



# Follow Me...

## The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

Encompassing St Matthew's Anglican Church, Hastings & St Peter's Anglican Church, Riverslea & St Martin's Community Hall, Mayfair & Parkvale, Mahora & Flaxmere.

December 2023 - February 2024 Advent/Christmas/Epiphany Edition

### *David writes: Reflecting back and looking forward...*

As we come toward the end of this year, it seems appropriate to take a moment from the busyness of our days to look back and acknowledge just how vibrant our community is, how resilient, how gifted and giving.

Our spaces have continued to host a variety of groups, events and ministries: Hawke's Bay Interfaith Group praying for peace in our world, St Peter's Church becoming a temporary home for Kowhai Specialist School's Kowhai Tec, distributing food following Cyclone Gabrielle, the popular and fun cooking programme Senior Chef, supporting Wesley Methodist Church as they prepared to celebrate the opening of their newly built community hall, Blossom Festival Lunchtime Concerts, the Co-Governance hui, hosting The Linden Singers, Hawke's Bay Youth Orchestra & Hastings Music Society, to name just a few.

Opportunities for new ventures have come our way, opening our doors and our hearts to them has been a positive experience. Working with artists such as Mickey Espino (more news on Mickey, later), our being part of the Hawkes Bay Arts Festival hosting Ko Au: Malosi & Machine Wreckers, Birds of NZ, have been enriching experiences. Here's to many more of them.

Earlier this year the proposal and plans were shared that will see the transformation of spaces at St Matthew's Church. Works were scheduled to begin in February 2024 and no one was more pleasantly surprised than us when the schedule was brought forward to November. The opportunity for an earlier than planned start, too good to miss! The completion of this project will create a premier worship space and arts and culture venue.

We look forward to sharing it with you all.

### *Alister asks: And after Christmas, what then?*

I ask that question, mindful of the pain and suffering that countless people are experiencing – overseas and here in our community.

Howard Thurman was an American author, philosopher, theologian, educator, and civil rights leader. He wrote this poem:

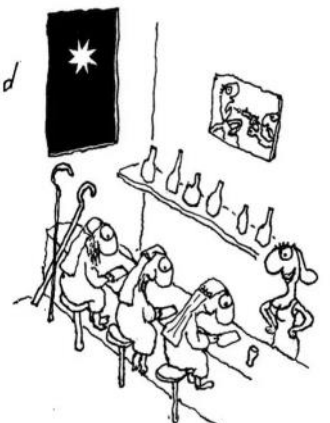
When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among people,  
To make music in the heart.

The work of Christmas begins when you and I start living as Jesus taught. It begins when we carry the message of love, compassion, justice, and peace throughout the year.

So, after Christmas, I wonder... how might you and I make the work Christmas live on.

♪ UPDATE ♪

While shepherds watched  
their phones by night  
All seated at the bar,  
An angel texted  
them to say  
Look up and  
See the star!



Leung



*Parish Vicar, the Ven. David van Oeveren, with the Rev'd Margaret Thompson and the Rev'd Dr Helen Jacobi after the St Matthew's Patronal Festival Eucharist.*

## A 'Silver' Anniversary!

Congratulations, and blessings, to our Parish Vicar, and Archdeacon, the Venerable David van Oeveren, who recently celebrated twenty-five years of priestly ministry.

David was ordained priest by Bishop Tom Brown on the 28th November 1998 at St Mary's Anglican Church, Levin. He served in parishes in the Wellington Diocese (Levin, Pahiatua, Eketahuna, and Feilding) before arriving in the Waiapu Diocese with the Bishop's appointment as Hawke's Bay Regional Dean. He has also served as Acting-Dean Waiapu Cathedral, Priest in Charge of St Matthew's Parish, and now Vicar of Greater Hastings Parish alongside his role as Archdeacon of Hawke's Bay Cities.

Thank you, David, for who you are and all you do in our community, and we pray God's abundant blessings for you and your family.

