

The Hokonui Harvest

February 2024

The Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of Gore & Districts

“Where Faith and Life Meet”



Holy Trinity Gore

Mataura, Riversdale, Tapanui & Waikaka

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The office is open 9am—1pm Tuesday and Thursday

A Word from Our Vicar

*Rev'd Canon Gary
Griffith-Smith*



Greetings my brothers and sisters in Christ. I pray that you are well and that you are aware of the Holy Spirit of God at work in your life.

Lent has begun. I can hardly believe it, but Easter does come very early this year. It is very important to our spiritual growth that we take Lent seriously as a time of deep reflection on our Christian life as well as the life of Jesus Christ. It is a time to ponder and to pray.

As I write this, it is early on the 3rd day of Lent. Sweets (pancakes) were consumed on Tuesday and our foreheads were marked with ash on Wednesday. How are you managing without sweets, chocolate, alcohol, coffee and whatever it is that you decided to give up for Lent?

Remember that whatever we have chosen to give up is symbolic of the reality of the temptation to succumb to sin in our life, and our determination to master this temptation. This is done by giving things up and then praying when the craving takes hold of us.

I have been thinking that aside from giving up “bad” things for Lent, we should simultaneously incorporate “good” things into our daily life. Things such as curtesy, good manners all of the time, patience, kindness and gentleness.

Often times we are driven to succumb to our bad habits and cravings because we have been hurt by a word or action from someone. Let us eliminate that struggle from each other by being more like Christ in all circumstances. Yes, Jesus did get frustrated and did sometimes challenge people, but that was in response to their callousness towards other people. Most of his criticism was directed at religious people.

We have learnt very harsh lessons from our past. The church was always intended to be a safe space for all people, but sadly this is often not the case.

This Lent, let us strive to make our parish not only a safe space for all people, but also a happy place for all people. If we do this, our Lenten challenges will be achieved and our parish will be a better place for all.

Finally, let us commit to praying for each other every day, not only during Lent, but always.

With every Blessing.

Gary

Lent & Easter Services



LENT / EASTER SERVICES

Wednesday 14 February - Ash Wednesday

9.30am Eucharist

7.00pm Combined Ash Wednesday Service at Holy Trinity Church

Sunday 18 February - Lent 1

10.00am Family Eucharist

Sunday 25 March - Lent 2

10.00am Family Eucharist

Sunday 3 March - Lent 3

8.00am Eucharist and 10.00am Family Eucharist

Sunday 10 March - Lent 4

10.00am Family Eucharist

Sunday 17 March - Lent 5

10.00am Family Eucharist

Lent



Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

at Holy Trinity

Sunday 24 March - Palm Sunday

10.00am Family Eucharist

Tuesday 26 March - Chrism Eucharist

6.00pm at Invercargill Venue TBA

Wednesday 27 March

9.30am Eucharist

Thursday 28 March - Maundy Thursday

6.00pm Agape Meal and Service
Stripping of the church and half hour vigil

Friday 29 March - Good Friday

9.00am Good Friday Liturgy

Saturday 30 March - Easter Eve

5.00pm Celtic Service

Sunday 31 March - Easter Day

10.00am Family Eucharist

Guide to Holy Week



Palm Sunday

Sunday before Easter. Celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Observed with palm branches, parades, and celebration.



Maundy Thursday

Thursday before Easter. Commemorates the Last Supper. Often observed with foot washing, stripping of the altar, and overnight prayer vigil to keep watch with Jesus in the garden.



Good Friday

Friday before Easter. Most solemn day of the church year. Observes the day Jesus was crucified. Observed by praying the Stations of the Cross and three hours of silent prayer while Jesus was on the cross.



Holy Saturday

Saturday before Easter. Observes the day Jesus was in the tomb. This is a day of somber reflection, reflecting on what we'd miss in a world without Jesus.



Easter Sunday

Hallelujah! Christ has risen! This day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Sing hallelujahs and celebrate with great joy.



Parish Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of Parishioners of **The Parish of Gore & Districts** will be held in the **Narthex** on **Sunday 24 March 2024 following the 10am service** for the purpose of:

- Appointing a Vicar's Warden
- Electing a People's Warden
- Electing two Synod Representatives
- Electing not less than three or more than eight Vestry Committee members for the next year
- Receiving the audited accounts of the Parish of Gore & Districts
- Transaction of any other business connected with the Parish

at which time and place all parishioners, being of the age 16 years and upwards, who shall have been registered for a period not less than two months on the Parish Roll and are not registered on the Roll of any other Parish, are entitled to speak and vote.

Eligibility for election to Vestry

- Communicant
- 16 years upwards
- Not serving on any other Vestry

Make sure you are there to share in the future of our Parish

Nomination forms are in the Narthex / Nominations close mid-day 22 March

CHRISM EUCHARIST – Tuesday 26 March at 7pm Venue TBA

This is the service where laity and clergy renew their Baptismal and Ordination vows before each other. Chrism Oil is consecrated and people are commissioned for any appropriate tasks. This service has been well attended in recent years and most parishes will have participants in varied parts of the service.

