



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, 31st August 2025

Anglican Communion Sunday

Haere Mai - Welcome

Services at St Matthew's Church

200 King Street South, Hastings

Today - Sunday 31st August

8.00 am - Eucharist (*Lady Chapel*)

10.00am - Eucharist with hymns -

Celebrating the 130th anniversary
of the Hastings Anglican Parish

Thursday 4th September

10.15am - Eucharist (*Lady Chapel*)

**Next Sunday 7th September -
Father's Day - Sunday Service**

8.00am - Eucharist (*Lady Chapel*)

10.00am - Eucharist with hymns

Services at St Peter's Church

1202 Ada Street, Riverslea, Hastings

*No Service at St Peter's today - combined for
the whole-of-Parish Eucharist at St
Matthew's Church, 10.00am*

Sunday 7th September - Father's Day

10.00am - Eucharist with hymns

(Postcard of St Matthew's Anglican Church : No.7300)



WELCOME to our services in the Parish this week.

Thank you to all those who came last Saturday to prepare St Matthew's for the 130th. It was a brilliantly successful Working Bee and your efforts are very much appreciated.

I wonder if those who have gone before us over the last 130 years ever thought that in the average week in the Parish we would have:

Worship/Elder Care/Senior Chef/ Yoga/ School Production Practices and Performances/ Dance Classes/Op Shop/ Scottish Society/ Early Childhood Centre/Primary School/ Specialist School/Choral and Orchestral Music / Arts Festival/Fringe Festival/Arts Trail/ Kapa Haka

And many other things happening in our buildings.

The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings is fortunate to have such amazing groups and people who see us as home, a sanctuary where they can explore their God-given gifts and talents.

We are fortunate to be seen as important and relevant to many in our society, and are delighted we still hold a strong place in the civic-space.

Having been part of the Havelock North church 150 years ago and grown independence 130 years ago, what does the next 20 years hold? What will our 150th year celebration look like?

We are now at the crossroads of making the next 20 years as wonderful as the last 130 or perhaps even better.

Are you on this God-journey with us?

We give thanks for our forebears, those who have raised us up to where we are now.

And we look expectantly towards the future.

Advance Notices !!

Sunday 21st September : Patronal Festival of St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Join us at 10:00am at St Matthew's Church as we celebrate this special feast day together.

Sunday 5th October : Blessing of the Animals at 4:00pm in St Matthew's Church, we welcome "All Creatures Great & Small" for a joyful service of blessing - a celebration of the love we share with our pets and the people who care for them.

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A little bit of history.....



The first Anglican service in Hastings was held in 1869 at Frimley Homestead, the residence of J.N. Williams. Services later moved to a school on St Aubyn Street, before the first St Matthew's Church was built in 1877 on the corner of Heretaunga and King Streets. With its twin towers, this wooden church bore a strong resemblance to Westminster Abbey. As Hastings grew, a new site was purchased on King Street in 1884, and the wooden part of the present church was consecrated on 31 March 1886. Then on 27 Sept 1895, Synod passed the motion to establish the Parish of Hastings, St Matthew's.



Major extensions in 1914–15 added transepts, a chapel, vestries, and a tower, built in concrete and designed in a modern Gothic style. The 1931 Hawke's Bay earthquake caused significant damage, but the church was repaired and reopened in 1932.



Through all these changes, St Matthew's has remained a place of worship, service, and community - a living witness to faith.

Today we give thanks for 130 years of history, resilience, and God's blessing in Hastings.



Hastings Choral
presents

Musical Memories

Songs from the shows

Sunday 07 September 2025 @ 2.00pm
St Matthew's Church, King Street, Hastings

Conductor **Joe Christensen** with
accompanist **Anna Hansen** and guest soloists

Tickets: Adult \$25.00 School student \$5.00

Available through choir members, hastingschoral@gmail.com or cash sales at the door
Tickets prepurchased directly from choir members \$22.00

HASTINGS

2025 Blossom Fest

ALL
FREE



BLOSSOM
celebrating
75
years
PARADE

Hastings Blossom Parade,
carnival rides, live
performances, family fun
zone, Picky play zone.

SATURDAY
20 SEPT
10AM-4PM

hastingsblossomfest.co.nz



Diary Dates ... or “What’s on When?”

Date	Day	Time	Meeting/Event/Activity - September 2025
3	Wednesday	3.00pm	Gracelands Resthome & Village
3	Wednesday	4.30pm	Building & Property Maintenance Sub-Committee
4	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
4	Thursday	11.15am	Ministry Team Gathering
4	Thursday	5.30pm	St Matthew’s Primary School BoT
6	Saturday		The Rev’d Margaret Thompson’s 28 th anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood at St Paul’s, Wairoa, 1997.
7	Sunday	8.00am 10.00am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel Eucharist with hymns - St Matthew’s and St Peter’s Churches
7	Sunday	2.00pm	Hastings Choral Society Concert – Musical Memories: Songs from the Shows.
10	Wednesday	2.30pm	Eversley Resthome & Village
11	Thursday		Anniversary of the 9/11 Attacks.
11	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
11	Thursday	11.15am	Ministry Team Gathering
12	Friday	10.00am	Colwyn House Lifecare
12	Friday	1.40pm	School Eucharist
14	Sunday	8.00am 10.00am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel Eucharist with hymns - Whole-of-Parish Worship ,St Matthew’s
14	Sunday	2.00pm	Hastings Music Society Concert
16 18	Tuesday Thursday		St Matthew’s Primary School Production.

The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

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