## St Matthew's Patronal Festival

It was a pleasure to have the **Rev'd Dr Helen Jacobi** with us as guest preacher when we celebrated the Patronal Festival of St Matthew in September. Rev'd Helen had recently retired as Vicar of St Matthew-in-the-City so was able to bring insights of another inner city St Matthew's Parish for us to reflect upon.



*"Wise Woman"*

This Rose bush (left) was planted in St Matthew's Rose Garden in June 2022 to commemorate the late Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee.

Thanks to the team of volunteers, the Rose Garden is flourishing and looking beautiful - do take a moment to rest in the garden and to reflect on the wonders of God's creation.



*Left: "Double Delight"*



*Right: "Monet"*

## Artist in Residence for 2024

Artist Mickey Espino has exhibited twice at St Matthew's Church this past year and has been part of the HB Arts Trail.

Mickey shares, "It is my mission to share my gifts in creating and healing. In fact, I maintain a dual career in both the arts and science.

I stay prolific in the visual art scene mainly in Hawke's Bay, and also work in the Neurotherapy department at the hospital. I'm passionate about both creating art and making a difference in people's lives through therapy."

Mickey has been named our Resident Artist for 2024. We look forward to continuing to support Mickey in his spiritual and artistic journey. Look out for notices for opportunities to experience Mickey's works.



*Image: courtesy of [www.mickeyespinoart.com](http://www.mickeyespinoart.com)*



## Christmas Cake Raffle

Audrey Bolstad has kindly made her usual large Christmas Cake for our Christmas Raffle. Tickets will be on sale, at both St Peter's and St Matthew's, from Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November until Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

Members of Heretaunga Seniors will also have the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets, at St Martin's Hall, over the next few weeks.

Tickets are \$2 each and the draw will be on 17<sup>th</sup> December. We hope everyone will support this Christmas Raffle.

## Parish Nominators

A Special General Meeting of the Parish was held in early December to elect three parishioners to serve as Parish Nominators. Along with Bishop Andrew Hedge, Vicar David, and a Church Warden, the nominators will seek to appoint an Associate Priest.

The Parish is currently advertising seeking expressions of interest and applications for either a part-time (0.5 FTE) or a full-time role of an Associate Priest within the Greater Hastings Parish, from May 2024.



## St Matthew's Primary School Year 8 Leavers Gifts

Our grateful thanks to the donors who gave so generously to our recent appeal. These funds have enabled the purchase of a Bible as gifts for each of our graduating Year 8 students as we wish them every success on the next stage of their journey.

## St Peter's Patronal Festival

The Right Reverend Andrew Hedge, Bishop of Waiapu Diocese, preached and presided at St Peter's Church, Riverslea, for the Patronal Festival of St Peter last July.

At the conclusion of the service, Bishop Andrew blessed a new booklet recently compiled listing all the clergy who have held a Bishop's Licence as Vicar or Priest-in-Charge in the former Parishes that now make up the new parish of Greater Hastings.

A great deal of research through the Diocesan Archives, and memories, went into preparing the booklet - thanks to all involved.



*(The Rev'd Alister Hendery with Bishop Andrew Hedge as he blesses the 'Clergy' booklet, at St Peter's Church Riverslea, July 2023)*

## Colwyn House Christmas Carol Singing

Join together to sing  
Christmas Carols around Colwyn House

**Monday 18 December**

meet by 7.00pm at the main entrance  
707 Duke Street, Mahora, Hastings.

If you play a transportable instrument - eg guitar, flute, violin, - bring it along; or if you play a piano, bring your sheet music to play on their piano.

Please come and join the festive fun.

## Greater Hastings Parish Op Shop at St Martin's Community Hall

1120 Willowpark Road North, Hastings

Open Tuesdays 8am-12noon  
until 12th December;  
re-opening 16th January 2024.

Bargains galore & much more!





### Senior Chef in Hastings

- \* Have you lost your enthusiasm for cooking?
- \* Do you want to meet some new people?
- \* Do you need to do something different?
- \* Here is a course for you!

