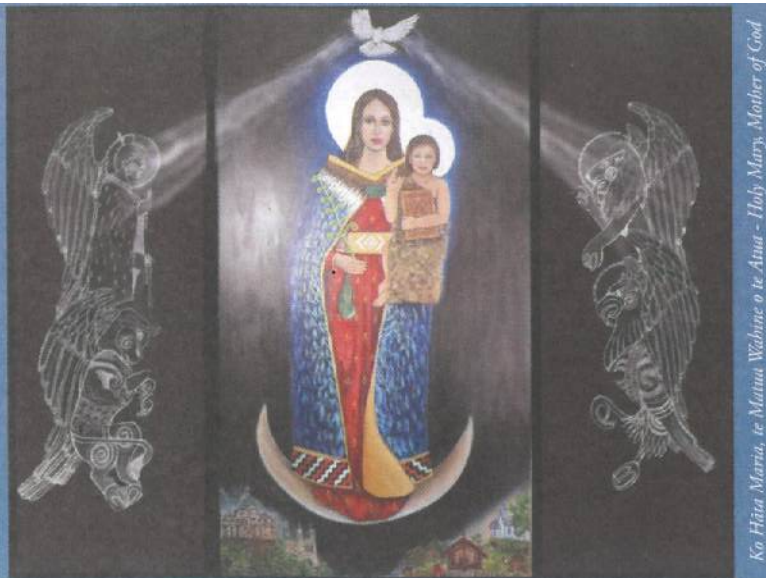


The Angelus

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

5 October 2025, 27th Sunday of 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.

Who would have thought the following had faith to move mountains?

The thief on the cross who said, "Jesus, remember me", the desperate father who cried out, "I do have faith! Help the little I possess!", the leper who asked, "Lord, if you want to, you can cure me", or the woman who covered Jesus' feet with her tears, wiping them away with her hair. Yet, their mustard seed-sized faith was able to move the mulberry tree-sized power of God: the thief gained paradise, the father saw his son cured, the leper was cleansed, and the woman had her many sins forgiven because of her great love. These examples should make us re-assess what it means to "Increase our faith".

"Increase" can be such a misguided word to use in phrases like "Increase in faith" or "Increase in grace". Why? Because "increase" easily smacks of quantity. So-and-so has greater faith than I and is, therefore, closer to God. So-and-so has more grace than I and is, therefore, higher up the ladder of sanctity. But how do we judge what is "more" or "higher"? Broader phylacteries, longer tassels, places of honour, babbling words in the hope that God will hear? Surely, when God's Spirit is at work, God is fully present, and not some fragmented "bit" of God at work. So, "increase" can result in a 'wonky' understanding when used in phrases like "Increase in faith" or "Increase in grace". You see, the mystery and paradox of God is the mystery and the paradox of love, since God is love. How does one quantify love? *Can* love be quantified at all?

Living the Gospel is our basic duty as servants of God. Our witness *is* our duty. So, by living the Gospel we are doing nothing more than our duty. But the quality of that witness? Ah, well, that's another matter. What is certain is that the quality of our witness cannot be quantified like stacking up loyalty cards or piling up graces in some heavenly 'piggy bank'.

And, so, we return to how we began this rumination: How did the people mentioned above move the mulberry tree-sized power of God by their mustard seed-sized faith? What defines quality over quantity? If nothing else, the question should give us pause should we ever apply the word "increase" to the theological virtues of faith, hope and love.

Fr Michael Young SM
Assistant Priest

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Habakkuk 1: 2-3; 2: 2-4
The just will live by faithfulness.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1: 6-8, 13-14
Never be ashamed of witnessing the Lord.

Gospel: Luke 17: 5-9
If you had faith!

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: 2 Kings 5: 14-17
Psalm: 97
Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2: 8-13
Gospel: Luke 17: 11-19



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$3,785
 Automatic Payments: \$5,487
Total: \$9,272

Inside the Conclave with Cardinal John Dew

Invite your friends, family and co-workers to a very special morning event on **Tuesday 7 October 2025 at 6.30am** at The Wellington Club (88 The Terrace, Wellington) to find out what happens inside the Conclave.

Cardinal John Dew will talk about his time at the Vatican during the funeral of Pope Francis and then taking part in the Conclave that elected Pope Leo XIV. Tickets are \$40 per person. There will be light breakfast nibbles, tea and coffee available from 6.30am, with the presentation commencing at 7.00am.

Tickets can be booked at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/nz/YVJ>

Responsorial Psalm 94

**R. If today you hear his voice,
 harden not your hearts.**

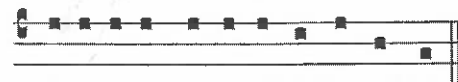
Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
 hail the rock who saves us.
 Let us come before him, giving thanks,
 with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
 let us kneel before the God who made us
 for he is our God and we
 the people who belong to his pasture,
 the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

O that today you would listen to his voice!
 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
 as on that day at Massah in the desert
 when your fathers put me to the test;
 when they tried me, though they saw my work. **R.**



Ho-di- e, si vo-cem e-jus audi- e-ri-tis,



no-li-te obdu-ra-re corda vestra.

