



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

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

Easter Sunday (a) - 5th April 2026

Acts 10:34,37-43

Psalms 118:1-2,15-17,22-23

Colossians 3:1-4

John 20:1-9

Jesus is Risen!

Today, we hear John's account of Easter joy. The women are the first to arrive at Jesus' tomb. John mentions only Mary Magdalen. The disciples don't believe the women, as Luke points out and Mark too in a complementary text. John only infers this. Along with Peter, he mentions *'the other disciple'*.

The risen Jesus appears first to women. The proclamation of new life starts with the very people who are marked by marginalisation and mistreatment.

The role of women varies from one society to another; but generally what women do is regarded as less important than what the men do. This may explain why it was less dangerous for women to have been bystanders at the crucifixion or for them to go to the tomb first. But Mary's love overcame her fear of death and society's prejudices.

She was a strong woman. Jesus died for love. Mary's source of courage was the courage to love.

Women today identify with Mary's courage.

Mary's testimony is validated later by the testimony of the Beloved Disciple and Peter. That was important for John's community, whose journey from *'no faith'* to *'faith'* depended on the announcement of Mary and the foundation experience of the first apostles. Mary of Magdala, who is "the apostle to the apostles", speaks a hope beyond the painful data of death; that out of the shatterings of collapse, GOD works newness. The Easter liturgy celebrates GOD's creation of what does not exist – and what we cannot conceive through our own efforts – a genuine communion based on the ancient covenant promises. The essence of that communion is a proper regard for the dignity of each person; regardless of age, gender, class or religion. Because GOD reigns over death, networks of justice and freedom can function and we can live fully! The Easter of GOD's new covenant, seems unlikely, and it always is unlikely, until it is given! - BF

“The Easter proclamation—‘He has risen’—brings care and healing to our troubled minds and hearts, hope in the face of life’s challenges. Meditating on the Resurrection, our lives find the meaning that we seek”.

- Pope Leo XIV

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Holy Thursday Mass (Mass of the Lord's Supper) **2 April 7.30pm Wellsford**

Good Friday (Celebration of the Lord's Passion) **3 April 3pm Wellsford**

The Easter Vigil Holy Saturday 4 April 7.30pm Wellsford

Easter Sunday (Resurrection of the Lord's Passion)

5 April 8.30am Mangawhai; 10.30am Maungaturoto

Daylight saving in New Zealand ends on Sunday, April 5, 2026, at 2:00 AM

BISHOPS' LENTEN APPEAL:

The New Zealand Bishops are encouraging the Catholic community to prayerfully consider how they can contribute to the annual Lenten Appeal. The appeal supports the work of Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, which through its global network serves some of our world's most vulnerable and needy communities. The Bishops explain that acts of Christian charity can change the lives of those who benefit from that charity, but also can transform those who give with generosity — according to their own circumstances.

Find out more at www.caritas.org.nz/lent

NZ Catholic

The latest edition of the monthly diocesan newsletter NZ Catholic is now available at

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/>

Mission Hub

The Holy Spirit at the Heart of Mission: We are excited to welcome Bishop John Adams from the Diocese of Palmerston North as our first guest speaker at Mission Hub this April.

In this special session, Bishop John will reflect on “The Holy Spirit at the Heart of Mission,” inviting us to rediscover how the Holy Spirit continues to guide, inspire, and empower the Church in her mission today. Together, we will explore how we can grow in openness to the Spirit's movement in our own lives and be renewed in our call to share the Gospel. Mission Hub is a monthly online gathering that brings people together from across the country to learn, pray, reflect, and be encouraged in mission. It's a wonderful opportunity to deepen your faith and be inspired by others seeking to follow Christ.

Monday 13 April 7.00–8.30pm (NZ time) Everyone is welcome and invited to register here: <https://bit.ly/apr13zoom>

Divine Mercy Feast Sunday 12th April 5:30pm at St Benedict's Parish

1 St Benedict's Street, Eden Terrace. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction, Blessing of Images, Holy Mass, Veneration of St Faustina's relic. **You are warmly invited to attend this Feast Day Celebration. Bring your Divine Mercy images & artefacts to be blessed.** Jesus told St Faustina “My Heart rejoices on this Feast Day”. Free parking is available at Wilson Carpark, including free street parking on Sundays.