Senior Chef is an eight week course learning about food and nutrition for people aged 65 years and above. Each session involves a time of fellowship, learning, cooking and eating lunch together, as well as cleaning up at the end.

This course is totally free and each participant receives a cookbook and a new group of friends to share with.

The next course will start on **Tuesday 27 February 2024 at 9.30am**, in the St Matthew's hall kitchen, Hastings.

Any enquiries, or to register, please call Ven. David van Oeveren  
06 211 3457 / 021 470 337 or email david.vanoeveren@waiapu.com



### Prayer Chain

If you need urgent prayer for yourself, a family member, or a friend, ring Liz 021 0266 6753!

We don't need to know the reason prayer is required, just the name of the person.

Once Liz receives a prayer request, she will ring others on the prayer chain, who will then pray for that person for up to 2 weeks, unless otherwise notified.

### Marty's Music



Marty's is a preschool music group for parents, grandparents and caregivers and, of course, babies-5 year olds.

It runs every Friday in term time, at St Martin's Community Hall, 1120 Willowpark Road North, Mayfair, from 10-12 noon. We have a small fee of \$2 per child (free for the first session).

There is a good half hour programme of music, followed by a healthy morning tea of fruit, sandwiches and baked goodies. Toys and activities are put out for a playgroup session and while the children play, adults have a time to share and encourage one another too. It's a very happy place with a friendly, joyful atmosphere.

Come along and have fun. Any enquiries, please ring Marilyn 8774639 or Michelle 027 8571543.

## HEADSTONE WORLD

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100 McLean St, Hastings : Clive Sq East, Napier  
kim@headstoneworld.co.nz  
www.headstoneworld.co.nz

### St Matthew's Men's Fellowship Lunch

We invite you to join us for a delicious two course meal with hot beverages, \$10.00 per person. Fabulous food, good company and great conversation - held in the St Matthew's Church Hall, 200 King Street South, Hastings.

Our next lunches are on:

**Wednesdays: 28 February & 27 March 2024**

Loneliness is an epidemic and soul destroying. If you, or someone you know, would like to come along as either a diner or a volunteer helper, please phone Paddy or Richard Bayley, 876-7616.



### Messy Church

Whether you're young or young at heart we invite you to join us for fun, fellowship and a shared meal:

**St Martin's Community Hall**  
(1120 Willowpark Road North, Mayfair,  
next-door to Mayfair School)

**Our next Messy Church will be on:**  
**Saturday, 24 February 2024**

All welcome - children under 14 years must be accompanied by an adult please.



## Remaining a Premier Worship Space, Arts & Culture Venue, and Civic Space

By now you may have heard of the project which has commenced to Repurpose, Renovate, and Redecorate surplus spaces in St Matthew's Anglican Church making fit-for-purpose for our and future needs.


This conversation and project started with the St Matthew's Church Hall being earthquake prone and needing to be remedied by April 2027. An extensive Feasibility Study has taken place exploring options utilising the existing or creating a new St Matthew's Community Centre. The outcome of the Feasibility Study was that the most expensive option was to earthquake strengthen the existing Hall and bring up to a fit-for-purpose compliant standard.

Due to Cyclone Gabrielle this is going to take longer to realise than first hoped. The St Matthew's Community Centre will be a multi-user – multipurpose space, with a focus on Parish, Church, Waiapu Kids, Primary School and community.

St Matthew's Church also requires some earthquake strengthening, due to be completed by October 2035. More urgent for now is to make room for that which the Hall has provided us. Therefore, we have begun to Repurpose unused space to ensure we have a building for the future.

The North Porch will become a temporary Floral Room with storage for Chairs and Risers; the Main Entrance Porch will be more inviting, providing a seat for those waiting on transport; the Floral Guild Room will become a Kitchen and preparation space and the adjacent transept a welcoming Hospitality and Meeting Space; the current Kitchenette and Toilets will become modern compliant Bathroom Facilities; the current Vicar's Study will become the Parish Support Hub; the Vestry will remain that, but with the Copier and a Hot Desk; the Choir Vestry will become the Vicar's Study with a Hot Desk.

