

The Messenger

March 2021



Monthly magazine of St Peter's Terrace End
Website: <http://www.stpeterspn.org.nz>

ST PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Weekly Events for March

Sundays

8am Holy Communion
10am Eucharist
10am Children's Church

Lenten Study: Sundays 2.30-4.00pm (Lady Chapel) and Wednesdays (Hall) 3.00-4.30pm every week during March.

Mondays 12-1pm.

Silent prayer in the Lady Chapel.

Sunday 14 March:

10am Harvest Festival & Mothering Sunday

Other Events for March

Monday March 1

10am: Seeking the Light. (In Hall).

Tuesday March 2:

12.15pm: Lunchtime Concert.

The SYLO Choir.

Wednesday 3 March:

11.00am – 2.00pm AAW in Hall

Wednesday 10 March:

12.15pm Senior Lunch

Wednesday 17 March:

9.30am – 2pm: AAW Northern Region

Wednesday 24 March: Vestry

Thursday 25 March:

7pm Annunciation Service

Saturday 27 March:

PN Choral Society Concert.

Note from the Editors: any articles not attributed to anyone are written by the editors. Contributions from parishioners will be warmly welcomed – subject to possible editing!

St Peter's Anglican Church invites you to journey with us through

Lent to Easter

Lent

February 17: Ash Wednesday

10am Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

7pm Imposition of Ashes – Cathedral of the Holy Spirit

Sunday Services in Lent

8am Holy Communion

10am Eucharist

March 14: Mothering Sunday & Harvest Thanksgiving

8am Holy Communion

10am Eucharist

Please bring produce, tins and packets of food to be blessed and distributed to people in need.

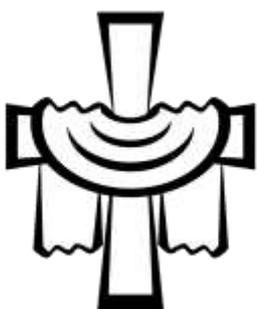
March 25: Annunciation of our Saviour to the Blessed Virgin Mary

7pm Festal Eucharist

March 28: Palm Sunday

8am Holy Communion

10am Eucharist



Easter

8am Holy Communion

10am Eucharist

Holy Week

March 29: Monday in Holy Week

8am Taize reflection

March 30: Tuesday in Holy Week

8am Taize reflection

March 31: Wednesday in Holy Week

8am Taize reflection

7pm Chrism service - St John's, Feilding

April 1: Maundy Thursday

7pm Service of Footwashing and Tenebrae

April 2: Good Friday

12pm--3pm A service of readings, music, and reflections for Good Friday.

You are welcome to come and go throughout the three hours

April 3: Holy Saturday

8pm Easter Vigil – Service of Light



From the Vicar: Finding Harmony; Building Community

I enjoy singing and have now joined a local choir. As we rehearsed last night it occurred to me that singing in the choir is quite a good metaphor for hospitality. In the choir each member sings their own part, making their own contribution to the goodness of the whole. Whether we give or receive hospitality, whether we are host or guest, the whole occasion is enriched by our giving of ourselves, by our playing our part.

Playing our part in hospitality may necessitate a certain vulnerability. In the choir, if singers pull back because they are unsure about whether they've got the right notes or they feel their voices are not as good as the next person's then the overall sound is diminished. If when we are hosts or guests we hold back from sharing of ourselves, then the gathering is diminished: it becomes superficial.

Playing our part in hospitality also requires making room for others. When singing we are encouraged to blend our individual voices with the rest of the choir; we listen to those around us and work to fit our volume and tone into the whole. In the same way in hospitality we need to make room for others; listening as well as talking; being curious about their lives, interests, views, feelings as well as sharing about our own.

