



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, 25th January 2026

The Third Sunday of Epiphany

Haere Mai - Welcome

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

Today - Sunday 25th January
The Third Sunday of Epiphany
10.00am - Eucharist with hymns

Sunday - 1st February - Presentation
of Jesus in the Temple / Candlemas
8.00am - Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
10.00 am - Eucharist with Hymns

Sunday - 8th February - The Fifth
Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.00am - Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
10.00 am - Whole-of-Parish Worship

Sunday - 15th February - The Sixth
Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.00am - Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
10.00am - Eucharist with hymns

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

During January 2026, we worship together
at St Matthew's, with the Hastings
Presbyterians. All are warmly invited.

Sunday 1st February - Presentation
of Jesus in the Temple / Candlemas
10.00am - Eucharist with hymns
(“Bounce Back” Sunday to welcome Kowhai
School back for the start of a new school year)



WELCOME TO THE PARISH THIS WEEK!

From Christmas we have been casting the vision and setting the scene for 2026. It has been truly exciting to do this as whole-of-parish and with our Presbyterian friends. This will continue, so jump in and join the momentum of 2026.

On Sunday 1 February we resume 8am and 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 and 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 - public holiday

The first half of 2026 will see the Parish focussing on: 'Education, Spirituality and Quiet Days'

The Parish Study Group starts this off.

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, and 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 and stay for the Parish Study Group, or come and join at 11.15am.

Education, Spirituality & Quiet Days continue with ...

Saturdays 28 February and 14 March, 9.30am – 2.30pm. We will explore **Comprehensive Anglicanism at St Matthew's.**

This is ideal for those seeking Baptism; for Welcoming Members from other Traditions; and for those seeking Confirmation and Renewal of Commitment to Christian Service and Discipleship. BYO Lunch

Abundant Blessings !

Special Services Coming up

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

Tuesday 17 February, 6pm–7.30pm
SHROVE TUESDAY – Mardi Gras Pancakes at St Matthew's.

We will provide the Toppings (both savory and sweet), and the pancakes.

Wednesday 18 February

ASH WEDNESDAY: The First Day of Lent
Wednesday 18, 10.15am. St Matthew's, Hastings, Ash Wednesday Celebration Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes, The Rev'd David van Oeveren. **(Please note this service replaces the regular Thursday 10.15am Eucharist)**

Wednesday 18, 11.15am STUDY GROUP
Spiritual Disciplines for Lent, Mark Hensman.

Wednesday 18, 1.40pm. School Ash Wednesday Service. The Rev'd David van Oeveren.

Wednesday 18, 7pm, St Matthew's whole-of-Parish Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes worship. Please attend as we share together. The Rev'ds David van Oeveren, Margaret Thompson and Jenny Chalmers.

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



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
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 - Candlemas - St Matthew’s
1	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist with hymns - St Peter’s - Commissioning and Prayer, Powhiri and Karakia for Kowhai Specialist School – Kowhai Tech Teaching and Support Staff and BoT to begin the 2026 educational year.
2	Monday		The Rev’d Margaret Thompson’s 29 th anniversary of Ordination to the Diaconate at St Clare’s, Flaxmere, 2 February 1997.
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
4	Wednesday	4.30pm	Building & Property Maintenance Sub-Committee
5	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist at St Matthew’s
5	Thursday	11.15am	STUDY GROUP – Spiritual Disciplines for Lent.

The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

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