Diocesan Youth Mass

Last Sunday of each month 4:30pm February – November At St Patrick’s Cathedral
For more info contact the Auckland Catholic Youth Ministry Team:

youthmin@cda.org.nz

Prayer Retreat for Women

Prayer and the Interior Life' Friday 17th April 6pm to Sunday 19th April 3pm 2026 - with time for Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Personal Prayer and Spiritual Direction. Location: Hillsborough, Auckland. Early bird registration and details here:

www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz

Rise up and Shine Festival

Taste the World, Celebrate the Culture! 30th of May, 2026. Starts at 10am with Thanksgiving Mass. Followed by Social Entertainment until 3pm. Music, Zumba, Food stalls and Cultural Show. Join us at the Migrant Chaplaincy Rise Up & Shine Festival, where every bite tells a story and every dance spark joy. At Malaleola Community Centre, 16 Waokauri Place, Mangere.

The Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship

ALL MEN are invited to the Joshua 40-Year Celebration Weekend!

When: Fri pm 14 August to Sun midday 16 August

Venue: Keswick Christian Camp, 5 Cooper Ave, Holden's Bay, Rotorua

Keynote Speaker: Robert Falzon, Leader of Australia's menALIVE and Author of "Importance of a Present Dad"

Cost: \$247pp including accommodation and meals

To Register: Follow the link below OR contact Mike Lobo (021) 2809285 or Greg Sullivan (021) 437747 Link: <https://menforchrist.wufoo.com/forms/joshua-40th-anniversary-celebration-rotorua>

Wellsford Roster		
	Good Friday	Easter Vigil
<i>Min/s of Word</i>	1. Rosanne Davies 2. Lesieli Maka <u>John's Gospel:</u> Narrator: Maureen Jesus: Ken Other: Marie Crowd: Bob	<u>Old Testament:</u> 1. Marie 2. Bob 3. Monica 4. Maureen NT: Ken
<i>Intercessions</i>	<u>Prayers of Church:</u> Michele & Ursula	Ken
<i>Minister of Eucharist Leader</i>	Alex Dublao Marie	Eranga & Monica Maureen

Prayer intentions for the week

For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

Prayers for our Sick:

*Matteo Gray, Petronella Brom, Geraldine Choromanski, Veronica Grigg, Theresa & Barry McCarthy, Chris Ohlson, Gina Benade (Aust), Rosilene Finnegan, Richard McGrane (SA) Nanette Matheson, Michael O'Neil, Noreen Anderson
Bill Lewis, Adolph Layec, Matthew Gould, Christine McHugh.....
Margaret Pride, Dallas Colville, Alec Colville, Wilma Jansen, Gerard McCurran, Loris Prictor, Gerry Kok, Jill Grace, Caroline Milner, Dorothy McKee, Lagi Sands, Maurice Haddon*

Prayers for the Dead:

For *those killed in the attacks in the Middle East*, for *Iris Barrow* who died recently and for our dead whose anniversaries occur around this time: *Prue Whitehead (5th Apr)*, *Makaia Broughton (5th Apr)*, *Anne Gregory (7th)*, *Christina Colville (8th)*, *Audrey Jury (10th)*, *Mary Driscoll-Richards (10th)*.

Readings: Easter Octave

Monday 6 April

Acts 2:14,22-32 Ps.16
Matthew 28:8-15

Tuesday 7 April

Acts 2:36-41 Ps.33
John 20:11-18

Wednesday 8 April

Acts 3:1-10 Ps.105
Luke 24:13-35

Thursday 9 April

Acts 3:11-26 Ps.8
Luke 24:35-48

Friday 10 April

Acts 4:1-12 Ps.118
John 21:1-14

Saturday 11 April

Acts 4:13-21 Ps.118
Mark 16:9-15

Sunday 12 April 2nd Sunday of Easter

1. Acts 2:42-47 Ps.118
2. 1Peter 1:3-9
Gospel: John 20:19-31

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