



# 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, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025*

*The Thirty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**Haere Mai - Welcome**

**Services at St Matthew's Church**  
200 King Street South, Hastings

Today- Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November-  
Advent 1 – Hope / The Patriarchs-  
Blessing of Advent Wreathes

8.00am - Eucharist (*Lady Chapel*)

9.00 am - Advent Study 1

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

10.15am - Eucharist (*Lady Chapel*)

**Next Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December-**  
Advent 2 – Peace / The Prophets -  
Sunday Service

8.00am - Eucharist (*Lady Chapel*)

9.00am- Advent Study 2

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns

**Services at St Peter's Church**  
1202 Ada Street, Riverslea, Hastings

Today- Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November-  
**There will be no service at St Peter's today. Please join us at St Matthew's Church for the Whole-of-Parish Eucharist at 10:00am.**

**Next Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December-**  
Ordinary Sunday Service-

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns



**Are we there yet?**

**Yes, we are!**

Advent is a Christian season of preparation & anticipation that begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas & lasts until Christmas Eve. The word “advent” means “coming” or “arrival,” & the season prepares us for the celebration of Jesus's birth while also looking forward to his eventual return. Key themes often associated with each week of Advent are Hope, Peace, Joy, & Love. It is a time for us to spiritually prepare for Christmas by reflecting on the themes. It is the start of the liturgical year, a New Years Day of sorts.

***There are some wonderful Advent Traditions.***

- A popular way to count down to Christmas is an Advent Calendar.
- Nativity scenes depicting the Birth of Jesus.
- **Bring your Nativity for a blessing on Sunday 7 December @ 10am.**
- Many also use this time for quiet prayer & reflection, focussing on scripture & spiritual growth.

***We have a couple of very special services of Worship.***

- **Blue Christmas on Thurs 4 Dec @ 6pm.** This is focussed on anyone who has recently experienced grief or loss or is finding it hard to be ‘merry’ this Christmas.
- **Festival of Christmas Carols & Readings** with Four's Company on **Sun 14 Dec @ 7pm.**

On **Mon 15 Dec @ 7pm** we have a very special opportunity to share Christmas Cheer and sing Christmas Carols with the Residents and Staff of Colwyn House Lifecare. Meet by 7pm at the main entrance, 707 Duke Street, Mahora.

If you play a transportable instrument – guitar, flute, piano-accordion, bongo drums – bring it along / if you play Piano bring your sheet music! Please come & join the festive fun.

***Our Parish Vision and Focus:***

- Stronger Foundations for Future Generations
- Greater Hastings is a Sanctuary Anglican Parish – A Place for Everyone
- An encompassing home for all, encouraging community connection, and nurturing faith in Hastings communities
- Everyone has a home in The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

If you have not already, follow our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ParishOfGreaterHastings> and like some of our posts, especially the ones you might be coming to.

A special thank you to all those who have helped this year at Working Bees, offered ministry in various ways, and supported the life of the parish within worship and out in the community.

***You are all welcome, wanted, & valued in the Parish.***

***Thank you.***



**A 'Blue' Christmas Service**

**St. Matthew's Church**  
200 King Street South, Hastings  
**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December**  
**6.00pm**

All welcome - especially anyone who has experienced grief or loss recently, or if you're finding it hard to be "merry" as the Christmas season approaches.

 **The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings**



 Hastings Choral presents

**A Fantasia Favourites**

*Final concert with Joe Christensen & Anna Hansen*

**Sunday 30 November 2025 @ 2.00pm**  
St Matthew's Church, King Street, Hastings

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



**Senior Chef – Free Cooking Fun for Over 60s!**

**Starts: Monday 2 February 2026**

**Time: 9 :30 am – 12:30 pm, 9 weeks**

**Location: St Matthew's Church, Hastings**

Hands-on classes, tasty recipes for one or two, healthy eating & budget tips, morning tea, and shared meals. Meet new friends, gain confidence in the kitchen, and have fun!

Limited spots (8–12 people)  
hastingsparish@waiapu.com or call  
06 878 9476 to enrol.

***Your next favourite recipe - and new friends - are waiting!***

### **Final Trading Day for the Op Shop – 2025**

The Op Shop's final trading day for 2025 will be **Tuesday, 16th December**. Don't miss your last chance to find something special for Christmas for that special person in your life! There are lots of goodies – something for everyone.

**Location: 1120 Willowpark Rd North**

**Time: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm**

If you have any goods to be collected, please contact Warwick on 06 877 4639.

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

Date	Day	Time	Meeting/Event/Activity - December 2025
30	Sunday	7.00pm	Advent Carols @ Waiapu Anglican Cathedral of St John the Evangelist.
1/5	Monday/ Friday		St Matthew’s Primary School Camps.
3	Wednesday	2.00pm	Gracelands Resthome & Village
3	Wednesday	4.30pm	Building & Property Maintenance Sub-Committee.
4	Thursday		The Rev’d Christine Scott Ordination to the Diaconate at Waiapu Cathedral of St John the Evangelist. 20 Years.
4	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
4	Thursday	11.00am	Advent Study focussing on the key Advent figure of John the Baptist, Forerunner – Prophet – Witness.
4	Thursday	6.00pm	Blue Christmas in Greater Hastings @ St Matthew’s.
5	Friday	10.00am	Colwyn House Lifecare
5	Friday	1.40am	School Eucharist
7	Sunday	8.00am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
7	Sunday	9.00am	Advent Study focussing on the key Advent figure of John the Baptist, Forerunner – Prophet – Witness.
7	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist with hymns - St Matthew’s & St Peter’s
9	Tuesday	6.00pm	Hawke’s Bay Clergy Dinner.
10	Wednesday	10.00am	Eversley Resthome & Village.
11	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
11	Thursday	11.00am	Advent Study focussing on the key Advent figure of John the Baptist, Forerunner – Prophet – Witness.
11	Thursday	11.15am	Ministry Team Gathering. Review January, February & March R-Evolving Diary.
11	Thursday	5.30pm	School BoT
12	Friday		Term 4 Ends

### 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)