



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 16th August 2026

The twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Religious Vocation Sunday

Haere Mai - Welcome

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

Today:

8.00am - Eucharist (Lady Chapel),
with the Rev'd Jenny Chalmers

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns with
the Rev'd Margaret Thompson

Thursday - 20th August:

10.15am - Eucharist (Lady Chapel)

**Sunday - 23rd August - The 20th
Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8.00am - Eucharist (Lady Chapel)

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns

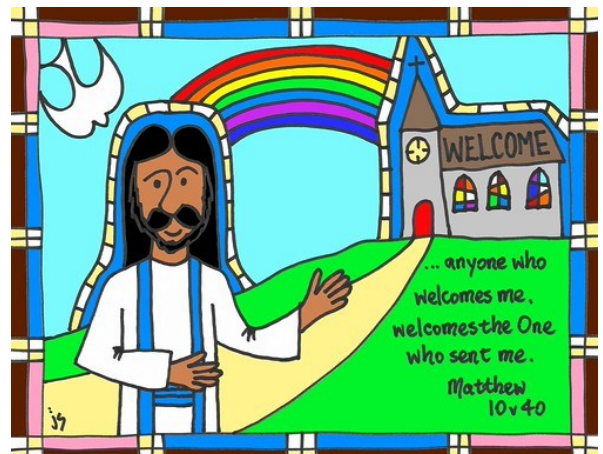
Services at St Peter's Church
1202 Ada Street, Hastings

Today:

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns

**Sunday - 23rd August - Ordinary
Sunday Service**

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns



WELCOME TO THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF GREATER HASTINGS

A very warm welcome if you are visiting or joining us for the first time. It is wonderful to have you with us! Please introduce yourself to one of our Clergy and join us for Morning Tea after worship.

It would be wonderful to get to know you – please fill in our Welcome Brochure.

For up-to-date details of what is coming up please read this Newsletter or check out our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/ParishOfGreaterHastings>

A Word from Our Vicar, the Rev'd David van Oeveren ..

From 15-22 August, representatives from across the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia will gather in Tonga for the 67th General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui.

General Synod is the highest decision-making body of our three tikanga Church, bringing together bishops, clergy & lay representatives from Tikanga Māori, Tikanga Pākehā & Tikanga Pasifika. While each diocese holds its own synod, General Synod provides an opportunity for the whole Province to meet under the leadership of our three Archbishops, discerning God's call for our shared future.

This year's gathering carries the theme **"One Mission, One Vaka/Waka, One Ocean"**, a powerful reminder that although we come from different cultures, languages & contexts, we travel together in the mission of Christ.

Delegates will be welcomed by the Anglican Church in Tonga & hosted by local parishes & communities throughout the week. The programme include worship, talanoa conversations, visits to local communities, & sessions exploring some of the most pressing issues facing the Pacific region.

For many New Zealand delegates, the gathering will offer an opportunity to listen more deeply to the experiences & wisdom of our Pasifika brothers & sisters. As members of one of Province, we are called not only to share faith & fellowship, but also to share one another's burdens & hopes.

Among the themes to be discussed during the week are equity, the oceans, climate change & a theology of the ocean. These conversations are especially significant in the Pacific, where the impacts of climate change are already being felt. Rising sea levels, changing weather patterns & threats to coastal communities are not distant possibilities for many Pacific peoples. They are present realities that affect homes, livelihoods, culture & identity.

Gathering in Tonga provides an opportunity for the Church to engage with these issues not as abstract topics, but through relationships with communities who are living with their consequences. As followers of Christ, we are called to care for God's creation & to stand alongside those most affected by environmental change. The discussions at General Synod will help shape how our Church responds to these challenges together.

I invite you to uphold General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui in prayer.

Loving & embracing God, Creator of the great ocean, the islands, & the lands we call home. We thank you for our ancestors and missionaries, for the journeys that guided them through the years & the challenges they faced. Through Your grace, You have brought us together in this time as one Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. You have woven us together in Christ as Tikanga Māori, Tikanga Pākehā, & Tikanga Pasifika enriched by cultures, languages songs, stories, & traditions.