*Today if thou shalt hear his voice,
 Harden not your hearts*

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

Invites everyone for the webinar on "Raising a Catholic family in the Third Millennium" with Cameron & Cheryl Surrey on **Wednesday, 8 October**, 5pm-6pm on Zoom. Visit <https://form.jotform.com/250418045698059> to register. You can find the post for this webinar also on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased: Sherie Hughes

Anniversaries: John Casserley, John Patrick O'Brien, Eileen Dysart, Claire Bourke, Brendan Gilmore, Mary Crompton, Sidney Hall, Leo Buchanan, Paul Jacobsen

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, Gillian Dudfield, Patricia Gurleyen., Fr Joe Savesi sm



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

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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.

Four 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.

Come Celebrate the Late Night Mass for Young People

On **Friday, 10 October** at 8.00pm in Sacred Heart Cathedral,
Hill Street. It has been amazing to see the Mass grow and we
hope to see more of you celebrating Our Lord in the
Eucharist together! Don't forget to bring a plate for
fellowship after Mass and we look forward to seeing you
there.

E-Waste Recycling Drop-Off Day

On Saturday, 11 October 2025 from 10.00am – 2.00pm at 12
Guildford Terrace, Thorndon, Wellington. All proceeds will
go towards the Sacred Heart Cathedral's Restoration Project.
See the poster on the parish noticeboard, or attached, for
items that will be accepted and costs.

Called & Equipped Formation Programme

Applications for 2026 now open! Are you looking for an
opportunity to dig deeper into your faith, and to learn how to
share it with others? Would You like to know more about
what it means to be catholic? Do you want to serve in your
parish community, but feel you don't know enough?
Join us on an exciting journey that offers personal faith
formation and equips you for ministry and service.
For more information, contact Lucienne Hensel
at: lhensel@wn.catholic.org.nz / 04 496 1715.

The Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation – Love is a Decision

Register online now on the Archdiocesan website for
the next Course, on **Sundays 2 & 9 November**
10.00am-4.00pm at St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie.
Please note that couples attend both Sundays together
in person to complete the course. The November
course will be the last course for 2025. The first
course in 2026 will be in March. Email:
marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz

Children's Sacramental Programme

The sacramental programme for children in Year 4 and
above will begin next week with preparation for the
Sacrament of Confirmation. The preparation for the
sacraments of First Reconciliation and First
Communion will take place next year.

Enrolments close today 5 October.

The preparation for Confirmation will begin with a
parent night this Tuesday 7 October. If you wish to
know more about the First Sacraments programme
please contact the Parish Office at:
office.manager@smoa.org.nz or you can contact us by
telephone 04 473 8074.

Children must have already received the sacrament of
Baptism to participate.

Support Life Sunday 2025 (Sunday, 12 October)

Pilgrims for Hope – Building a Culture of Love and
Life. Each year, on the second Sunday of October,
the Church in Aotearoa celebrates Support Life
Sunday. As the New Zealand bishops reminded us in
the 2023 document, *Te Kahu o te Ora*: "We do not need
to look far to recognise that our world requires a lot of
healing. All around us, we experience divisions that are
the result of human behaviours and
institutions." **Support Life Sunday 2025** provides an
opportunity, within this year of Jubilee, to focus on
how we can better support a culture of love and life
through prayer and action. Find out more at:
<https://catholic.org.nz/resources/>



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:

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My contribution will be made by:

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☐ Cheque

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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

02-0536-0003242-24

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 7 October 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

Sacred Music Workshop with Dr Robert Loretz

Calling all interested in liturgical music - Saturday October 11 from 10am - 4pm at the St Mary of the Angels Parish Hall in Boulcott Street, Wellington. \$20pp all inclusive. To register email smoayasinging@gmail.com and you will receive a link to our registration form. For more information phone Monica on 021 2991138

Exposition

Exposition is held each morning Monday-Friday at 6.30am—7.20am and every Friday from 11am until 11.50am. The Friday Exposition is followed with Benediction. We invite you to come.

5pm Music Liturgy- Interested in being involved?

We are looking for more people (singers and musicians) to be part of the music liturgy at the Sunday 5pm Mass. Music is an important component of the Mass and our aim is to support the congregation to pray and sing. There are no big rehearsal commitments or auditions. If you are interested and would like to contribute, please get in touch. Find us before or after Mass, or email: Kathy (5pm music- kathyperreau1@gmail.com) and William (Director of Music - wmcelweemusic@gmail.com).

Missionary Sisters of Peter Claver

Shared Spring Dinner Fundraiser held on Saturday 11th October at 6pm in St Anne's Catholic Church Hall, 22 Emmett Street Newtown. Please bring a plate of food to share. Tickets available from the hall entrance from 6pm. Adults-\$15, \$10 6-12 year olds, free for 5 and under.



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Please contact the Parish Office for further details.

Phone (04) 473 8074.



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