your Son and so may we become more like him-ready to serve and ready to give. May His Spirit strengthen us to share our time, our treasure and our talents, according to our ability to offer them, for the good of our parish and our Archdiocese.

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Joan Killen, Peter Aston, Patricia Goulter, Eunice Clarke, Michael Loftus, Simon Michael Lai, Fr Patrick O'Neill SM

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, Yvonne D'Souza, Joan Wolland, Julia Choquette, João Pereira, Stephanie Butler, Pauline & Brian Wilkins, John Ellis, John Price, Patricia Gurleyen



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 116

**R. Go out to all the world;
 and tell the Good News.**

O praise the Lord, all you nations,
 acclaim him all you peoples! **R.**

Strong is his love for us;
 he is faithful for ever. **R.**



Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia-

Common Grace—Maori Ward Referendum

In the upcoming local body elections we will be invited to vote in the Māori ward referendum, which will determine whether we keep the Te Whanganui-a-Tara Māori Ward in Wellington City. The Ecumenical group Common Grace Aotearoa, with the support of the Ecumenism Justice & Peace Commission of the Archdiocese, has produced material to explore this complex and often misunderstood issue.

On Wednesday 3 September, 6-8pm, in St Joseph's Church, 154 Brougham Street, we will be sharing this material in an interactive discussion to help us make informed decisions on this important issue.

Please email js5445143@gmail.com if you are planning on coming, to give an idea of numbers

Come & See Vocations

Saturday 30 August from 9.00am till 12noon at St Teresa's Church, Karori. Are you thinking about priesthood? Join other like-minded young men for a morning of reflection, discussion and fellowship. Starts with Mass at 9.00am at St Teresa's Church, Karori. Text 021 164 5800 or email Lhensel@wn.catholic.org.nz to let us know you're coming!

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Councillor
Nicola Young
 representing Lambton ward

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 with a City Council issue*

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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.

Pilgrimage of Hope

A Pilgrimage of Hope to Hāto Mere/St Mary's, Pukekaraka, Otaki, Sunday, 31st August. Ngati Kapu invites all parishes of the Archdiocese to Pukekaraka, sited at 4 Convent Rd, Otaki. Arrive for the Pōwhiri at 1 pm. Programme includes sharing aspects of Māori, Marist and Marian history and spirituality through talks, prayer, time to experience the spirit of Pukekaraka. Come with a special hope or prayer on paper to be buried under a tree planted to commemorate this Jubilee Year. Parking available in the school and church grounds (for early arrivals) or along Te Rauparaha Street, which leads to site. Formal gathering will finish about 4 pm. Please email an approximate number of pilgrims coming to: pukekaraka1@gmail.com.

RCIA Programme

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.

Passionist Family Group Working Bee

The Passionist Family Groups Community Outreach Event this year is to be held at St Patrick's Primary School on Saturday the 6th September 9am till noon.

The event will take the form of a WORKING BEE as we help get the school grounds ready for the schools 100th celebrations on Sunday 14th September.

We would love what help we can get as there is a list of work to tackle!

If you can help - please come along to the school at 5 Childers Tce Kilbirnie at 9am, bring gardening gloves, garden forks (big and small) window cleaning equipment and a small plate to share for morning tea.

Catherine's College 75th Jubilee

St. Catherine's College Kilbirnie is celebrating its 75th Jubilee over Labour Weekend, 24-26 October 2025. The long weekend will be an opportunity for past students and teaching staff to connect and share memories of their days at the College. Tickets are now on sale at <https://www.trybooking.com/nz/WYU> for three functions during the Jubilee weekend:

Friday 24 October 2025 Cocktail Party 5:30 to 8:30pm - \$40

Saturday 25 October 2025 Jubilee Festival Noon to 3.00pm - \$30

Sunday 26 October 2025 Liturgy & Lunch 11:30 to 2:00pm - \$20

Please email sccjubilee2025@gmail.com if you have any questions. We look forward to you joining our celebrations.



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.

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My contribution will be made by:

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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 2 September from 6-7pm at St Mary of the Angels Parish Hall. Koha appreciated; light supper provided. If you need more information, please

Mass for Young People

Come celebrate Mass with young people across Wellington at the September Late Night Mass for Young People! Join us at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 8pm on September 5th to celebrate the Eucharist together with Fr Kinh. Please bring a plate to share for food and fellowship after the Mass in the foyer. You are all warmly invited!

Mass for Young People at Sacred Heart Cathedral

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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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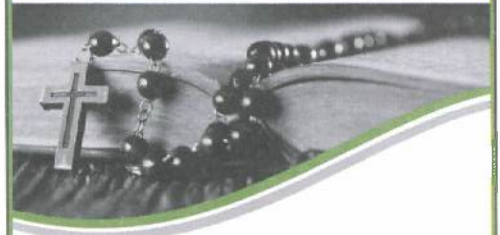
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Please contact the Parish Office for further details.

Phone (04) 473 8074.



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