



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

St Mary's Parish — Maungaturoto — Mangawhai — Wellsford

Saturday Vigil Mass - Maungaturoto: 4.00pm

Sunday Mass Times - Mangawhai: 8.30am Wellsford:10.30am

Weekday Mass Times

Wellsford: Tues & Sat 9.00am & Fri 11.30am

Maungaturoto Wed 10.00am Mangawhai Thurs 10.30am (private home)

Eucharistic Adoration

Wellsford: Fri. 10.45—11:20am. Maungaturoto: Wed 9.30—9.55am

email: wellsfordcatholicparish@gmail.com

4th Sunday of Lent (b) - 10th March 2024

2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23

Psalm 137:1-6

Ephesians 2:4-10

John 3:14-21

hints of hope

Faith means welcoming the love of God in Christ, which saves us and gives us life that lasts. This reality must be freely accepted. To reject it, is to condemn ourselves to preferring darkness to light. ‘*Christ as the light of God*’ is one of the images most used by John the evangelist. Darkness, for John, imaged the world’s rejection of God’s love.

‘*The aggressively liberating ONE*’ (the Lord God), initiates and completes the rescue of entrapped peoples. The liberation comes through the richness of God’s mercy and the abundance of God’s love (*Eph2:4*).

Christians are a newly created people in Christ, fashioned by God for a life of goodness. Paul warns his readers/listeners against thinking they have somehow merited this liberation through their own efforts or worth. Rather, redemption is God’s free gift, which will be expressed by the good living of believers and is part of a larger divine plan. The good life is not something for which an individual can take the credit.

Jesus was talking about change; the new birth he wanted here on Earth. It seems that because of their religious concerns (about heaven) the religious leaders don’t understand things of the Earth, that were happening in front of their eyes.

In John *eternal life* doesn’t mean life in heaven. It means life we can lead now, here on Earth. John writes in one of his letters: “*I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life*”.

Such life presupposes a triumph over the power of death. The Bible speaks of a communion of all, with all things held in common. For that we need this new birth.

When people love each other – there is a community of love – and that’s heaven. Where there are no divisions; no selfishness; where there is no deceit – that’s where heaven is! That’s heaven. That’s eternal life – that’s glory!

- BF

“Faith is not a light which scatters all our darkness, but a lamp which guides our steps in the night and suffices for the journey”.

- Pope Francis (2016) “I Believe: The Promise of the Creed”, p.114, Orbis Books

Mid-week Eucharist – Thursday 14th March 10.30am at the home of Carol Pereira, 20 Longview Rd. Mangawhai Village,. Ph: 0210407179

Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage Stations of the Cross. The ecumenical partners of Auckland, and Christians in more than 100 cities around the world, has come together and launched the Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage Stations of the Cross. This is to pray, raise awareness and assist the suffering people of Gaza. More information is available at:

<https://www.gazaceasefirepilgrimage.com/>, scroll down the page to ‘Join a walk’ and click on Aoteroa/NZ for updated details of the pilgrimage.

This is to be a Lent prayerful pilgrimage, meant to be 41 km long (as the length of Gaza Strip), with 14 stations of the Cross. It is planned for **Saturday, 16 March**, with **start at 6 am from Holy Sepulchre Church, 2 Burleigh Street, in Grafton, Auckland**. People are welcome to walk, cycle or roll in some or all stations if they prefer. Please book this date in your diary, if you would like to join us in this international event. Let us be active, present, and advocates for Peace and Justice.

Holy Week Timetable

Saturday/Sunday 23rd / 24th March - **PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY:**

- **DISTRIBUTION OF PALMS** and the **READING OF THE PASSION** according to Mark, at all weekend Masses
- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - Combined Churches at St Mary’s Wellsford **7.00pm**

Monday 25th March:

- **MASS OF CHRISM** – **12.00noon** at St Francis Xavier Church, Whangarei.

Thursday 28th March: **HOLY THURSDAY**

- **Mass of the Lord’s Supper: 7.00pm** at St Mary’s Wellsford

Friday 29th March: **GOOD FRIDAY**

- **9.45am Combined Churches’ Service:** at Co-operating Church 253 Rodney St, Wellsford.
- **3.00pm Reading of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross, & Holy Communion:** at St Mary’s, Matheson Road, Wellsford.
- **7.00pm Service of the Shadows (Tenebrae)** at Christ the King, Anglican Church, Molesworth Drive, Mangawhai Village.

Saturday 30th March:

- **HOLY SATURDAY – EASTER VIGIL Mass:** 7.30pm starting with the Lighting of the Easter fire at St Mary’s Wellsford.

Sunday 31st March:

- 8.30am **MASS OF THE RESURRECTION** – at Mangawhai
- 10.30am **MASS OF THE RESURRECTION** – at Maungaturoto

Reconciliation before Easter

Mangawhai Thursday 21st March 10.30am; **Wellsford** Thursday 21st March 7pm; **Maungaturoto** Saturday 23rd 3pm (before Mass)

Parish Pastoral Council AGM – Sunday 26 May at Wellsford after 10.30am Mass.

Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The Liturgy Centre is offering liturgical ministry workshops across the deaneries, which will cover training/refreshers for Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy

Communion. These workshops will consist of context, prayer, and practical formation in these areas. 19th May | North Shore (St Joseph Takapuna) 1pm – 3pm. Light lunch provided. Register via the link below or contact your parish office/priest: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/formation/>

NZ CATHOLIC

Price \$4. Some headlines for this issue:

- New Zealand Catholic Church faces engagement and giving challenges - survey;
- Wgtn priest appointed seminary rector;
- PN Bishop argues for Catholic thought in the public square today.

Enjoy a Video of NZ experiences of the Synod on Synodality. Archbishop of Wellington Paul Martin, SM, Wairarapa parish Priest Fr Dennis Nacorda, and Auckland Vicar for Māori Manuel Beazley have shared their experiences of the Holy Father’s Synod on Synodality in Rome last October. This YouTube video is a recording of a Zoom session they held with a live audience on Thursday 15 March 2024.

Watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COKdE6mIojU>

Good Friday Stations of the Cross Procession

On Good Friday 29th March, we will be gathering once again for our traditional Stations of the Cross procession through Auckland CBD. We invite you and your faith community to join us for this powerful public witness of faith through the streets of Auckland. The procession will begin at Albert Park Rotunda at 9am and will conclude at St Patrick’s Cathedral at 11am. For queries contact Sam from the Ministries to Young People team or email samuelb@cda.org.nz.

Te Kahu o te Ora: A Consistent Ethic of Life The landmark new Catholic bishops' teaching document *Te Kahu o te Ora: A Consistent Ethic of Life* has been reprinted. There is a copy on the Table – if you want a print copy please let me know – Fr Bill or go to: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/tekahu/> for an electronic copy.

Divine Mercy Feast at St Benedict's Parish

Sunday 7th April at 5:30pm. 1 St Benedict's Street, Eden Terrace. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of Images, Benediction, Holy Mass, Veneration of St Faustina’s relic. Bring your Divine Mercy images & artefacts to be blessed. Free Parking at Wilson carpark & street parking is also free on Sunday.

Wellsford Roster			
	Sunday 10 March	Sunday 17 March	Sunday 24 March Palm Sunday
<i>Min/s of Word</i>	Gay Pride, Lagi Sands	Mike Harris, Sam Connery	Bob and Gay Gospel: Marie (N) Ken(J) Maurice (C) Gay(O)
<i>Intercessions</i>	Gay	Sam	Bob
<i>Minister of Eucharist</i>	Uraura Unaia	Gay Pride	Eranga Amarasekara
<i>Morning Tea</i>	Mike & Lynette	Gay & Mary Rose	Maureen
<i>Church Cleaning</i>	Monica Pride		Francis & family
<i>Lay Leader</i>	Marie	Ken	Maureen

Prayer intentions for the week

For the new martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

Prayers for our Sick:

Petronella ter Veer, Matteo Gray, Pamela Downes, Philip Cotching, Petronella Brom & family, Lorna Bocoock, Geraldine Choromanski, Judy Perry, Veronica Grigg, Margaret Rissman, Veronica & Iain Butler, Fran Cahill, Roselle & Owen McGrane, Richard Henry,

Trevor Brljevich, Lulu & Tony Ruiterman, Bill Lewis, Beverly Simons, Bob & Julia Bland, Peter McHugh, Adolph Layec

Dallas Colville, Alec Colville, Lucille Jenneker, Rita McCurran, Wilma Jansen, Gerard McCurran, Iris Barrow, Tim Emberson, Lagi Sands

Prayers for the Dead:

For those who have died in the current conflicts in our world and for our dead whose anniversaries occur around this time including: *Kathryn Collins (11th), Violet Dickson (12th), Leon Suvalko (15th), Tai Symons (16th), Mary Casey (15th), Bryan Casey (16th), Tim Curtin (16th).*

Readings: 4th Week of Lent

Monday 11 March

Isaiah 65:17-21

Ps.30

John 4:43-54

Tuesday 12 March

Ezekiel 47:1-9,12

Ps.46

John 5:1-3,5-16

Wednesday 13 March

Isaiah 49:8-15

Ps.145

John 5:17-30

Thursday 14 March

Exodus 32:7-14

Ps.106

John 5:31-47

Friday 15 March

Wisdom 2:1,12-22

Ps.34

John:7: 1-2,10,25-30

Saturday 16 March

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Ps.7

John 7:40-52

Sunday 17 March 5th Sunday of Lent

1. Jeremiah 31:31-34

Ps.51

2. Hebrews 5:7-9

Gospel: John 12:20-33

St Mary's Parish

Mangawhai - Maungaturoto – Wellsford

Pastoral Council Chairperson: John Brockliss ph: 027 543 0856

Parish Co-ordinator: Bob Schimanski ph: 09 423 8550

Priest Administrator: Fr. Bill Fletcher ph: 027 950 3885

Newsletter Editor: Marie Rambaud ph: 09 423 8907 / 021 054 4772

email: rambaud.family@xtra.co.nz

Parish Web address: wellsfordcatholic.org.nz

BNZ account 02-0108-0707411-00

Reconciliations:

Wellsford: Sat. 8.30 – 8.55am Maungaturoto: Sat. 3.30 – 3.55pm.

Mangawhai: Sun: 8.00 – 8.25am