The pot luck tea starts at 6pm.

Maundy Thursday 28 March at Holy Trinity commences at 6pm with a shared Agapè Meal enjoyed by the family of Christ (*The Love Feast, or Agape Meal, is a Christian fellowship meal recalling the meals Jesus shared with disciples during his ministry and expressing the koinonia (community, sharing, fellowship)*)

You are invited to bring a plate—either salad, cold meat or dessert.

Would you please add your name to the list in the Narthex so that we will know numbers for setting up, and also tick off what you will bring.



Donations of Hot Cross Buns for Morning Tea on Good Friday are welcome.

Annual Offertories

A memo for those who make annual offertories - the end of the tax year is coming up - 31 March

For those on the **Parish of Gore & Districts planned giving system who wish to continue using numbered** envelopes for cash giving during 2024/2025 please let Eleanor know so that these can be delivered late March/early April

Receipts for all offertories given between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 will be delivered mid—late April.

Direct credit or online deposits

Account name Holy Trinity Church

Account number 06-0923-0004683-00

Reference Please use either your name or your envelope number (or both) If not on the Planned Giving (envelope system) use '**offertory**' for the reference

If you wish to donate

- to the Dunbar's fund use 'Dunbars' in the reference
- to the Lenten Appeal use 'Lent Appeal' in the reference

If anyone wishes to join the regular offertory system - either by envelopes or direct credit please phone the Recorder, Eleanor Groves 208 4027 or 027 688 7000

Receipts may be used for tax purposes.

Flowers for Easter Services

If anyone has white or gold flowers they would be appreciated for the Easter decorations. Please leave at the Church on Good Friday.



AAW (Association of Anglican Women) meets on the first Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Narthex commencing with a short service and either a speaker or an activity following the short meeting.

On Wednesday 20 March following the 9.30am Eucharist we will be making palm crosses ready for Palm Sunday. All are very welcome to join us in the Narthex.

Monthly Parish Fellowship Dinners at Croydon Lodge



Dates for the diary —19 March, 16 April, 21 May, 18 June, 16 July, 20 August, 17 September, 15 October, 19 November and 17 December. Phone the hotel 208 9029 by 3.00pm on the day to book in with the Holy Trinity Group. Remember we receive a 25% discount off the meal cost.



Croydon Lodge very generously give each person having a birthday, a free lunch during the month of their birthday. If you would like to be part of this group please let Anne Gover know, so that you can be added to the birthday list. This is a women-only group, but men could consider setting up a men's birthday lunch group if they were interested.

**The Anglican Missions 2024
Lenten Appeal was
launched on
Ash Wednesday 14 February**



This year we are asked to support two appeals:

Rwenzori Special Needs Foundation

Since 2010, this Foundation has supported hundreds of children with physical and/or mental disabilities, providing surgeries, post-surgery care, vocational and education packages, and home-based support.

Hope for the Holy Land

War has once again torn this part of the world to pieces. You can help restore hope to the Holy Land through access to healthcare, education and community support.

Donations may be placed in an envelope labelled Lenten Appeal and placed in the Offertory Bag at church or by direct credit into the church bank account with your name and Lenten Appeal shown.

Starting Thursday 2 May
through to Thursday 29 August

SOUP AND BUNS LUNCH EVERY THURSDAY AT 12 NOON IN THE NARTHEX

You are welcome to come after the 10.30am Bible Study
or to just come for lunch at mid-day.

Soup and buns will be supplied - silver coin donation

*SEE YOU THERE
THIS WINTER*

Tuesday on Trafford

This Afternoon Tea on the second Tuesday of the month from **3 - 4pm** in the Narthex is for those who are retired or living alone.

The next afternoons will be **Tuesday 12 March** and **Tuesday 9 April** then we will take a break during winter and begin again on **Tuesday 10 September**.

If you know of any people in the community who would enjoy this please encourage them to come along. (They don't need to be Anglican)

Anyone willing to provide sandwiches or cakes/squares please phone Anne 208 5235 or Trish 208 5684





We will be rostered to assist with delivering Meals on Wheels during 2024. If you can assist, please fill in the roster on the Narthex Noticeboard when our week is announced in the Link.



CHURCH ROSTERS

Anyone interested in joining any of the following church rosters please contact the following people to find out what is involved.

Silver Cleaning / Sanctuary / Morning Tea / Hospital Visiting / Welcomers / Readers / Intercessors – contact Hannah Stewart 208 7366

Flowers - contact Davina Prattley 208 6141

Lawn Mowing – contact David Liddicoat 208 5546

Power Point – contact Anne Gover 208 5235 or 027 311 0625

We would really appreciate more members on these rosters.