The choir is a disparate group of people, people from varied backgrounds and lifestyles, people who may not otherwise gather together. But in all that diversity, there is a great richness as we sing together. Thinking about this diversity reminded me of a verse in Hebrews: "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it" (Hebrews 13:2). Some years ago Christine and I met Sarah [not her real name] as the hairdresser cutting our children's hair. She came across as a bit of a rough diamond. A bit of conversation back and forth over the haircuts during the months revealed a little of her very difficult life. Her background was quite unlike ours. But somehow the conversations eventually led to an invitation into one or other of our respective homes (after all these years we can't recall who made the first move). Over the 25 years since that first encounter we have shared a great deal of life, its ups and downs, its joys and sorrows – both Sarah's and ours. Strangers to one another at first, we have become "angels" to one another, and this is the product of our all being vulnerable enough to engage in hospitality.

I believe hospitality is vitally important for us as the body of Christ. We can often be strangers to one another within the family of the church; or, if not strangers, at least barely acquainted, knowing nothing really of what others are about. I encourage you to offer hospitality to one another – and, as I said in the October edition of *The Messenger*, it need not be fancy or complicated.

And as we increasingly welcome one another, we gradually change the culture of the church so that it is more capable of welcoming those who know nothing of the church and of our Lord. In a society where loneliness and social isolation is

one of the besetting problems of our age, the church should be a community that offers a radically hospitable alternative.

Stuart

Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival and Mothering Sunday are on **March 14th**.

Please remember to bring your harvest offering on that day. Non-perishables will be given to Foodbank and perishables go to Just Zilch.

Deacon's Dismissal: Sharing God in the Workplace

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

Amen! We go in the name of Christ.

We share in the dismissal every Sunday. One of the roles (among others) of the Deacon is to lead the dismissal, sending us all out into the community to live out our faith. How much thought do we give to the dismissal and its role on how we live out our faith in the other six days of the week? That may be in paid employment, voluntary work, pursuing hobbies and interests, regular tasks (such as purchasing groceries or petrol). In all of our activities we engage with others in some way.

Think about where you go and who you interact with on a Monday morning. Do you get asked "what did you do in the weekend?" Or perhaps "how was your weekend?" How do you reply? In a simple way this may be a way to take the opportunity to share our faith and it may lead to questions. Questions such as what is Lent? What is the Eucharist? What is Holy Communion? Very recently I was asked what Shrove Tuesday was all about.

This past week I have begun to teach a group of about 80 first year nursing students. They entered the Bachelor of Nursing programme only the week before. During orientation I introduced myself as we all do. I don't only introduce myself in terms of my nursing background. I also talk about my role in the Anglican Church. I begin by saying that I am a leader in the Church. I explain that I am not a Priest, I am an ordained Deacon. The majority of those nursing students most probably have no idea.

I go on to explain my role this way. I use Sunday morning as the example. The Priest gathers the people in to church at the beginning of the service. The Deacon, at the end of the service, dismisses all the people into the community to live out their faith. Sunday is a day of refreshment and renewal, connection with the faith

community; giving thanks to God for the week that has been and praying for the week that is beginning. We live out our faith every day, indeed in every moment of every day, not only on Sundays. I go on to explain to the students just what that means in terms of what I do as a Lecturer in the Nurse Education Team at UCOL, across UCOL and into the community.

So why am I sharing all of this? This is the beginning of a regular contribution to the monthly Messenger where I will reflect on and share with all of you how I live out my faith in the workplace. What is God doing through me in the workplace? How do I, and how can I make a difference in the workplace as I live out and share my faith in words and actions. Hence my very carefully thought-out title at the beginning. Deacon's Dismissal: Sharing God in the workplace. Watch this space for God's work!

Deacon Faye

Lunchtime Concert

A newly formed group started off the 2021 Lunchtime Concert series with volume and rhythm. Palmy Sweethearts is a saxophone band of four women, all experienced musicians in other instruments. Only one has the saxophone as her main instrument and she currently teaches it as well.

Stephanie McKenzie teaches saxophone, clarinet, flute and recorder as well as working part time.

Joanne Holdaway plays the saxophone, trombone and piano.

Diana Neild primarily plays the flute but has taken up the saxophone in recent years

Sue Fletcher has been playing alto saxophone for years but has recently taken up the baritone saxophone.