It is hoped that the new Kitchen and Hospitality and Meeting Space will meet all our needs.

*(continued top of next column)* 

During Lent, to enable the Lenten Study, the furniture layout in the Lady Chapel will be experimented with and be placed Choir Style with a separation of word and sacrament. Let me stress this is a Lenten experiment, but will also provide us with another meeting space to experience.

We are, and want to remain, a premier worship space and arts and culture venue in Hawke's Bay and we are the civic space in Hastings. The why of this Repurpose, Renovate and Redecorate is to ensure that we remain so in fit-for-purpose spaces.

These are exciting times ... but we do ask for your patience, caution, and understanding as we navigate our way through these changes, because there will be some disruption and inconvenience as the work progresses.

If you would like to contribute towards this work, please talk to the Vicar, Churchwarden, or Parish Administrator. Your generosity will make the completion of this task more achievable.



HAWKE'S BAY  
YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
PRESENTS

# Christmas Harmonies

3:30PM  
SUN 10 DEC  
2023

ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH  
HASTINGS  
ADULTS \$10  
CHILDREN \$5

**HBYO**

The Anglican Parish  
of Greater Hastings

*Adapted from the Venerable David van Oeveren's  
Sermon at St Matthew's on Sunday 26 November -  
The Reign of Christ Sunday, 2023*

### First Stir Up

Stir up, O God the wills of your faithful people; that they, richly bearing the fruit of good works, may by you be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ who is alive with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

On 28 November 1998, I was Ordained Priest by Bishop Tom Brown at St Mary's Anglican Church, Levin. I was just 30, married to Sue who was 8 months pregnant. Adulthood had arrived, no longer in my 20's, married, expecting child number 1, and entered into the Holy Order of Priests. 25 years a Priest, 26 years a Deacon.

My Ordination to the Diaconate took place at All Saints' Anglican Church, Palmerston North on 13 December 1997.

A celebration worth reflecting on, if for no other reason than to ensure the next 10 years are ones of learned experience. It is well known that many who enter into Stipended Ordained Ministry are not found to be in ministry after 5 years. In the wake of the COVID pandemic we have seen a 'Great Resignation', or at least the consideration of quitting.

An article called 'Departure: Why I Left the Church' by Rev'd Alexander Lang went viral after being published in September 2023. I encourage you to read the full article.

[Departure: Why I Left the Church \(restorativefaith.org\)](https://restorativefaith.org)

The top 5 reasons for resignation or contemplation of resigning are:

1. The immense stress of the job.
2. I feel lonely and isolated.
3. Current political divisions.
4. I am unhappy with the effect this role has had on my family.
5. I am not optimistic about the future of my church.

I can relate to all of these, but in particular the first three.

Another aspect of being a Priest is that every person who walks through the door of your faith communities believes they are your boss. When everyone likes what you're doing, it does not feel that way, but the moment an individual or group of people become discontent with your sermons or decisions or actions, then you feel the weight

of their leverage over your life. The question becomes: 'Is leading the church really worth the investment if this is what I'm going to get in return? From people who label themselves as Christians surely we expect that we should love one another.'

There are often unrealistic expectations or at least perceived versus actual expectations don't match. A Priest is expected to be proficient in seven key areas.

1. Professional Speaker.
2. Chief Executive Office, CEO.
3. Professional Fundraiser.
4. Counsellor, Confidant, Mediator.
5. Human Resource Director, HR.
6. Master of Ceremonies, Celebrant, Presider, guardian of the faith.
7. Pillar of Virtue.

Plus, I would add, Communications, Comms; Information and Communications Technology, ICT; Property Manager and Caretaker, and Event Management Planning and Organising. In a normal company, you would have a different person or multiple people doing most of these jobs. Nobody is capable of being proficient at all of these skills, and yet, the Vicar is expected to excel in all of them. I have over the last 25 years done all of these things, at times exceptionally well and yet other times dismally failing. I am grateful for the struggles, the surprises, and for the opportunities.