Residential Homes Services

You are most welcome to join with the team taking services around the Rest Homes on a Sunday afternoon. If you are interested contact Lois Shallard Phone 027 617 2215





Neill Aaron (11) Jonathan (13) Emily (8) Rebekah

NEWS FROM THE DUNBARS

Pray for our children that they will remain healthy for the beginning of 2024 and that they will continue to grow good friendships with other children in the community.

Thank God for Hope International School and the way that they care for our children [Jonathan, Aaron and Emily] academically, physically and spiritually.

Pray that we will find times of rest and recreation in between our busy lives of ministry and raising our children.

Praise God for the doors of opportunity that continue to open for us to disciple Cambodian Christians. Pray that we will continue to lean on God's leading as we choose which of the many paths we should take.

Please continue to pray for the Khmer and Chinese-speaking congregations that are being established. Pray for Nehemiah as he leads the Khmer congregation and Wen Bin Wu who leads the Chinese one. This is a significant opportunity and would have a great impact for the Kingdom to see this grow.

Pray for continued unity and encouragement within the English-speaking church plant that we are involved in. Pray for Will and Becky McLaughlin who are leading this new church plant.

Mission Sales Table - raising funds for the Dunbar family

Items for sale are always welcome for this fundraiser — baking, jams, fruit, vegetables, books, trinkets, etc, etc

Our support for Neil and Rebekah Dunbar and their children Jonathan, Aaron and Emily is by way of our sales table, donations, and a Mission Evening during the year.

Our annual target is \$1,000 and runs from 1 November — 31 October.

Come, My Light



*Come, my Light,
and illumine my darkness.
Come, my Life,
and revive me from death.
Come, my Physician,
and heal my wounds.
Come, Flame of divine love,
and burn up the thorns of my sins,
kindling my heart
with the flame of thy love.
- Dimitrii of Rost*



Bible Study

You're not expected to know your Bible from cover to cover. We are all learning together and enjoy much laughter as we learn new things that we have never noticed before in the Bible. If you have never been part of a bible study group or have had a bad experience in the past, be brave this Lent, and come and join one of these study groups.

We meet
on a Thursday at
10.30am in the
Narthex &
on a Friday at 4
Lennox Street at
10.15am

PARATA NEWS

The nationwide trends in Rest Home occupancy have caught up with Parata. Numbers over the last six months have fallen to around 80%. With wages being the single most expensive cost it is essential that managing the highs and lows in Resident numbers is managed. Changes have been implemented to allow rostering and staffing to be quickly adjusted up and down to match the fluctuating income while still providing Parata's high level of care.



The Chapel has lifted spirits for a year – providing a beautiful space where worship is not competing with food preparation noises and providing an attractively presented Day Centre.

During the year an increased number of services of worship have been conducted and recently Residents and their whanau have chosen to use the Parata Chapel for final farewells.

Residents and Staff continue to enjoy a variety of activities and events in the community and will attend the 'Harvest Festival' on Friday.

Parata thanks the Holy Trinity parishioners for their continued support of Parata and the willing volunteers who deliver Meals on Wheels, Parata People and Vicar Gary and Chaplain Lois who attend to our spiritual needs.

Peter Hargest – Parata (Chair)

Regular Services in the Parish

These services are listed in the weekly pew sheet, the Link, and will also be shown on the parish website <https://goreanglican.co.nz/> which is being managed by Robert Gillard.

Pastoral Care in the Parish

If anyone is in hospital, could a family member or friend please let us know so that pastoral care and support from the Hospital Visiting Team can be arranged. Also if you know of anyone who is sick or is unwell at home and requiring a visit or home communion please let us know. Pastoral Care is co-ordinated from the Office and passed on to either clergy or an appropriate visitor.



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"Careful, Honey, she seems a little bitter."

Contacts in the Parish

Vicar Rev'd Canon Gary Griffith-Smith 03 208 7366 or 027 267 0030

Office Administrator Hannah Stewart 03 208 7366 or 021 203 0828

Parish Office 15 Traford Street, Gore 03 208 7366

Local Priest Rev'd Bruce Cavanagh 03 208 4538 or 021 0295 1283

Parata Chaplain Lois Shallard 03 208 0031 or 027 617 2215

Vicar's Warden Patricia Tytler 03 208 5684 or 027 367 6806

People's Warden Robyn Pahl 027 436 4822

Vestry Secretary Anne Gover 03 208 5235 or 027 311 0625

Parish Recorder Eleanor Groves 03 208 4027 or 027 688 7000

Music Anne Gover 03 208 5235 or 027 311 0625

Hospitality Heather Hetaraka 208 5644 or 027 233 4748

Mataura Rosemary Dunlop 203 8050

Riversdale Hilary Riordan 021 107 9820

Tapanui Esme Sim 03 204 2272

Waikaka Pat Childs 03 207 2746

