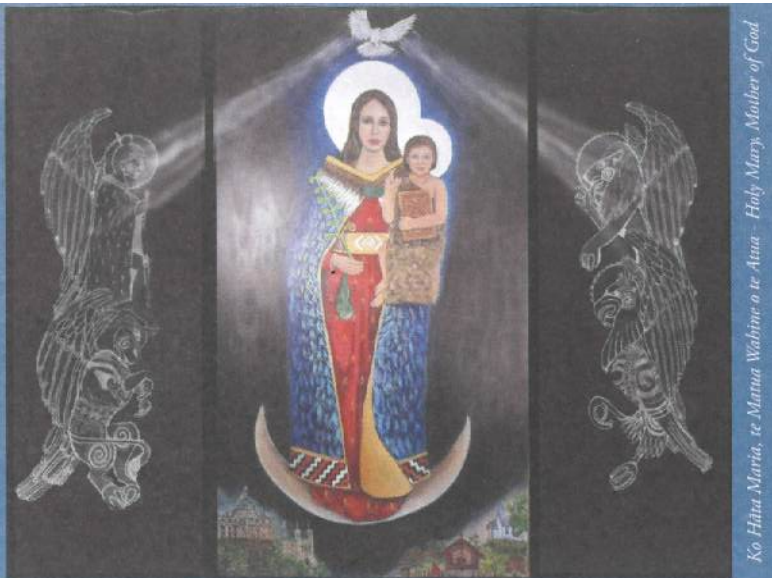


The Angelus

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 Hina Maria, te Matua Wāhine o te Atua - Holy Mary, Mother of God

23 November 2025, Christ The King

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

Fr Ben D'souza sm
a.priest@smoa.org.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

Farewell for Father Kevin Mowbray sm

The Pastoral Parish Council will host a farewell for Father Kevin after the 11am Mass today in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome.

If you wish to contribute towards a gift to Father Kevin please give it to one of the priests or bring it to the Parish Office. If you wish to contribute by direct debit the Parish bank accounts details are:

SMOA Parish Account: BNZ 02-0536-0003242-24

Father Kevin leaves for his new position as Parish Priest of Christchurch South tomorrow.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Today at the Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart 12 young people from St Mary of the Angels Parish will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Archbishop Paul Martin DD. These children have already been baptized and next year will complete their full initiation into the Church with the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

We warmly congratulate these children and acknowledge the Sacramental team who have helped prepare them for this sacrament.

Today at the 11am Mass at St Mary of the Angels two adult parishioners, Maria Karina Pina and Eoin Denvir will also receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. We warmly congratulate them on their full initiation into the Church.

Sung Advent Vespers

Each year we celebrate the beginning of Advent by joining with our neighbouring Christian churches; St John's Presbyterian and St Peter's Anglican by celebrating sung Advent Vespers. This year St Mary of the Angels are host for this liturgy.

Please mark the date in your calendars:

Sunday 30 November at 7pm in St Mary of the Angels Church. Supper will follow in the Parish Hall.

Carols with the Angels

The annual Carols with the Angels will be held on Wednesday 17 December at 7pm in St Mary of the Angels Church. This is always a 'highlight' of our preparation for Christmas so please put this date in your diary and invite your family and friends.

Father Barry Scannell sm

Feast of Christ the King

The Solemnity of Christ the King reminds us that Jesus' kingdom is not based on earthly power but on sacrifice and love. Through his death, he brings us into his kingdom, which is the Church. Just as Israel became one with David, we become one with Christ through the New Covenant. In every Eucharist, we renew this bond and look forward to the day we will be with him in paradise.

Jesus is a different kind of king, not what the people expected. Many hoped for a strong leader who would free them from Roman rule. They wanted a king like David, who would fight their enemies and restore their nation. Jesus doesn't rule with force or seek power for himself. His kingdom is based on love, mercy and sacrifice. The readings today show us how his kingship is not like earthly rule. He frees us, welcomes us, and calls us to follow him.

The rulers and soldiers mocked Jesus as he hung on the cross. They challenged him to save himself if he was truly the King. They expected a king who would use power to escape suffering. But Jesus showed his kingship in a different way. He accepted the cross and forgave those who hurt him.

Jesus frees us in a way no earthly ruler can. He frees us from sin, fear, and death. He calls us to live in his kingdom by caring for others, especially those who are weak or rejected. His rule is not about force but about love.

Following Jesus means trusting in God, even when life is hard. It means loving others even when it costs us something. Jesus shows us that true freedom comes from giving ourselves to God and serving others. This is what it means to live in his kingdom. To follow Jesus isn't always easy, for he does not rule with violence and power. His kingdom is built on peace, justice and love. It is not limited by time or place.

Jesus is a king of mercy. He does not rule with fear or punishment. He rules with kindness and forgiveness. He invites everyone into his kingdom, no matter their past.

In the Gospel, two criminals were crucified with Jesus. One insulted him, the other defended him. The second criminal admitted his guilt and asked Jesus to remember him. Jesus did not reject him instead he promised him a place in paradise.

This moment shows us the heart of Jesus' kingship. He does not turn away sinners. He welcomes those who seek him. He does not ask for great achievements or perfect lives. He asks for faith and trust.

Sister Frances Gibbs
Pastoral Worker

This Week's Readings

First Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3
They anointed David King of Israel.

Second Reading: Colossians 1:12-20
He has taken us into the kingdom of his beloved Son..

