



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, 11th January 2026

The First Sunday of Epiphany

Haere Mai - Welcome

Services at St Matthew's Church

200 King Street South, Hastings

Today - Sunday 11th January- The Baptism of the Lord - The First Sunday of Epiphany

10.00 am - Whole-of-Parish Eucharist with Hymns

Next - 18th January- The Second Sunday of Epiphany

10.00 am - Whole-of-Parish Eucharist with Hymns

Sunday 25th January- The Third Sunday of Epiphany

10.00 am - Whole-of-Parish 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.

All are warmly invited.



(A wonderful celebration took place last Sunday at St Matthew's Church, Hastings, for the Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ.)

WELCOME TO THE PARISH THIS WEEK !!

What a phenomenal Advent & Christmas we have had in the Parish. A special Thank You to all those who contributed & helped in many ways to make it so special & successful.

It is incredible to realise it is 2026! Wherever & however, you celebrated Christmas & New Year, we hope you found moments of hope, peace, joy, & love, & that you felt at home.

January continues to offer us some very exciting worship opportunities. The next two are ;

Sunday 18: Epiphany 2

10am. St Matthew's, Hastings. Whole-of-Parish Worship. The Rev'd David van Oeveren & The Rev'd Margaret Thompson.

Sunday 25: Epiphany 3

10am. St Matthew's, Hastings. Whole-of-Parish Worship. The Rev'd Margaret Thompson & The Rev'd Jenny Chalmers. We look forward to sharing worship with you over the coming couple of Sundays.

Our [Parish Study Group](#) starts up on Thursday 5 February. The Parish Study Group meets at 11.15am after Thursday mid-week worship.

† In February the focus will be on 'Spiritual Disciplines for Lent'.

- Fasting Contemplation, Charity, & Dying to Self

† In March 'A Pre-Easter Focus'

- The Old Testament Road to Calvary, Jesus' Road to Calvary, The origins of resurrection expectations, Stations of the Cross.

† In April 'Learning About Other Faiths'

- Principles of Interfaith Dialogue, Islam, Sikhism, Buddhism

These will be taken by Mark Hensman. Come to Thursday 10.15am & stay for the Parish Study Group, or come & join at 11.15am.

May the hope, peace, joy, love & promise of Christ's birth encourage & strengthen you through all that may come in 2026! Peace on earth & goodwill to all those on whom God's favour rests.

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.

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.

KEY DETAILS

- Role Type: Part-time volunteer
- Requiring 8–12 hours per week.
- Based at the Op Shop in St Martin's Community Hall, Mayfair.



If you are interested, Please let the Wardens or Vicar know by emailing hastingsparish@waiapu.com or contact 06 878 9476.

PARISH LUNCH

4th Sunday Parish Lunch, 12 noon,
at Serendipity Café

1412 Pakowhai Road, Hastings
Please feel free to join with us
for lunch each 4th Sunday.

Contact Paddy and Richard Bayley, 8767616
for more information

LET'S DO IT TOGETHER !

Tidy & Clean inside & outside St Matthew's in
preparation for Lent & Easter!

Date : Saturday 14th February, 2026

Time : 9am to 12noon

All hands are welcome! Bring your energy,
enthusiasm, and a smile, and let's make our
church shine for this special season.



Would you like to feel more confident in
the kitchen and enjoy learning new
recipes in a relaxed, supportive setting?

**SENIOR CHEF IS A FREE, HANDS-ON
COOKING PROGRAM DESIGNED ESPECIALLY
FOR THOSE AGED 60 AND OVER.**

Starts: Monday 2 February 2026

Time: 9 :30 am – 12:30 pm, 9 weeks

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

Each week you'll enjoy practical cooking
sessions where you'll learn to prepare
simple, tasty, and healthy meals for one
or two.

The classes also include helpful budget-
friendly tips, nutrition advice, and
plenty of opportunities to ask questions
and try new ideas. It's a friendly and
welcoming environment where you can
build skills, try new ideas, and enjoy the
experience at your own pace.

Limited spaces available (8–12
participants), so early enrolment is
encouraged.

**To enrol: hastingsparish@waiapu.com
or call: 06 878 9476**

Come along, cook, connect, and enjoy
the joy of food together!

Diary Dates ... or “What’s on When?”

Date	Day	Time	Meeting/Event/Activity - January / February 2026
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.
2	Monday		2 February 1997. The Rev’d Margaret Thompson Ordination to the Diaconate at St Clare’s, Flaxmere. 29 Years
2	Monday		Term 1 Begins. St Matthew’s Primary School
2	Monday		We welcome back SENIOR CHEF for a 2026 season of culinary community.
3	Tuesday		3 February 1931. Hawke’s Bay Earthquake Commemoration
3	Tuesday	10.30am	Hawke’s Bay Earthquake Commemoration, 1931. Civic Square, Hastings.

The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

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