



The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

An encompassing home for all, encouraging community connection, and nurturing faith in Hastings communities

Parish Newsletter

For the week commencing Sunday, 28th December 2025

First Sunday Of Christmas

Haere Mai - Welcome

Services at St Matthew's Church

200 King Street South, Hastings

Today- Sunday 28th December -
Christmas I / Holy Innocents.

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns

Next Sunday 4th January - The
Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ-
The revelation of Christ

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns

Sunday 11th January- The Baptism
of the Lord.

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns

Services at St Peter's Church

1202 Ada Street, Riverslea, Hastings

**From Sunday 28 December 2025 to
Sunday 25 January 2026 (inclusive),
we will worship together at St
Matthew's, with the Hastings
Presbyterians.**



And just like that the Christ-child is born!

We journeyed through Hope, Peace, Joy and Love and arrived at Christ the Light of the world.

It was a bit of a bumpy ride as the world around us swirled. Bondi Beach massacre at the forefront. Opening the Church was very well received and having the Candle Lighting midday prayer for Bondi even more so.

Let us focus on Christ – The Prince of Peace – as conflict and chaos surround us.

From now until the beginning of February we gather as **whole-of-parish for combined worship at 10am on Sunday at St Matthew's.**

8am Sunday at St Matthew's and 10am Sunday at St Peter's resumes on 1 February.

Mid-week worship on Thursdays commences for the New Year on 5 February at 10.15am.

From now until the end of May our focus is on Education, Spirituality & Quiet Days. This begins with:

Thursdays 5, 12, 19 & 26 February. **STUDY GROUP:** Spiritual Disciplines led by Mark Hensman. Held following the 10.15am Mid-Week Eucharist @ St Matthew's.

Saturdays 28 February & 14 March, 9.30am – 2.30pm. Comprehensive Anglicanism. A chance to engage with our Anglican Identity led by Rev'd David van Oeveren @ St Matthew's.

This will draw us towards Baptism at Easter and Confirmation at Pentecost / Trinity and is part of our Vision and Focus:

Stronger Foundations for Future Generations

Greater Hastings – 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 Greater Hastings

Have a wonderful and safe entry into the New Year – Abundant Blessings...

We Are Looking for an OP SHOP TEAM LEADER !!

Expressions of Interest sought for a person or a couple of people to provide active operational & strategic management of the Opportunity Shop including the recruitment of volunteers & succession planning.

This is a part-time volunteer role, requiring 8–12 hours per week, based at the Op Shop in St Martin's Community Hall, Mayfair.

Please let the Wardens & Vicar know you are interested by emailing

hastingsparish@waiapu.com or phoning

06 878 9476

Sri Lanka flood appeal

Sri Lanka has been struck by its worst natural disaster since the 2004 tsunami.



Cyclone Ditwah made landfall on 27 November, triggering catastrophic flooding and landslides.

Across all 25 districts, more than 1.58 million people have been affected. 232,752 people have been displaced into safe centres, and 41,329 homes have been damaged or destroyed. Transport networks, including major rail lines, have been severely disrupted, and livelihoods in tea, poultry, and agriculture have suffered major losses.

The scale of impact is overwhelming, and many of the most vulnerable households are falling through the gaps of the national response. The Church of Ceylon is stepping in to support exactly these communities and we're partnering with them.

To donate, please visit this Anglican Mission website and click the Donate button at the top of the page. <https://anglicanmissions.org.nz/humanitarian-emergencies/sri-lanka/>

Important Notice – January Service Schedule

Please be aware that our usual midweek and early services will be taking a break during January.

There will be **NO 8.00am Eucharist** and **NO Thursday 10.15am Eucharist** at St Matthew's for the month of January.

St Peter's Church will not hold its 10.00am services throughout January.

Regular service times will resume in **February.**

We appreciate your understanding as these changes take place, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in February.



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.

Diary Dates ... or “What’s on When?”

Date	Day	Time	Meeting/Event/Activity - January / February 2026
6	Tuesday		Epiphany
5/9	Monday Friday		Deep Summer Clean & Inventory of St Matthew's Kitchen & Refreshment Space.
11	Sunday	10.00am	The Baptism of the Lord - Whole-of-Parish Worship at St Matthew’s, Hastings
18	Sunday	10.00am	Epiphany 2 - Whole-of-Parish Worship at St Matthew’s, Hastings
25	Sunday	10.00am	Epiphany 3 - Whole-of-Parish Worship at St Matthew’s, Hastings
25	Sunday	12.00pm	Café Lunch @ Serendipity Café, 1412 Pakowhai Road, Frimley, Hastings 4120.
28	Wednesday		Term 1 Begins - Kowhai Specialist School
28	Wednesday	7.15pm	Greater Hastings VESTRY Sub-Committees & Site Visits.
29	Thursday	1.45pm	Summerset in the Orchard
30	Friday	8.30am 10.30am	St Matthew’s Primary School – Teacher Only Day
31	Saturday	4.00pm	Hawke’s Bay Interfaith
1	Sunday	8.00am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
1	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist with hymns - St Matthew’s
1	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist with hymns - St Peter’s - Commissioning & Prayer / Powhiri & Karakia for Kowhai Specialist School – Kowhai Tec Teaching & Support Staff & BoT to begin the 2026 educational year.

The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

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

email: hastingsparish@waiapu.com

website: 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