



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 8 March 2026
3rd Sunday of Lent

"At times, preaching the message that hope does not disappoint means swimming against the tide, even in certain painful situations that appear to be hopeless. Yet it is precisely at those times when it becomes all the more apparent that our faith and our hope do not come from ourselves, but from God. If we are truly close to those who suffer, the Holy Spirit can revive in their hearts even a flame that has all but died out."

Pope Leo XIV, Meditation, Saint Peter's Basilica, 25 June 2025

Now

Combined Parish Mass

Sunday 8 March SFDS

Coming up

Chrism Mass Cathedral

Wednesday 1 April 7.30pm

Holy Thursday 2 April

7pm St Anne's, 7pm SFDS

Good Friday 3 April

3pm St Anne's, 3pm SFDS

Easter Saturday Vigil

Sat 4 April 7pm SFDS

Easter Sunday 5 April

9am SFDS & 9am, 5pm St Anne's

Weekend Mass

Vigil Mass

6pm St Francis de Sales

Sunday Mass:

NO Mass at St Anne's 8 March

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

Gospel reflection,

Thirst and water are used as symbols for spiritual longing and God's love ("living water") in this week's readings.

In the first reading, we hear how the Israelites are suffering at the dry and desolate Meribah. Their physical thirst leads to a spiritual crisis. They grumble to Moses, "Is the Lord among us or not?" We may have asked ourselves similar questions when going through trials in our own lives. Psalm 95 urges us to hear God's voice with the advice: "Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah".

St Paul reminds us that through faith in Christ, we have peace with God and hope amid trials, as God's love pours into our hearts via the Holy Spirit. In the Gospel, Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. Tired and thirsty, Jesus breaks social, racial and gender barriers and asks the woman for a drink.

The description of Jesus' authentic encounter with the Samaritan woman is fascinating. It is a long and lively conversation, and the first time in the Gospels that Jesus declares to be the Messiah. Jesus does not simply speak, He listens and engages with her candid questions thoughtfully and respectfully. During the conversation, Jesus offers her "living water". The "living water" is a spring gushing up inside to eternal life, superior to any earthly well. The woman is insightful and open when Jesus reveals her past, shifts the talk from ritual to worship in spirit and truth, and finally discloses: "I am He [the Messiah]." Like water flowing, her testimony then sparks faith in many Samaritans.

During Lent, we don't want to have hard hearts like the Israelites at Meribah. Let us remember the Samaritan woman and the nourishing water of God's love. Let the "living water" fill our thirsty hearts and flow outward in kindness to neighbours, strangers and family.

Shane Connolly

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



Bishops Lenten Appeal

Freepost envelopes are available at Mass throughout Lent. **Please take an envelope today if you prefer to give in that way.** Donations received by Caritas by 31 March will be sent a receipt for the 2025/26 tax year. Your generous support enables Caritas to help poor and marginalised communities around the world. Contact caritas@caritas.org.nz or call 0800 22 10 22.

Responsorial Psalm : If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Gospel acclamation: Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Remembering the Holy Souls

RIP : Fr Pat Maloney (Nelson)

Anniversaries : Nina & Tony De Gregorio



For the latest information visit the Parish Website - wellington.southcatholic.org



Sunday 8 March is our Parish Combined Mass. This will be followed by a shared cuppa.

Everyone is invited to join us for the Combined Mass at St Francis de Sales Church starting at 10.30am

The 9am Sunday Mass at St Anne's is cancelled, however the 5pm Sunday Mass at St Anne's is still on as well as the Saturday Vigil on 7 March. This is also the day of the Newtown Festival when St Anne's Church grounds are used by the community.

SFDS Jubilee Weekend Sat 18 April Sun 19 April Saturday 18 April 2026.

SFDS school students and staff are planning school Jubilee activities during the term. Other events include:

Mid-April 2026 - Publication of the Jubilee magazine.

Saturday 18 April 2026. 10.00am Mass of Remembrance; the principal celebrant will be Cardinal John Dew assisted by priests from within the CPWS Parish and from overseas.

Sunday 19 April 2026 10.30am Jubilee Mass; the principal celebrant is Fr Merv Duffy SM, the Provincial of the Society of Mary in NZ assisted by priests from within the CPWS and visiting priests.

