



Catholic Parish of Wellington South

In the spirit of Suzanne Aubert



We are a community of joyful disciples growing together and sharing Christ's message
Ko tātou tetahi hāpori o ngā ākonga harikoa, e whakatupu ngātahi ana, e ruia ana te karere o Hēhu Karaiti

Sunday 7 December 2025 2nd Sunday of Advent

1700 years. The Pope has recently visited Turkey. Whilst there Pope Leo helped mark the 1700th anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea where the basic tenets of Christianity were established in AD325. The council, which was arranged by the emperor Constantine who had legalised Christianity a decade earlier, brought together Bishops who ruled that Jesus was the Son of God. That core belief is still shared with Orthodox and Protestant churches.

Pope Leo XIV visit to Nicaea can be viewed on YouTube or Vatican TV.

Now

2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday 7 December

Coming up

Advent Reconciliation

Saturday 13 December
3pm SFDS

SimbangGabi

Starts Monday 15 December
St Anne's 7pm

Diamond Jubilee SFDS

18/19 April

Weekend Mass

Vigil Mass

6pm St Francis de Sales

Sunday Mass:

9am Mass St Anne's

10.30am St Francis de Sales

5pm St Anne's

Samoan Mass every 3rd Sunday

Weekday Mass

Mon: 9am Mass St Francis de Sales

Tues: 10am Liturgy at St Anne's

Wed: 9am St Bernard's in Term time

Thurs: 10am St Anne's

Fri: 9.15am St Francis de Sales

Sat: 10am St Anne's

Gospel Reflection

Giving hope a fresh chance

The readings today speak of God's promise coming to fulfilment, despite the obstacles which humans continually put in the way. Isaiah is the prophet who encourages a nation that has lost its way to begin again, trusting that God who created the world to be in harmony and at peace will allow it once more to be a place where good can prosper and flourish.

The shoot that springs from Jesse's stock is a promise made almost seven centuries before Jesus but expressing beautifully how God's spirit will shape his life and ministry. And by his light and truth, the world will begin to reflect again the peace which the Creator intended, 'as the calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them.' The root of Jesse is a signal not just for Israel but for the nations, with blessings for all peoples to enjoy.

Paul's letter to believers in Rome picks up the same point, when he reminds them that Jesus has extended his friendship to pagans as well as to Jews, and that God is honoured when all are living in harmony together. 'It can only be to God's glory for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you.'

The same message is echoed in the reading from Matthew's gospel where John the Baptist strides onto the scene, calling on everyone to prepare a way for the Lord and to make his paths straight. No one is exempt from the challenge nor can any gain easy access. Pharisees and Sadducees who count themselves as Abraham's descendants will only make the cut if they come up with the fruit of repentance and right living.

As we light the peace candle, the second on our Advent wreath, we must ask what needs to be straightened in our way of responding to God's call. How well do we care for the poor, for migrants and refugees, and for the planet which is our common home? What would Jesus ask us to change if he stood in our midst today?

Can we separate the wheat in our lives from the chaff that waits to be burnt? What do we need to change, for hope to be given a fresh chance in our lives today?

Dennis Horton



Responsorial Psalm : Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Gospel acclamation: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Remembering the Holy Souls

RIP : Pepe Volpicelli

Anniversaries : Gerard Hoskins

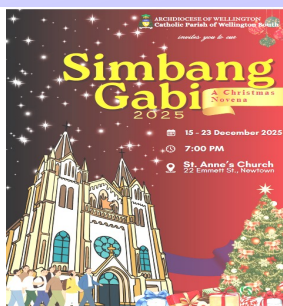


For the latest information visit the Parish Website - wellingtonsouthcatholic.org

The second candle on the Advent wreath represents Peace. Like the first candle, it is also purple. Often called the "Bethlehem Candle," the second Advent candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Jesus.

SIMBANG GABI :

Once again we will be hosting Christmas Novena Masses from 15 to 23 December 2025 at **St Anne's Church**, Newtown, 7pm start. Let us prepare and reflect on the birth of Jesus through the lens of the Virgin Mary. All are welcome!



Many thanks to those of you who donated plants and came to the Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver Plant Sale. A total of \$1,400 was raised for the Missions. God bless you all.



Christmas Timetable 2025/26

Advent Reconciliation

Saturdays 6, 13 + 20 Dec 10.30am St Anne's

Saturday 13 December 3pm St Francis de Sales

CHRISTMAS EVE Wed December 24

6pm Family Mass St Francis de Sales

7.30pm Family Mass St Anne's

9pm Night Mass St Francis de Sales

CHRISTMAS DAY Thurs December 25

9am Mass St Anne's

10.30am Mass St Francis de Sales

NOTE: There will be NO MASSES Fri 26, Mon 29, Tues 30 Wed 31 Dec

Readings for this week

Sun 7 Dec : Isaiah 11:1-10 ; Romans 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Mon 8 Dec : Genesis 3:9-15,20; Eph 1:3-6,11-12; Lk1:26-38

Tue 9 Dec : Isaiah 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wed 10 Dec: Isaiah 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

Thurs 11 Dec : Isaiah 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Fri 12 Dec : Isaiah 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Sat 13 Dec: Eccl 48:1-4,98-11; Mt 17:10-13



Our Ecumenical Youth

Group had their last formal gathering Friday Nov 28th. Starting with fish'n'chips, then doing some Advent decorating, and finishing with a Nativity Story treasure hunt. The evening ended with a live-action game of "pin Joseph on the donkey!" In two weeks they will end a great year with a BBQ and bonfire at Princess Bay, before starting another year of fun and learning about our faith in Feb 2026. All welcome, years 7-13, contact Quentin on 022 198 1913



Croatian Mass: The Croatian Catholic Mission is organising their annual Croatian language Mass at **St Anne's Church** on Sunday 14 December at 11am with Fr Don Bizjak for the 3rd Sunday of Advent.



Island Bay Community Christmas Carols

Sunday 14 December at St Hilda's Church. 311 The Parade Island Bay. Starts 3pm Catholics providing the sausages. All Welcome

Christmas Carols around Wellington Hospital on Christmas Eve. Parishioners including Youth, are invited to support this event. We will meet at 6.45pm, 24 Dec. and gather inside the main entrance area. Each year, people from various churches and community choirs come together to sing in groups around the hospital. All ages welcome, there is walking between the wards.

Carols at Parliament: Christmas celebration service in the Banquet Hall, Parliament Buildings, Wellington from 7 pm (please arrive before 6:30 pm to be seated by 6.50 pm) **Sunday 7 December 2025** Many people from Wellington churches and communities will join together to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

Holy Hour with the St Peter Claver Sisters. Blessed Sacrament exposed every Thursday 6 to 7pm at 1 Mersey St Island Bay. We pray for peace, families and vocations etc. All are welcome. Contact the Sisters on 04 3838401

Join us for **Divine Mercy** starting 9.10am every Sunday before mass at St Francis de Sales Church - all are very welcome to join us.

SFDS 60th Jubilee 18/19 April 2026 planning - Meeting on Tuesday 9 December, 7.00pm, in the Presbytery.

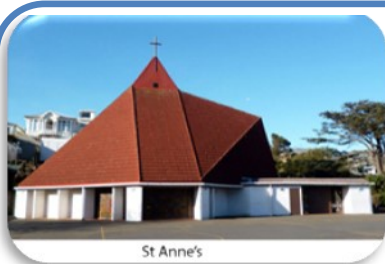
Columban Calendars

Available in the Church Foyer \$12

Bible Diaries 2026

available now for \$20 in the church foyer

Advent: a hikoi for Pilgrims of Hope \$6 contact the office



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