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43
Lord remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm: 121

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44



Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection: \$3,805
 Automatic Payments: \$5,042
Total: \$8,847

St Joseph's Working Bee 9am Saturday 29 November

Please come along and help to spring-clean the church and tidy the grounds in readiness for Christmas. Many hands make light work! Please bring garden tools/brooms and vehicles to help take refuse to the dump. We'll take a pause for the usual magnificent morning tea so please bring a plate if you are able to.

Harbour City Christmas Remembrance Service

As the Christmas season approaches we are mindful that the loss of a loved one during the year can make it a challenging time. We invite all to gather strength from each other at our annual 'Christmas Remembrance Service' being held at Old St Paul's on Friday December 12th at 6:30pm.

Responsorial Psalm 97

R. . Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

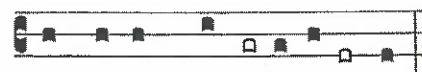
I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house'.
 And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

Jerusalem is built as a city strongly compact. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.. **R.**

For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David.. **R.**



Lae-tá-tus sum in his quae dicta sunt mi-hi:



in domum Dó-mi-ni í-bi-mus.

*I rejoiced at the things that were said to me:
 we shall go into the house of the Lord.*

Blessing of Choirs

Each year on the Feast of Christ the King we thank God for those who enhance our Liturgy through singing. There will be a special blessing for the choirs at Masses today.

2026 Bible Diaries

The Bible Diary can be your most treasured companion as you go through next year. Each day features the scripture readings and an inspirational reflection that can set the tone for your own personal conversations with God. Fundraising for the Mission in India the diaries are available to purchase from the Parish Office for \$20.

Mass has been offered for:

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: James O'Neil, Mary O'Shea, Nora Johnson, Melva Gould, Michael McMullen

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, Irene Reeve



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.

Advent: a hikoī for Pilgrims of Hope

In this new book, Bringing the Word to Life, Fr James Lyons and other Catholic leaders and writers, including Cardinal John Dew, offer timely reflections for each day of Advent and Christmas. Connecting Biblical truth with modern-day examples, they provide valuable spiritual nourishment for Catholics as this Year of Jubilee comes to a close – and a new year begins. As Archbishop Paul says, "I highly recommend it, and I know that you will find the reflections by fellow Catholics relevant and reflecting our faith experience within the context of this beautiful country we live in." If you are interesting on purchasing for \$8.00, please contact the Parish Office to make an order.

A Merry Vinnies Christmas

The Passionist Family groups of the Parish annually help to collect items donated by the PFG's and other Parishioners who wish to donate.

There are baskets in each of the two Mass Centre's foyers. Please see the Parish Noticeboard with the list of items St Vincent de Paul are looking for, this is a great way to help those in need over the Christmas Season.

Thanking you in advance for your kind generosity..

St Mary of the Angels Working Bee 8.30am—10am, Saturday 6 December

Please come along and help tidy our Church ready for Christmas.

If possible, bring soft cloths or rags or long handled dusters.

All helpers welcome.

Catholic Kiwi Podcast

The New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference has launched a new podcast series, sharing stories of faith, ministry and mission of Kiwis and visitors to our shores. The first episodes have been released, with new episodes scheduled as part of Season 1 leading up to Christmas. Search "Catholic Kiwi Podcast" on YouTube or Spotify now.

Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap is back on again at the Sprig & Fern! Come and enjoy a cold drink and good food and learn about Ignatian Spirituality!

Monday, 24 November, 6pm at Sprig & Fern, Thorndon.

P.S We would appreciate no outside food and drink - instead please support Sprig & Fern for hosting us by getting a cheeky bite and bevy from the bar!

Last Vocations Holy Hour for 2025!

Join us for an hour of adoration, reflection and prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. 7.30pm—8.30pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Thorndon on Tuesday, 25 November.

The Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation Love is a Decision

Register online on the Archdiocesan website for the next course, consecutive **Sundays, 1 and 8 March 2026**. Please note that couples attend both Sundays together in person to complete the course. Courses are offered four times a year - they will run in March, June, September and November 2026. For queries please email: marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz

Called & Equipped Formation Programme

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. Applications close on 30th November 2025. For more information, contact Lucienne Hensel at: l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz / 04 496 1715.



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 2 December 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

World Youth Day 2027

Interested in going to South Korea? Come join us for World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul! Please fill out the expression of interest form below and email Regina Fernandes at r.fernandes@wn.catholic.org.nz for any questions.

Reflections on Jubilee 2025-Pilgrims of Hope

As we draw near the end of the Jubilee Year in January 2026, Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is offering its last webinar for the year "Reflections on Jubilee 2025-Pilgrims of Hope" with Fadi Yalda, Lecturer in Biblical Studies. This webinar is on **Wednesday, 26 November 5.00-6.00pm** via Zoom. Fee is \$20. To register, go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinar2025 Please feel free to share the [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) posts as well.

November is Catholic Social Services Annual Appeal Month

We live in challenging times - times that are causing many people to lose hope. The poor and vulnerable among us are especially affected. This is why we need your help. Your ongoing support helps us bring hope to those who need it. Supporting this valuable mahi is easy, and there are many ways to do so, including the link: www.catholicssocialservices.org.nz/donate

Prefer to donate via bank transfer? You can use CSS' bank account details to donate directly through your internet banking service.

BANK: BNZ

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 02 0560 0213864 000

PARTICULARS: your surname & initial

REFERENCE: Your phone number

CODE: CSS-HOPE



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Please contact the Parish Office for further details.

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