12.30pm Jubilee Lunch, The Pines, Houghton Bay, Wellington; (\$55 per person, \$27.50 children under 12, under 5-year-olds free, to be paid in advance; there are no door sales). Please register your attendance ASAP by making payment to Catholic Parish of Wellington South bank account 02-0576-0064832-01. Places are very rapidly filling!

Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship :

Come and join other men at Joshua Wellington's next meeting on **Thursday 19th March 2026** from 7:00pm for a cuppa and a 7:30pm start in Connolly Hall 10 Guildford Terrace (next to the Sacred Heart Cathedral). Speaker: Monsignor Gerard Burns on "The relevance of faith in 2026" Want to know more? Ring David Monastra 027-4477-280 or email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

LENT 2026 with FOOD FOR FAITH.

Visit www.foodforfaith.org.nz and sign up to receive daily email encouragements from Fr. John O'Connor. Prepared especially for those seeking greater maturity of faith.

Readings for this week

Sun 8 Mar :Exodus 17:3-7 ;Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 ;John 4:5-42

Mon 9 Mar : 2 Kings 5:1-15ab ; Luke 4:24-30

Tue 10 Mar : Daniel 3:25, 34-43 ; Matt 18:21-35

Wed 11 Mar: Deu 4:1, 5-9 ; Matt 5:17-19

Thurs 12 Mar :Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23

Fri 13 Mar : Hosea 14:2-10 ;Mark 12:28-34

Sat 14 Mar: Hosea 6:1-6 ; Luke 18:9-14



Feast of the Divine Mercy (Divine Mercy Sunday) Sunday 12 April 2026 at St FRANCIS DE SALES

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY PROGRAMME
2:00 PM Eucharist Adoration and Worship
Confessions

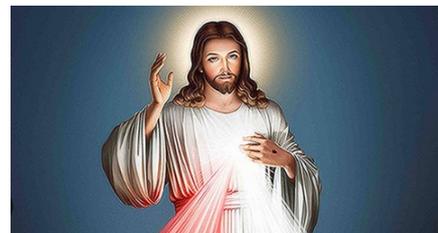
3:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet
Benediction

3:30 PM Holy Mass. Main celebrant Archbishop Paul Martin .

4:30 PM Final Blessing
Blessing of Divine Mercy Image
Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image
Blessing of personal religious objects
Refreshments and Fellowship follows (please bring a plate to share)

5:00 PM End of celebration

Note: we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet each Sunday, 9.10am at St Francis de Sales



Divine Mercy Feast Day at St ANNES April 12th

Sunday 12th—Procession with the Holy Eucharist at the car park 8.30am followed by the 9am Mass and blessing of the items that parishioners bring. Everyone is welcome.

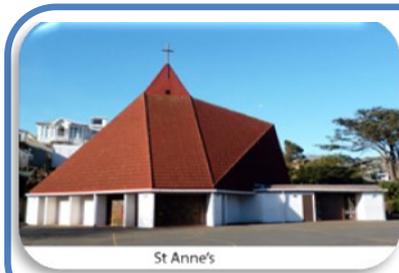
Where does your money go

INCOME	Jan	Dec
Donations	\$15,812	\$18,390
Other	\$12,263	\$11,082
Total	\$28,075	\$29,472
EXPENSES	Jan	Dec
Levies	\$8,516	\$9,806
Maintenance Rates Insurance	\$8,169	\$8,980
Admin/Wages	\$4,609	\$5,206
Other	\$1,320	\$6,390
Total	\$22,614	\$30,382

Please pray for the children who are preparing to do their first Reconciliation. This is the first step on their Sacramental journey to a closer relationship with God and a deeper understanding of the faith.



HAS ANYONE EVER SAID YOU WOULD MAKE A GOOD PRIEST? Do you think you might have a vocation? Come to a VOCATIONS WEEKEND for young men discerning priesthood. 27-29 March 2026 with Fr Alan Roberts. For more information contact: Lucienne I.hensel@cadw.nz



St Anne's

Fr Biju Xavier - Parish Priest

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Fr Tikoua Kautu- Assistant Priest

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