



St Mary's Parish — *Maungaturoto* — *Mangawhai* — *Wellsford*
 Saturday Vigil MAUNGATUROTO – Mass 4.00pm (1st & 3rd Saturdays)
 2nd & 4th Saturdays – Liturgy of Word & Holy Communion: 4.00pm.

Sunday - MANGAWHAI: Mass 8.30am (2nd & 4th Sundays).
 1st & 3rd Sundays Liturgy of Word Holy Communion: 8.30am.

WELLSFORD: Mass 10.30am every Sunday
 Tues 9.00am & Fri 11.30am Eucharistic Adoration Fri 10.45-11.20am

25th Sunday Ordinary Time (b) – 22nd September 2024 the Season of Creation: Week 4

Wisdom 2:12,17-20

Psalm 54:1-4,6

James 3:16-4:3

Mark 9:30-37

Jesus came to serve

The readings this Sunday give a sense of the destructive power of passions, divisions, jealousies, greed and competition, both for people and, in this Season of Creation, for Earth itself and all Earth's inhabitants!

This destructive power contrasts with what James calls '*the Wisdom from above*' – wisdom that embraces the importance of turning our competitive energies to serve the least among us and creation, of which we are a part.

James (3:16) urges a discernment of spirit in order to determine whether heavenly wisdom or earthly wisdom is behind the person who claims to be wise.

Because the human heart is divided, there have been endless conflicts, wars and rivalries through the centuries. When people let themselves be taught by God and pray, they become the peacemakers; the pure of heart of the Beatitudes.

When Jesus asked his disciples what they were arguing about on the way, as they moved through Galilee, the Twelve were too embarrassed to admit they were competing among themselves to be recognised which of them was the greatest.

He tells them to channel their competitive energies into service, individually and as a community, to the least in times of need. The disciples are shocked at Jesus' announcing that God's power for life-giving takes the form of death; that real well-being and victory only appear via death. This is the assumption that Peter made earlier; the assumption which Jesus rejected, telling Peter that he was thinking not as God does, but as humans do. This announcement asserts that all such would-be power is in reality no power at all. Jesus thus dismisses every self-serving form of power upon which human empires are based.

Jesus was talking of a new realm of God that his practise had already begun to establish in the valuing of sharing; in the valuing of use over against the valuing of exchange; in the assertion that the realm of God wasn't limited to the Israelites! Then Jesus does something revolutionary: he puts a child in front of them and says the child is the most important person in God's ordering. It's as if he had put a slave in front of them and told them to welcome the slave into their household – unheard of! – BF

“We must protect creation for it is a gift which the Lord has given us, it is God's present to us; we are the guardians of creation. When we exploit creation, we destroy that sign of God's love. To destroy creation is to say to God: “I don't care”. And this is not good: this is sin”. Pope Francis

Sunday 29th September is the 5th Sunday

There will be one Mass only for the whole parish during that weekend.

Mass will be at **Wellsford Sunday 29 September at 10.30am**. There will also be an address by **Deacon Sanele Poluleuligaga** during Mass, about the **Diocesan Justice and Peace Committee**. Please bring a small plate of food to share at morning tea after Mass.

Mid-week Eucharist at Mangawhai, Wednesday 25th September 10.30 am at the home of Chris Ohlson and Jan Sosinko, 54D Jack Boyd Drive, Mangawhai Heads, Ph: 0272761537 **ALL WELCOME**.

Prayers in Te Reo Last week was Te Wiki o te reo Māori. Manuel Beazley Vicar for Māori produced a set of videos praying in Te Reo. These are available

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/maori-vicariate/prayer-te-reo/>

Season of Creation 2024



The Season of Creation symbol for 2024 is the first fruits of hope. Hope is an instrument enabling us to overcome the natural law of decay. Hope is given to us by God as a protection and guard against futility. Only through hope we may realize the gift of freedom in fullness. Freedom to act not only to achieve enjoyment and prosperity, but to reach the stage in which we are free and responsible. Freedom and responsibility enable us to make the world a better place. Only when we work together with Creation can the firstfruits of hope emerge.

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is accepting **enrolments** for first semester 2025 from 23rd September to 22nd November 2024. Courses offered are Bachelor of Divinity, Graduate Diploma in Theology, Diploma and Certificate in Christian Studies, and a new microcredential on Managing Church Organisations.

Cathedral Appeal

Please prayerfully consider supporting the Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph's annual appeal, held 21 September. As the Mother Church of our Diocese, it stands as an oasis of peace for all in Auckland. Bishop Steve invites all in the diocese to make a pilgrimage to the Cathedral.

