



# 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, 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026*

*The Second Sunday of Epiphany*

**Haere Mai - Welcome**

### Services at St Matthew's Church

200 King Street South, Hastings

**Sunday - 25<sup>th</sup> January- The Third Sunday of Epiphany**

10.00 am - Whole-of-Parish Eucharist with Hymns

**Sunday - 1<sup>st</sup> February- The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**

8.00am - Eucharist  
10.00 am - Eucharist with Hymns

**Sunday - 8<sup>th</sup> February - The ordinary Sunday Service**

8.00am - Eucharist  
10.00 am - Whole-of-Parish Worship

### 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.**



## **WELCOME TO THE PARISH THIS WEEK !**

From Christmas until the end of January we have been worshipping as whole-of-parish, combined with Hastings Presbyterians and a couple of wonderful Baptists into the mix. We have also had a large combined Seasonal Worker attendance. This has led us to wonderful worship that for me has truly reflected the inclusivity of God. As Preacher or Presider we have a different visual perspective as we look out and witness God's diversity. And if I am honest, I yearn for it to continue, it is good! So thank you for being part of our summertime superb services.

### **Sunday 25: Epiphany 3**

**10am. St Matthew's, Hastings.** Whole-of-Parish Worship. The Rev'd Margaret Thompson & The Rev'd Jenny Chalmers

**On Sunday 1 February we resume 8am & 10am Worship at St Matthew's, and 10am Worship at St Peter's**

### **Sunday 1: The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple / Candlemas – Epiphany 4**

**8am. St Matthew's, Hastings.** The Rev'd David van Oeveren.

**10am. St Matthew's, Hastings.** The Rev'd Margaret Thompson.

**10am. St Peter's, Riverslea.** BOUNCE BACK SUNDAY. The Rev'd David van Oeveren & The Rev'd Jenny Chalmers

On Thursday 5 February we resume 10.15am Worship at St Matthew's, which will be followed by the Parish Study Group.

Thursday 5, 10.15am. St Matthew's, Hastings. The Rev'd Margaret Thompson.

Thursday 5, 11.15am. STUDY GROUP – Spiritual Disciplines for Lent. Mark Hensman

6 February. Waitangi Day

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.

Whilst it is still only mid-January, we are now fully geared to begin the academic year in February and embrace Lent with Shrove Tuesday / Ash Wednesday mid-February.

**Abundant Blessings !**



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](mailto:hastingsparish@waiapu.com)  
or call: 06 878 9476**

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

## **- SPECIAL EVENTS COMING UP -**

### **Shrove Tuesday - Mardi Gras Pancakes**



Join us to celebrate Shrove Tuesday with a fun and festive Mardi Gras Pancake Evening at St Matthew's Hastings

**17 February - 6pm - 7.30pm**

We'll provide a delicious selection of **sweet** and **Savory** toppings - you bring the **pancakes**

### **Ash Wednesday - First day of Lent**



**Wednesday 18 February | 10.15 am  
St Matthew's Church, Hastings**

Join us for an Ash Wednesday Celebration of the Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes, marking the beginning of the season of Lent.

All are warmly welcome to attend and begin this Lenten journey together in prayer and reflection.

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Meeting/Event/Activity - January / February 2026</b>
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.
4	Wednesday	2.00pm	Gracelands Resthome & Village

### The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

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

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

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