



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 whakaturu ngātahi ana, e ruia ana te karere o Hēhu Karaiti



Sunday 1 February 2026 4th Sunday Ordinary Time

In this age, marked by so many seemingly interminable wars, by internal and social divisions that create mistrust and fear, St Francis continues to speak ... because his life points to the authentic source of peace...Peace with God, peace among human beings, and with creation are inseparable dimensions of a single call to universal reconciliation. *Pope Leo to the Conference of Franciscan family*

Now

Presentation of the Lord

Monday 2 February 9am SFDS

Waitangi Day

Friday 6 February

9am at St Mary of the Angels

Coming up

Teachers Commissioning Mass

Tuesday 17 Feb 5.30pm

Sacred Heart Cathedral

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 18 February

Sacramental Parent Evening

Tuesday 3 March 7pm St Anne's

60th Diamond Jubilee of SFDS

18/19 April

Weekend Mass

Vigil Mass

6pm St Francis de Sales

Sunday Mass:

9am Mass 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 St Anne's

Thurs: 10am St Anne's

Fri: 9.15am St Francis de Sales

Sat: 10am St Anne's

From Fr Doug

Dear Parishioners

The best commentary on the beatitudes is Jesus' own life. To be authentic to His own calling, Jesus gives up power and prestige to follow the way of the powerless and ignored. He is gentle with the kind of people that others write off as not worthy and insignificant. He mourns when He sees how so many choose to be blind when God visits them. He experiences hunger, not the hunger satisfied by bread but the hunger that can be satisfied only by doing what is right.

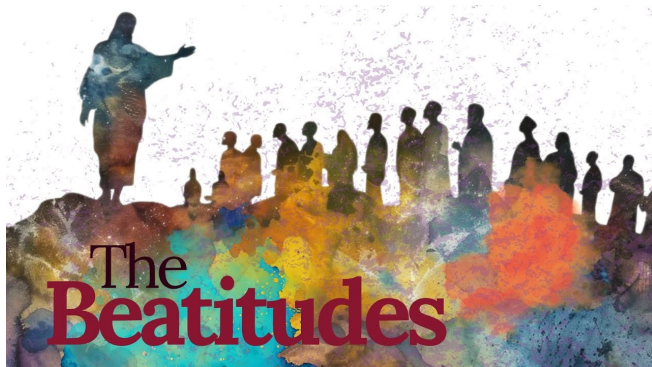
Jesus' preaching and teaching scandalises the religious authorities with His readiness to show mercy and forgiveness. Jesus is driven in His mission to make connection and peace between God and humanity.

In the end He is abused and persecuted in the cause of right and handed over to death. He ends up on another mount dying for what He believed in. Everyone has some experience of the cost of discipleship. Some will know what it is like to be accounted as weak or foolish because of their fidelity to Jesus.

But as Paul tells us, Christ is truly our wisdom and freedom. As Christians we are pledged to share that wisdom, especially the wisdom shown in the beatitudes.

Because they are the values Christ preached and lived – values He wishes to see in His disciples.

With every blessing
Fr Doug



We give our heartfelt thanks to Fr Doug for his service and leadership over the past six years and for the many ways that he has made our parish and school communities even stronger and more inclusive.

Fr Doug's last 2 Masses in our Parish of Wellington South are on Saturday 31 January.

10am Sat at St Anne's followed by a cuppa

6pm Vigil at St Francis de Sales followed by a cuppa

Fr Biju will now take over as Parish Priest upon his return from India on 5 February, with Fr Tikoua transferring over from Otari Parish on Tuesday 3 Feb

Responsorial Psalm : Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs

Gospel acclamation: Rejoice and be glad; your reward will be great in heaven.