The different pitches of the saxophones gave the ensemble a very rich sound. There was a tenor sax, a soprano sax, alto and baritone saxophones with some members changing from one to another depending on the composition.

Their programme consisted mainly of jazz numbers – “In the Mood”, “Theme from the Pink Panther”, “Tiko Tiko”. “Take Five”, “Sir Duke” with the “St Louis Blues” to round off the programme. Just to provide a bit of contrast there was an “Allegro” by Vivaldi in the middle of the programme.

A good-sized audience was most appreciative of the lively concert and in spite of considerable applause there was no encore!



Next month the concert will be by the SYLO Choir conducted by Christine Archer-Lockwood. This is the Sing Your Lungs Out group of people with severe respiratory problems who have been helped by the therapy of singing. Christine is a well-known musician who willingly gives her time to run this choir.

Hope you can come!

AAW report

The February meeting was a visit to the Olive Tree Village complex. A walk around the grounds and gardens was most enjoyable and showed the care that is taken to maintain them to a very high standard. The lovely morning tea that followed in the Community Centre was most appreciated. There was also time to browse in the extensive library.

A special person joined the group for this meeting. Lydia Thornton has been a long-standing parishioner of St Peter's and member of AAW. She recently celebrated her 100th birthday and joined us on this outing as part of her celebrations. Lydia really enjoyed catching up with everyone and it was great to have her with us.

The next meeting is on February 3rd when Rev Derm Buchanan will be telling us about his experiences as a hospital chaplain. There will be Communion at 10.30.

For further information, contact Githa 357 3859 or 021 250 2811



Lydia Thornton

Time of Waiting Silently on the Lord

For some years now, a small number of us have been meeting for silent contemplation or prayer in the Lady Chapel on Mondays from 12.00 noon to 1 p.m.

As we seek in Lent to deepen our trust in the leadership of Christ, in the challenging times facing the world, we need to grow in our understanding as John Main Q.S.B. reminds us – “The plan being worked out in the life of each of us is the same as that being realised in all creation, the bringing into unity with Christ of all that is. It is a unity that lies beyond our capacity to describe and no part of us is left outside the final history of this oneness”.

He goes on to say – “The besetting fault of Christians in every age is that they become so busy about so many things that they forget the words of Jesus to Martha – only ‘one thing is necessary’ to become one as He is One”. He goes on to suggest that we grow in our sense that this is taking place in our lives and indeed this totality of creation as we learn humbly and expectantly to be **still** in the **silence** of God.

We live in a time of unparalleled crisis and challenge rather like the Israelites of long ago trapped in a pincer:

- the Egyptian army on their heels
- the Red Sea blocking their path

I believe it is not too melodramatic to say that humanity in the 21st century is trapped in a pincer:

- escalating challenge re climate change
- ongoing fight against Corona virus
- challenge of what sustainable living requires of us
- challenge of an economic system as practised that can only further the gap between wealth and poverty.

Now we need to heed the words of Moses from so long ago – “Do not be afraid, stand firm and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians who you saw today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you and you only have to **keep still**”.

I do not have the space here to put down all the Bible references that I have looked up over the last weeks which underline the importance of **stillness** and **silence** in the praising of God, a practice that Jesus took very seriously in His earthly ministry.

We meet from 12 noon to 1 p.m. because this is a monastic hour of prayer throughout the world. During this time, groups of Christians meet as we are doing to be still in the silence of God, to open ourselves to the mystery of our oneness in the ongoing pursuit of Christ for the totality of His creation. To become one as He is One.

I invite you to share with us on a Monday when you are free. The Lady Chapel is a wonderful place of stillness. What a privilege to experience it. I am so grateful for this opportunity.

Rev John Read

20-30 March is Neighbours Day Aotearoa – ‘Great Plant Swap’

The kaupapa of Neighbours Day Aotearoa is to encourage people to get to know their neighbours better or to celebrate their neighbour’s thoughtful actions during the COVID lockdown.

