



## The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

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

*Provoking faith in Hastings communities*

*Faith giving Life*

### ***Parish Newsletter***

*for the week commencing Sunday*

*27<sup>th</sup> July 2025*

### **Haere Mai - Welcome**

#### **Services at St Matthew's Church**

200 King Street South, Hastings

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July -  
Social Services Sunday**

*Please note there are NO 8.00am Services  
scheduled for the Sundays of July 2025.*

10.00am - Eucharist with hymns

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July**

10.15am - Eucharist (*Lady Chapel*)

#### **Services at St Peter's Church**

1202 Ada Street, Riverslea, Hastings

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July -  
Social Services Sunday**

10.00am - Eucharist with hymns



## WELCOME to our services in the Parish this week.

*All are welcome to share morning tea light refreshments and a time of fellowship following the 10am services.*

Welcome home, and back in the Parish, to our Vicar, the Rev'd David & Sue van Oeveren - we hope you have had a wonderful holiday, with lots of adventures, and enjoyed catching up with family overseas; and we trust you have returned refreshed and inspired by your experiences. 😊

Next week, the Rev'd David will be in Christchurch attending the NZ Religious Education Teachers & School Chaplains conference on Monday-Wednesday; then continues with the NZ Anglican Schools Conference from Wednesday-Friday.

The **8.00am** Eucharist service at St Matthew's Church will resume next Sunday, **3rd August**.

**Please be aware** ... the third term of the school year has commenced, and, in an attempt to prevent traffic congestion and improve safety for the children, the school has imposed a **"no access"** zone to the driveway between the school and the church, from **8.30am - 9.15am, and 2.30pm - 3.15pm from Monday to Friday**.

## Kia ora e te whanau a te Karaiti

After 4 ½ weeks away overseas visiting Alex, Rebekah and other family and whanau, Sue, Anna and I have returned. In 28 years of ministry this is the single longest time I have stepped out from active ministry, and it has been a great circuit breaker and time to reflect. More on that when I write my report.

For now I would like to thank those who have so wonderfully taken care of the Parish whilst I was on leave.

To Margaret, Jenny and Christine – thank you so much for overseeing the Ministry and Worship.

To Juliette and Murray – thank you for being exceptional Wardens and ensuring the Governance and Management of the Parish continued.

And to Prasadi for stepping up and making the Administration and Management seamless in my absence.

Whilst travelling, I have been lucky to worship and meet with Anglican, Episcopal, Church of England people in the USA and UK and have had the opportunity to learn some of what is working and what is not working in the Communion at present and what we as Greater Hastings can do in response to and in support of the Anglican Communion.

*Conti..*

It all starts with prayer, both general and focused prayer. A focused prayer might be for the process of appointing a new Archbishop of Canterbury, an instrument of the Anglican Communion. A general prayer might be to resist the temptation to become bland and 'adjusting to the loudest complainers in the pews' and reclaim the sacramental confidence of our tradition which offers depth, beauty, holiness and truth.

*I look forward to catching up with you all over the coming weeks.*

Today is **Social Services Sunday**, and we welcome members of the **Open Home Foundation** to our 10am Eucharist at St Matthew's to share news of the work they do in our community. The service will be followed by an extended morning tea, and a "soup & buns" lunch.

### Hastings Music Society Concert

*with musicians & vocalists,  
and convener Beverley Heard*

**Sunday 10th August 2025, 2.00pm**

at St Matthew's Church,  
200 King Street South,  
Hastings  
\$5.00 cash door charge

### Advance notice to "Save the dates":

**Thursday 14 August, 2pm** - *Leading Hopefully in a Struggling Church* – a conversation facilitated by The Rev'd John Hebenton TSSF; followed by an optional time for refreshments and collegiality.

**Saturday 16 August** - A Franciscan Style Retreat Day with The Rev'd John Hebenton TSSF.

**Sunday 17 August: Religious Vocation Sunday** -

10am, at St Matthew's Church, with The Rev'd David van Oeveren & The Rev'd John Hebenton TSSF.



**Sunday 17 August, 1pm.** *Pizza & Poetry: Speaking of the Spirit* - a reading by Hawke's Bay Poets for National Poetry Day at St Matthew's Church, Hastings.

**Sunday 31 August: 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the establishment of an **Anglican Parish in Hastings**, and the **Patronal Festival of St Matthew**.

Whilst the formation of the Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings marked a new beginning on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021, we are planning to hold celebrations marking the **130<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the establishment of an **Anglican Parish in Hastings** over the weekend of **30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August**.

## Diary Dates ... or “What’s on When?”

Date	Day	Time	Meeting/Event/Activity - July-August 2025
28-30	Mon-Wed		NZ Assn RE Teachers & School Chaplains Conference
30-1	Wed-Fri		Anglican Schools Conference, Christchurch
31	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist in St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
31	Thursday	2.00pm	Summerset in the Orchard Rest-home Eucharist
31	Thursday	5.30pm	St Matthew’s Primary School Board of Trustees meeting
1	Friday	10am	Colwyn House Life-care
1	Friday	1.40pm	St Matthew’s School Eucharist
3	Sunday	8am 10.00	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel Eucharist with hymns - St Matthew’s and St Peter’s Churches
6	Wednesday	2.00pm	Gracelands Rest-home & Village
6	Wednesday	4.30pm	Building & Property Sub-Committee meeting
7	Thursday		Hastings Anglican Parish established 1895 - 2025 = 130 years
7	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
7	Thursday	11.15am	Ministry team gathering
10	Sunday	8.00am 10.00am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel Eucharist with hymns - whole-of-parish at St Matthew’s
10	Sunday	2.00pm	Hastings Music Society Concert, at St Matthew’s Church

**Parish Administrator’s Office Hours** - Please note Prasadi’s availability during the following hours this term whilst she continues her Studies at EIT:

**Monday** : 9am - 2pm

**Tuesday** : 9am - 12pm

**Thursday** : 12pm - 3pm

**Friday** : 9am - 4pm

*Please feel free to get in touch with Prasadi during these times for any Parish related assistance or enquiries .*

### The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

**Parish Support Hub:** phone: 878-9476 ~ P O Box 824, Hastings 4156

email: [hastingsparish@waiapu.com](mailto:hastingsparish@waiapu.com)

website: [www.greaterhastingsanglicanchurch.co.nz](http://www.greaterhastingsanglicanchurch.co.nz)

Facebook: Parish of Greater Hastings, NZ

Bank account: ANZ 01-0646-0246683-01 Greater Hastings Parish

**Parish Vicar:** The Reverend David van Oeveren

ph 06 211 3457 / 021 470 337 - email: [david.vanoeveren@waiapu.com](mailto:david.vanoeveren@waiapu.com)