I ask your forgiveness for the mistakes I have made and for the times I have not been enough.

Rev'd Alexander Lang goes on to introduce the concept of Growth Mindset vs. Fixed Mindset.

A Growth Mindset is when a person is willing to take chances, enjoys learning new things and is not afraid to fail. People with a Fixed Mindset don't like to be challenged. They perceive failure as the limit of their abilities. They tend to be scared of learning new things, particularly if that education disrupts their current worldview.

I lean heavily into the Growth Mindset and I assumed that was the entire purpose of church.

I believe that the reason we gather every Sunday is to explore deep questions about life and to push ourselves to become better humans.

I want my thinking challenged. Whilst always holding on to a sense of hope, my goal is to make us think.

*Adapted from the Venerable David van Oeveren's  
Sermon at St Matthew's on Sunday 26 November -  
The Reign of Christ Sunday, 2023*

### Second Stir Up

I find it interesting that so often I find words of wisdom in the secular. Comfort in the arts and culture that surround our everyday. I was struck by the words of a Robbie Williams song, 'Love My Life', at his recent concert at The Mission.

Robbie Williams says that the song is 'about positivity and making the most of your life. This song is about hope and spreading positivity instead of negativity.'

*I love my life, I am powerful, I am beautiful,  
I am free.*

*I love my life, I am wonderful, I am magical,  
I am me.*

*I love my life, And finally I'm where I want to be.*

It reminded me of a Parish Camp when I was growing up where we had a hymn writing workshop.

*I'm what I am, I am God's own me,  
God's own creation like the stars and the sea.  
God gave me power to love and to see,  
I am a part of God's family.*

After 25 years, why am I still ministering to build the realm of God through the reign of Christ.

Firstly because of **God** and the Kingdom of God on earth or Reign of God here and now. For many people this extending of the Reign of God through Jesus's preaching affirms for us the Reign of God, the place where God rules where there is freedom, peace and liberation for all people. By stirring up and spoiling the status quo we can make that reign of God a more present reality day by day, a reality for all people.

The realm of God is about the dismantling of oppressive systems and the establishment of the kingdom of justice and peace. We need this now more than ever, we need to reclaim this!

Jesus reminds me that we should **love** each other all the time. Love is the reason and the why I ensure an open altar where all who wish are welcome.

Who needs to be invited to the table, someone who hasn't been, someone who has been ignored or overlooked. When you have more than you need you build a bigger table not a higher fence, because everyone is welcome.

Why am I still here, I would suggest **Faith** and **Commitment**, and **Belonging**.

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me." I was an outsider and you gathered me in to worship.

I think Jesus is implying something stronger than simply welcoming in strangers but more like gathering in the freaks and the lonely.

People are connected and we need to make outsiders feel like insiders and connected. People are looking for a place to belong, a place where they can belong as their most authentic self. The most authentic fully lived life through the way of Jesus Christ embodying God's love and grace, the life abundant. This is where you belong as we transform one another as we live into the kingdom.

When we invite, how do we make all welcome, how do we make people feel this is a space they belong, making spaces as safe as possible, offering a listening ear, because they are loved and they belong.

Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.







Community Service

# CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND READINGS

Free & Open For Everybody!

**SUN DEC 17**  **STARTS 7PM**

A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM  
With Guest Artists  
*Four's Company & Kathy Fletcher*



**ST MATTHEWS ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
200 King Street, Hastings,  
[www.stmatthewshastings.org.nz](http://www.stmatthewshastings.org.nz)

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# Christingle

A service for the young and young at heart

Journey with us and share in the symbolism of the Christingle and the Blessing of the Nativity Crib