Liturgy is a quarterly magazine, curated to support liturgical life in parishes, schools, and faith communities. The Liturgy Centre, from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland in New Zealand, has been producing this magazine for nearly 50 years. Liturgy is available online on the diocesan website. It is free:

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/magazine/>

One Day Retreat for Men

Is the Lord challenging you to draw closer to Him? If the answer is **YES!** then we have an amazing opportunity for you....**A One-day Men's Retreat** with our **Bishop Steve Lowe**, titled "**He Emptied Himself**" (Philippians 2:7), will be held on **Saturday 19 October (8am-4pm)** at St Thomas More Church, 336 Wairau Rd, Glenfield.

This day will be a special time of formation, prayer, worship, fellowship and will end with Mass celebrated by Bishop Steve. Bring a packed lunch or buy from the local shops.

Suggested Koha of \$20 to cover costs. All men are welcome. Contact Greg Sullivan (021) 437747 or Russell Sobotker (022) 0345678 to register.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS – The Slippery Slope of Euthanasia

The latest review of assisted suicide / euthanasia was quietly released last month by the Ministry of Health but it should sound significant and loud warning bells about the law, especially at a time when proponents want it to be liberalised even further.

Annual Report June 2024 key findings include:

- 5% increase in assisted deaths in the last 12 months.
- 11% increase in applications.
- 60% aged 65-84. 19% 85+. 19% 45-64.
- 83% NZ European. Pasifika <0.5%. Maori <4%. Asian 2%. Other 12%.
- Virtually even split between male and female.
- 12% of applicants had a disability.
- 258 applicants died before ‘needing’ euthanasia.
- The application process averages only 16 days.
- Less than 7% of applicants are for neurological conditions

What is most disturbing is that one in four applicants weren’t receiving palliative care.

The questionnaire is easy to access and use, with fifteen questions and CLOSES at 5pm on Thursday 26 September 2024. You can access the questionnaire here:

<https://consult.health.govt.nz/regulatory-policy/public-consultation-for-the-review-of-the-end-of-l/consultation/intro/>

The Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship for Medical Students

If you are a fourth- or fifth-year medical student in 2025, are an active Catholic and normally reside within the Auckland Diocese you may be eligible for the Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship. **Applications close 15 November 2024. For more information, please email scholarships@cda.org.nz**

Wellsford Roster		
	Sunday 22 Sept	Sunday 29 Sept
<i>Min/s of Word</i>	Mike Harris, Gay Pride	Bob Schimanski, Marie Rambaud
<i>Intercessions</i>	Gay	Marie
<i>Minister of Eucharist</i>	Uraura Unaia	Eranga Amarasekara
<i>Morning Tea</i>	Lynette & Mike	Shared lunch
<i>Church Cleaning</i>	Marie	
<i>Lay Leader</i>	Maureen	Ken



Prayer intentions for the week

For the cry of the Earth

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

Prayers for our Sick:

Petronella ter Veer, Matteo Gray, Tina Mehary, Sheita Mehary, Pamela Downes, Petronella Brom, Lorna Bocoock, Geraldine Choromanski, Judy Perry, Veronica Grigg, Maureen Rissman, Roselle & Owen McGrane, Richard Henry, Bob Walters, Teresa McCarthy, Tom Ryan, Jayden Wilson, Kathy Brockliss (Hokianga), Emelia Brockliss (Mexico) Lee McCarthy,

Trevor Brijevich, Tony Ruiterman, Bill Lewis, Beverly Simons, Adolph Layec

Dallas Colville, Alec Colville, Lucille Jenneker, Wilma Jansen, Gerard McCurran, Iris Barrow, Lagi Sands, Tim Emberson, Caroline Milner, Theresa Graham.....

Prayers for the Dead:

For **Bishop Denis Browne** and **Kingi Tuheitia** and our beloved dead whose anniversaries occur around this time including **Joan Brown (22nd)**, **Bernard Chaffe (26th)**, **Nicola McHugh (27th)**, **Rick Donnelly (27th)**, **Robert Scelly (28th)**, **Valmay Baily (28th)**, **Robert Tayler (29th)**.

Readings: 25th Week Ordinary Time

Monday 23 Sept. St Pius of Pietrelcina
Proverbs 3:27-34 Ps.15
Luke 8:16-18

Tuesday 24 Sept.
Proverbs 21:1-6,10-13 Ps.119A
Luke 8:19-21

Wednesday 25 Sept.
Proverbs 30:5-9 Ps.119H
Luke 9:1-6

Thursday 26 Sept.
Ecclesiastes 1:2-11 Ps.90
Luke 9:7-9

Friday 27 Sept. St Vincent de Paul, priest
Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 Ps.144
Luke 9:18-22

Saturday 28 Sept.
Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8 Ps.90
Luke 9:43-45

Sunday 29 Sept. 26 Sunday Ordinary Time
1. Numbers 11:25-29 Ps.19B
2. James 5:1-6
Gospel: Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48

St Mary's Parish

Mangawhai - Maungaturoto – Wellsford

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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