Neighbours Day Aotearoa 2021 runs from March 20-30. Many of us are gardeners or simply enjoy plants. Gardens and plants are therapeutic for our physical, mental, social and spiritual health. This year's theme is **The Great Plant Swap** as we want neighbourhoods to continue to grow stronger together.

Previous years have seen people joining Neighbours Day Aotearoa to hold BBQs, community movie nights, street parties, beach clean ups, and even small acts like sharing a cup of tea or running errands for our neighbours. Whatever you choose to do, big or small, from reaching out for a friendly conversation to holding a community event, celebrate your neighbours.

We all know that 2020 has been a tough year for many people, but some of us found out when things were hard our neighbours were there for us!

Notes for neighbours is a way for us to celebrate those people who kept us connected during COVID. Maybe they dropped off some groceries, called to check on you or are just that person who never fails to smile and wave and you would like a way to acknowledge them.

You could get involved in The Great Plant Swap by doing any of the following, or you might even have a better idea:

- swap seeds with a neighbour
- make a plant gift for your neighbour with something you have grown
- take some flowers to a neighbour
- organise a produce swap
- share garden tips or recipes for food in season
- create community gardens or berm pollinator pathways together
- a working bee in the garden for those with mobility issues
- a friendly neighbourhood BBQ and encourage people to bring something home grown.

For further resources: www.neighboursday.org.nz

Bible verse: Romans chapter 13, verse 10: ‘Love does no harm to a neighbour.’

Rev Faye Davenport RN

Vestry Vibes

The first vestry meeting for 2021 was held on 27th January .
The reading and reflection was from Matthew 26: 36-46, and the Teaching Moment was focussed on Kingdom and Covenant.

- The revised draft terms of reference for the Property Committee were discussed and amended.
- Alan Henry and Graeme Warrington had agreed to be on the Property Committee and were duly appointed.
- Vestry agreed to set aside \$500 to assist funding parishioners taking a recognised course of theological study. A committee will assess applications.
- Further information has been received and the defibrillator is now operational.
- The Earthquake Strengthening donation box is to be secured to the bookshelves in the narthex.
- The wardens announced the appointment of Christine Goodin to the position of Parish Administrator.
- The treasurer's report made particular note of matters from the Diocese, especially the Budget Share review (formerly known as Levies).
- The dossal will not be removed during Lent but the Worship Committee will discuss other ways of softening its vibrancy during this time.
- Anne Bull has offered her services for lawn mowing and this was gratefully accepted.
- PN City Council and maybe the Refugee Council will be consulted about the use of our community gardens.

The next meeting will be on February 24th 2021.

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Tregonnings Farewell

The 31st January marked the last Sunday for Max and Adrienne Tregonning in the parish. They have been well known parishioners for many years with their full involvement in the life of the parish.

Max has been worship leader and crucifer with the added job of verger and then lawn mowing and odd job man in more recent years.

Adrienne has been the raffle organiser for many fairs as well as the ringing list organiser for Senior Lunch and previously the pastoral care committee.

Before the close of the 10am service, Adrienne, Max, Penny Merrall (worship leader that day) and the wardens joined the Vicar at the chancel steps for a special blessing before they left the service.

In the parish hall, a tasty morning tea had been set up for everyone to enjoy. People's

Warden, Yvonne Rae, presented Max and Adrienne with a framed photo of the church and Max with a gift voucher as thanks for his work around the church.



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They have gone to live in Whitby (Porirua City) just a few blocks from their daughter and little granddaughter. We wish them every happiness in their new house and surroundings. However, Adrienne said she didn't think any church could be as friendly and welcoming as St Peter's had been. Hopefully she has found one that is nearly as good!



Cheque-mate?