**Sunday 24 December 2023**  
**5.00pm**



**St Matthew's Anglican Church**  
200 King Street South  
Hastings

# Christmas Services

**St Matthew's Church**  
All are welcome to come and celebrate the Birth of the Christ Child

**Sunday 17 December**  
7.00 pm - Christmas Readings & Carols with Four's Company

**Sunday 24 December - Advent 4**  
8.00am - Eucharist (Lady Chapel)  
10.00am - Eucharist with hymns

**Sunday 24 December - Christmas Eve**  
5.00pm - Christingle Service  
11.00pm - The first Eucharist of Christmas

**Monday 25 December - Christmas Day**  
10.00am - Christmas Festival Eucharist with Carols



# Christmas Services

**St Peter's Church**  
1202 Ada Street, Riverslea, Hastings  
All are welcome to come and celebrate the Birth of the Christ Child

**Sunday 17 December**  
10.00am - A Morning Worship Service of Christmas Readings & Carols

**Sunday 24 December**  
No services today

**Monday 25 December**  
10.00am - Christmas Day Eucharist with Carols







## EAST COAST Plumbing and Gas Limited

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### Sign-up! - Christmas Services Rosters

The normal Sunday roster for services will continue during December and January - but if you are planning on being away, please arrange a swap with another rostered person to organize cover.

There will be a clipboard at the back of St Matthew's Church, please sign-up to indicate your availability for duties at the extra services over Christmas - thanks.

### Parish Support Hub Closure for Christmas & New Year

Please note that the Parish Office will **close at 12 noon on Friday 22 December** and will re-open at 9am on Monday 9 January 2024.

For urgent matters, please contact The Ven David van Oeveren on 06 211 3457

**Services and Events** listed in this edition of 'Follow Me' Magazine, and noted on the Calendar in the following columns, are correct at time of printing. **Please note there are NO 8.00am Sunday services and NO 10.15am Thursday services in January.** Any changes to the schedule will be posted on our Parish web-site, and our Facebook page, which both have all the latest information - please check there for any changes to the schedule, and all the latest news and information.

[www.greaterhastingsanglicanchurch.co.nz](http://www.greaterhastingsanglicanchurch.co.nz)  
[www.factbook.com/ParishOfGreaterHastings](http://www.factbook.com/ParishOfGreaterHastings)

## PARISH CALENDAR DECEMBER 2023

### Sunday 3: Advent 1

8am Eucharist - St Matthew's Lady Chapel  
10am Eucharist - St Matthew's, Hastings.  
10am Morning Worship - St Peter's, Riverslea.

Thursday 7, 10.15am. St Matthew's, Hastings

### Sunday 10: Advent 2

8am Eucharist - St Matthew's Lady Chapel  
10am Eucharist - St Matthew's, Hastings.  
10am Eucharist - St Peter's, Riverslea.  
2pm Hawke's Bay Youth Orchestra Concert,  
at St Matthew's Church.

Thursday 14, 10.15am. St Matthew's, Hastings.

### **Thursday 14 Term 4 Ends.**

### Sunday 17: Advent 3

8am Eucharist - St Matthew's Lady Chapel  
10am Eucharist - St Matthew's, Hastings.  
10am Christmas Readings & Carols Service at  
St Peter's Church, Riverslea  
7pm Christmas Readings & Carols Service,  
with Four's Company at St Matthew's,  
Church, Hastings

Monday 18, 7pm - Christmas Carol singing at  
Colwyn House Lifecare, Hastings

Thursday 21, 10.15am - Eucharist - St Matthew's

*Friday 22 December - Friday 5 January inclusive -  
Parish Support Hub Closed for Christmas - New  
Year Break.*

### Sunday 24: Advent 4

8am Eucharist - St Matthew's Lady Chapel  
10am Eucharist - St Matthew's, Hastings  
(no services at St Peter's today)

### Sunday 24: The Eve and Vigil of Christmas - The celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ

5pm Christingle Nativity Crib Service for the  
young and young-at-heart to celebrate  
Jesus as the Light of the World - whole-of  
Parish worship at St Matthew's Church.  
11pm A whole-of-Parish service to celebrate the  
First Eucharist of Christ-Mass, at St  
Matthew's Church, Hastings.