Draw us closer to You in our 67th General Synod. By Your Holy Spirit, help us to honour the gifts of our differences, not as barriers to our journey, but as blessings that witness to the unity of Your Church. Grant us wisdom & peace, & empower us to discern together.

Keep alive within us the vision You have given: One Mission, One Vaka/Waka, One Ocean. May we remember that we are called not for ourselves, but for the sake of Your Kingdom.

We place our Church, our Archbishops, Bishops, Priests, Lay Leaders, our communities, & our future into Your loving hands. Guide our waka, keep us united as one people, journeying across one ocean toward the future You are preparing.

We ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who calls us into one Body, one hope, & one mission. Amen.

This prayer was shaped around the theme One Mission, One Vaka/Waka, One Ocean, a vision that celebrates the unity of the Church even in the midst of diversity. It reflects the shared journey of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, lifting one voice together as we prepare for the 67th General Synod.

In September we will be offering a significant time of learning. **THRIVING IN THIS LAND:** A rich time of learning about how our nation can respond to the changing climate, the cost of living, and honour the Treaty. These evenings will be held at St Matthew's and are open to all in our communities.

Thursday 3 September, 5.45 – 7.45pm.
THRIVING IN THIS LAND: Imagining the flourishing of Aotearoa. Bring-A-Plate of Finger-Food for a Shared Pot-Luck Dinner. An opportunity for Faith Communities to

follow Jesus in the big questions facing New Zealand right now. **The Climate.** A Koha of \$10 per person per session is suggested.

Thursday 10 September, 5.45 – 7.45pm
THRIVING IN THIS LAND: Imagining the flourishing of Aotearoa. Bring - A - Plate of Finger-Food for a Shared Pot-Luck Dinner. An opportunity for Faith Communities to follow Jesus in the big questions facing New Zealand right now. **The Treaty .** A Koha of \$10 per person per session is suggested.

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THRIVING IN THIS LAND: Imagining the flourishing of Aotearoa. Bring-A-Plate of Finger-Food for a Shared Pot-Luck Dinner. An opportunity for Faith Communities to follow Jesus in the big questions facing New Zealand right now. **The Cost of Living.** A Koha of \$10 per person per session is suggested.

This is the beginning of a focus on 'Vote For Your Neighbour – Vote For Love – Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven'.

We are currently in search of Parish Treasurer to join the finance, Stewardship and Bequests sub Committee.

if accountancy is your gifting and talent, please talk with the Wardens or I about how we can make this works for you.

Abundant Blessings

We are currently in search of a

Parish Treasurer

to join the Finance, Stewardship & Bequests Sub-Committee ...

if accountancy is your gifting and talent, please talk with the Wardens or Vicar.

Diary Dates ... or “What’s on When?”

Date	Day	Time	Meeting / Event / Activity - August & September 2026
19	Wednesday	3.00pm	WARDENS Meeting.
19	Wednesday	4.30pm	Finance, Stewardship & Bequests Sub-Committee.
20	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
21	Friday		National Poetry Day
21	Friday	10.00am	Colwyn House Lifecare
21	Friday	1.40pm	School Eucharist
22	Saturday	4.00pm	Hawke’s Bay Interfaith.
22	Saturday		September – October / Stewardship & Bequest GHQ Newsletter available.
23	Sunday	8.00am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
23	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist with hymns- St Matthew’s & St Petere’s
23	Sunday	11.30am	Café Lunch at Serendipity Café, 1412 Pakowhai Road, Frimley, Hastings 4120.
27	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
27	Thursday	1.45pm	Summerset in the Orchard
30	Sunday	8.00am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
30	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist with Hymns - Whole of Parish Worship
2	Wednesday	2.00pm	Gracelands Resthome & Village
2	Wednesday	4.30pm	Building & Property Maintenance Sub-Committee.
3	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
3	Thursday	11.15am	Ministry Team Gathering
3	Thursday	5.45pm 7.45pm	THRIVING IN THIS LAND: Imagining the flourishing of Aotearoa. Bring-A-Plate of Finger-Food for a Shared Pot-Luck Dinner. An opportunity for Faith Communities to follow Jesus in the big questions facing New Zealand right now. The Treaty. A Koha of \$10 per person per session is suggested.
4	Friday	10.00am	Colwyn House Lifecare

The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

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