As several banks make moves towards phasing out cheques, we encourage you to explore alternative ways of making your offering for the work and mission of St Peter's. Among the possibilities are the following:

- Automatic payment A weekly, fortnightly, or monthly automatic payment can be set up with your bank.
- Telephone banking If you use telephone banking, the parish can be registered as one of your payees, and payments made whenever you like.
- Internet banking If you use internet banking, one-off payments to the parish can be made, or the parish can be registered as one of your regular payees and payments made whenever you want.

In each case the bank will need to know the parish bank account number – **01 0755 0005301 00** – and you will need to advise Christine in the parish office of your plan so that we can record your giving and issue a receipt at the end of the financial year. If, as a result, you are concerned about having nothing to place in the collection plate, there are special giving cards available at the welcomers table for putting in the plate at the Offertory.

You may have other ideas for how this issue can be addressed (the telephone banking idea in fact came from one of our senior members); please let us know.



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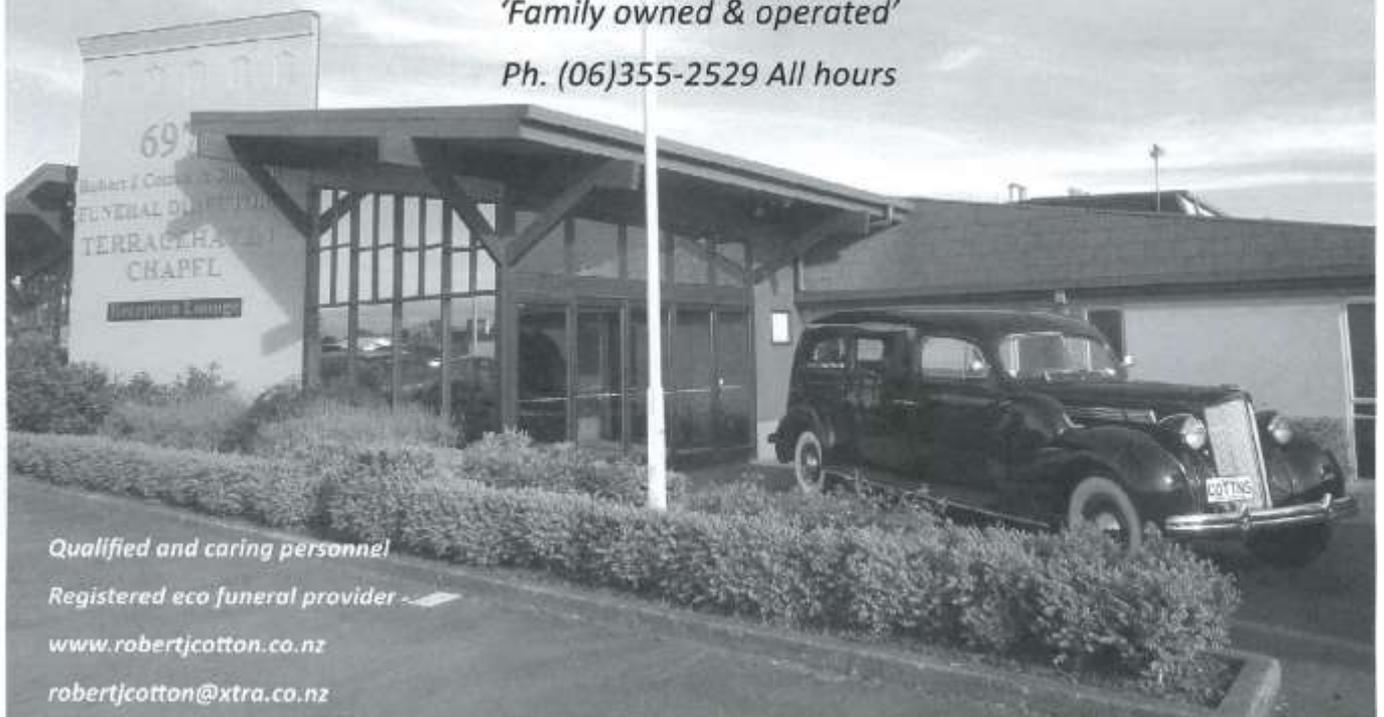
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