**Monday 25: CHRISTMAS DAY – The Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

8am *No service today*

10am Festive Christmas Day Eucharist - at St Matthew's Church, Hastings

10am Festive Christmas Day Eucharist - at St Peter's Church, Riverslea.

Tuesday 26 Boxing Day.

**Tuesday 26 December-Wednesday 3 January inclusive**  
*Ven. David van Oeveren on ANNUAL LEAVE*

**Sunday 31: Christmas 1**

10am COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 300 Market Street South, Hastings

**JANUARY 2024**

*(Note: NO Thursday Eucharist at St Matthew's Church during January - these services will resume on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February)*

Saturday 6, Epiphany

**Sunday 7: The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ – The Revelation of Christ**

10am Eucharist - whole-of-Parish service **COMBINED** with St Andrew's & St John's Presbyterian Churches, **at St Matthew's Anglican Church, 200 King Street South, Hastings**

**Monday 8 – Friday 12 January - Summer deep clean and Inventory of St Matthew's Hall Kitchen.**

**Sunday 14: The Baptism of the Lord-Epiphany 2**

10am Eucharist - St Matthew's, Hastings

10am Eucharist - St Peter's, Riverslea

**Sunday 21: Epiphany 3**

10am Eucharist - St Matthew's, Hastings

10am Eucharist - St Peter's, Riverslea

**Sunday 28: The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple / Candlemas – Epiphany 4**

10am Eucharist - St Matthew's, Hastings

10am Eucharist - St Peter's, Riverslea

Wednesday 31, 7.15pm - Greater Hastings Parish VESTRY meeting at St Peter's, Riverslea - for Vestry members involved in Finance, Property and Building Projects across the Parish.

**FEBRUARY 2024**

Thursday 1, 10.15am - Eucharist - St Matthew's  
 Saturday 3, 10.30am - Hawke's Bay Earthquake Commemoration at Hastings Clocktower CBD

**Sunday 4: Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

8am Eucharist - St Matthew's Lady Chapel

10am Eucharist - St Matthew's, Hastings

10am Morning Worship - St Peter's, Riverslea

*Tuesday 6 February - Waitangi Day Public holiday*

Wednesday 7 - School Term 1 begins

Thursday 8, 10.15am - Eucharist - St Matthew's

Thursday 8, 5.30-6.30pm - Brave Banter 'Theology on Tap' - an opportunity to critically engage with our faith with Ven. David van Oeveren at Brave

Brewing Co, 205 Queen Street East, Hastings

Saturday 10, 9am-12pm - WORKING BEE inside & outside all our properties preparing for Lent!

**Sunday 11: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8am Eucharist - St Matthew's Lady Chapel

10am Eucharist - St Matthew's, Hastings.

10am Eucharist - St Peter's, Riverslea -

"Bounce Back Sunday" with the Commissioning and Prayer / Powhiri & Karakia for Kowhai Specialist School – Kowhai Tec Teaching & Support Staff & BoT to begin the 2024 educational year

Tuesday 13, 5.30pm - Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras Pancakes in St Matthew's Hall

*The Season of Lent = A time for preparation for Holy Week and Easter with a focus on Baptism and Renewal of Baptismal Vows*

**Wednesday 14 February - ASH WEDNESDAY:**

**The First Day of Lent / St Valentine's Day / and the First Anniversary of Cyclone Gabrielle**

Wednesday 14, 10.15am - Ash Wednesday

Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes - St Matthew's Lady Chapel, Hastings *(this replaces the usual Thursday Eucharist service for this week)*

Wednesday 14, 1.40pm - School Ash Wednesday Service, St Matthew's Church

Wednesday 14, 7pm - Ecumenical Ash

Wednesday Service with Imposition of Ashes, at St Matthew's Church, Hastings.

Please attend as we share together.



## PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Website: <https://greaterhastingsanglicanchurch.co.nz/>

Facebook: @stmatthewshastings

### Parish Priest - Vicar

The Venerable David van Oeveren  
06 211 3457 or 021 470 337  
david.vanoeveren@waiapu.com

### Priest Associate

The Reverend Alister Hendery  
06 211 3466 or 021 742 434  
alister.hendery@waiapu.com

### Priest Associates

The Rev'd Margaret Thompson  
The Rev'd Pelly Pirikahu

### Deacon Associate

The Rev'd Lynette Gordon

### Vicar's Warden

Juliette Swensson 021 431 820

### Lay Synod Representative - Liz Buxton

### Regional Conference Rep - vacant

### Vestry 2023

Juliette Swensson	021 431 820
Liz Buxton	0210 266 6753
Ruth Cunliffe	027 230 0327
Murray Cushing	06 870 6254
David Hodder	027 237 3885
Mark Sutton	06 878 8797
Kevin Watkins	027 3046213
Michelle Thornton	06 878 9476



### Parish Support Hub

Parish Administrator Tracey Weston  
**Monday - Friday 9am - 1pm**  
Phone & Answer Phone 06 878 9476  
Email [hastingsparish@waiapu.com](mailto:hastingsparish@waiapu.com)

### Advertising

Parish Support Hub 06 878 9476

### Magazine Distribution

Parish Support Hub 06 878 9476

### Parish Offertory Recorders

Sheryl Hilton St Matthew's	021 119 0729
Bevan Cottrell St Peter's	027 772 5490

### Musicians

Kathy Fletcher	Ruth Cunliffe
Robin Nairn	Marilyn Dingle
James Mist	Francie Reed

### Men's Fellowship Lunch

Richard & Paddy Bayley 06 876 7616

### Messy Church

Barbara Person	06 878 8855
Warwick & Marilyn Dingle	021 0861 1325

### St Matthew's Primary School

06 876 4958

### Waiapu Kids St Matthew's

Early Childhood Centre 06 878 6924

### Heretaunga Seniors

Kirsteen Keene 06 870 7025  
St Martin's Community Hall,  
1120 Willowpark Road North,  
next to Mayfair School.

### Greater Hastings Op Shop

#### @ St Martin's Community Hall

Open Tues 8am-12noon  
1120 Willowpark Road North,  
Mayfair, Hastings



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**LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER**

Local primary schools are partnering with Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawke's Bay and local businesses to help more of our young people in need.

We're looking for workplaces that are willing to give one or more staff members the opportunity to volunteer as a mentor for a couple of hours a week at the end of the school day during 2024.

Employer-supported volunteering benefits the business, the volunteers and supports our local community. It makes a huge difference in a young person's life.

Scan to find out more or head to [www.bbshb.nz](http://www.bbshb.nz)  
Email: [esv@bbshb.org.nz](mailto:esv@bbshb.org.nz)



**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hawke's Bay**  
Tuakana Teina

[@bigbrothersbigistershawkesbay](https://www.facebook.com/bigbrothersbigistershawkesbay)



## Anglican Missions

All Anglican Missions' projects must satisfy at least one of the Church's **"Marks of Mission"**, ie to Tell, Teach, Tend, Transform, Treasure.

Mission based projects are centred around the first two Marks of Mission – Tell and Teach. While we like to Tell and Teach everywhere we work, our Development, and Humanitarian Aid projects are managed by AWA (Anglican Word Aid) and focus solely on at least one of the Tend, Transform and Treasure Marks of Mission.

In October, Anglican Missions launched an **Emergency Appeal** for the **Al-Ahli Hospital** in Gaza. Donations to the Appeal ensures that people are put first to receive the care needed.

For up-to-date reports, follow Anglican Missions on Facebook; donations made be made direct to Appeals via their website: <https://anglicanmissions.org.nz/donate>

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## The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings, PO Box 824, Hastings 4156

**Please help us to keep your records up to date ...**  
if you have had a change of address recently, or are planning to move,  
if you have changed phone numbers, or email address ...  
please call the Parish Support Hub, phone **878 9476**,  
or email: [hastingsparish@waiapu.com](mailto:hastingsparish@waiapu.com)

*Thank you - we look forward to keeping in touch!*