Remembering the Holy Souls

RIP : Eileen Byrne, Fr Justin Taylor SM, Fr Earl Crotty SM, Jim Keibell Fr Rex Begley & Fr Joe O'Sullivan (*Palmerston North*)

Anniversaries : Clare Foster, Glenn Greco, Joe Greco, Hilda & Raffaele Greco, Francesca & Giuseppe Muollo, Tina & Cos Greco, Br Doug Dawick



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

Waitangi Day Mass: Friday, February 6,

9am at St Mary of the Angels church, Boulcott St, Wellington. The annual Mass to mark Waitangi Day will be held at the national shrine of Mary, Whaea o te Atua (Mother of God) with Mons. Gerard Burns, VG, presiding. The Mass includes prayers and hymns in Māori, English, Latin and other languages. The church has a special artwork presenting Mary, dressed as a woman of Aotearoa and places connected with the history of the Church here, including Te Tii marae in Waitangi. All welcome, nau mai, haere mai!



The Presentation of the Lord is celebrated in New Zealand on February 2nd (or the nearest Sunday), 40 days after Christmas, marking Jesus' presentation in the Temple and the purification of Mary. Known also as Candlemas, it commemorates Simeon's proclamation of Jesus as "Light to the Gentiles," featuring candle blessings and a focus on consecrated life.

The Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation **Love is a Decision** - online registration available on the Archdiocesan website. Next course, consecutive Sundays 1 & 8 March 10.00am-4.00pm held at St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie. Register early (couples attend both Sundays together in person). See the Archdiocese's website for information about getting married overseas and the papers required. Any queries contact: marriage@cadw.nz

Late Night Mass for Young People – Friday, 13 February at 8.00pm in the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street - Come join us for the first Late Night Mass of the year with other young people! We hope to see you all there and don't forget to bring a plate.

Readings for this week

Sun 1 Feb : Zep 2:3; 3:12-13 ; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Matt 5:1-12a

Mon 2 Feb : Malachi 3:1-4, Hebrews 2:14-18 ; Luke 2:22-40

Tue 3 Feb : 2 Sam 18:9-10,14b,24-25a,30-19:3;Mark 5:21-43

Wed 4 Feb: 2 Sam 24:2, 9-17 ;Mark 6:1-6

Thurs 5 Feb :1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12; Mark 6:7-13

Fri 6 Feb : Sirach 47:2-11; Mark 6:14-29

Sat 7 Feb: 1 Kings 3:4-13; Mark 6:30-34



60th Diamond Jubilee St Francis de Sales Church

Jubilee programme of Events Saturday 18 April – Sunday 19 April 2026

Saturday 18 April 2026 10.00am Memorial Mass (Main Celebrant Fr Biju Xavier; concelebrated). Followed by morning tea.

Saturday 18 April 2026 11.30am Guided tour of the special features of the Church.

Saturday 18 April 2026 "The Catholic Features of Island Bay" – Historic walkabout. Notes for the walk, or drive, will be provided. In own time.

Sunday 19 April 2026 10.30am Jubilee Mass (Main Celebrant Fr Merv Duffy SM, Provincial of the Society of Mary in NZ; concelebrated).

Sunday 19 April 2026 12.30pm Jubilee Lunch, Pines, Houghton Bay, Wellington; (\$55 per person to be paid in advance as there are no door sales). Please register your attendance by making payment to Catholic Parish of Wellington South bank account 02-0576-0064832-01

Annual Mission Fair : The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver invite you to the Fair on **Saturday 21 February 2026**, 10:00am–2:00pm

Convent Grounds, 1 Mersey Street, Island Bay Saleable goods and donations are warmly welcomed. Enjoy a Rapid Raffle and a variety of stalls including toys, plants, jewellery, cakes, jams, and more. Proceeds will support the purchase of water tanks in Kibuye-Bondo Kenya and construction of toilets for Nseng-Long parish and village in Cameroon. For more information, contact the Sisters : (04) 383 8401.



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

St Valentine's Day Mass - the Archbishop invites you to the annual celebration of married love. All engaged and married couples welcome. Mass celebrated by Archbishop Paul Martin sm, 5.30pm on Saturday 14 February, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Thorndon. Light refreshments to follow. Come along to this joyful Mass before your dinner reservation!

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.



St Anne's

Fr Doug Shepherd - Parish Priest

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Fr Biju Xavier - Assistant Priest

022 1594548

frbijuxavier2010@gmail.com

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