



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 13th September 2026

The Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Māori Language Week

Haere Mai - Welcome

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

Today:

8.00am - Eucharist (Lady Chapel), with the Rev'd David van Oeveren

10.00am - Whole of Parish Worship with the Rev'd David van Oeveren.

Thursday - 17th September:

10.15am - Eucharist (Lady Chapel)

Sunday - 20th September - The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Patronal Festival of St Matthew

8.00am - Eucharist (Lady Chapel)

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns

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

Today:

There will be no service at St Peters, please join us at St Matthew's Church for the Whole-of-Parish eucharist at 10am.

Sunday - 20th September

10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns, with the Rev'd Jenny Chalmers.



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>

Prayer, Parties, & Radical Generosity

In Matthew's Gospel, Peter asks Jesus if forgiving someone seven times is enough - thinking he is being extraordinarily generous. Jesus shatters that calculated math with a call to forgive "seventy-seven times." He invites us out of transactional counting & into a culture of outrageous, unreasonable grace - the kind of flood-like hospitality seen in the story of Joseph, Psalm 103, & the warmth of manaakitanga that overflows from groaning heavenly feast tables.

Because lavish grace shapes us, our community is called to a Christian life of **Prayer & Parties**. Prayer grounds us deeply in God's love at the altar. Parties celebrate His goodness with wild joy! Church shouldn't be a sombre museum for saints; it's a feast where the lonely find a family & neighbours experience shocking warmth.

Yet, we cannot ignore the world around us. Across Aotearoa New Zealand, households are feeling the tight squeeze of a genuine cost-of-living crisis. Alongside this, our parish faces a parallel "Cost-of-Giving Crisis." When times get tough, the temptation is to pull back out of scarcity. But stewardship is a spiritual practice of trust: offering our Time, Talents, and

Treasures.

Looking at our local reality in the Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings, costs keep rising like every family home. Over the past four years, we averaged an unsustainable annual deficit of -\$74,708.50, covered only by savings. While this year's projected deficit is much smaller (-\$25,343), it remains unsustainable. While rentals, our Op Shop, & grants support us, we must bridge the gap. We need 'More People Giving, & People Giving More' - aiming to push total offerings above \$150,000.

As we enter our annual stewardship review, please:

PRAY: Seek God's guidance for our parish stewardship & community mission.

ENGAGE: Share your time & unique skills to build up Christ's body.

REVIEW: Reflect on your planned financial giving. What was offered five years ago doesn't go as far today.

COMMIT: Use regular Automatic payments EFTPOS, or the Envelope Scheme. Planned giving allows us to issue a confidential Giving Number for an IRD receipt, letting you claim a 33% tax rebate to keep or re-invest! You might also consider leaving a lasting bequest in your will.

For more detail please read '**GHQ-News**'.

Let us step out of calculated fairness into reckless generosity, trusting the One who holds all things.

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.

Special Services !!

Sunday 20th September: Patronal Festival of St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist. Join us at **10:00am** at St Matthew's Church as we celebrate this special feast day together.

Sunday 4th October: Blessing of the Animals at **10.00am** in St Matthew's Church, we welcome **"All Creatures Great & Small"** for a joyful service of blessing - a celebration of the love we share with our pets and the people who care for them.

Donations Needed!

We are collecting grocery items for our Grocery Raffle at the Church Fair on 17 October.

If you would like to contribute, please place your donated grocery items in the paper grocery bags marked **"RAFFLE."** Thank you for your generous support!

HASTINGS MUSIC SOCIETY CONCERT

Join us for an afternoon of enchanting music with the Hastings Music Society!

Sunday 13th September, 2.00pm
at St Matthew's Anglican Church,
200 King Street South, Hastings

\$5 entry at the door

Let the music carry you away in a warm and welcoming atmosphere, Don't miss this special event !!

OP SHOP

Come along, browse, find a bargain and enjoy a friendly chat!

Fridays 8am - 12pm

St Martins Community Hall

1120 Willowpark Road North, Mayfair

For more information, please contact

Lazhon Maxwell - 02074166213



Hastings Blossom Parade ✖ Live Performances ✖

Entertainment ✖ Carnival Rides ✖ Family Fun ✖ Market Stalls ✖

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER
BLOSSOM FEST 2026
HASTINGS ✖ 10AM-4PM

An extravaganza of **FREE** family fun, entertainment and activities, including the iconic Blossom Parade.

hastingsblossomfest.co.nz

HERETAUNGA HASTINGS EVENT Blossom Parade HITS TUNU Hastings City Business Association PICKY



The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings
(Incorporating St Matthews Hastings and St Peters Parkvale)
is having it's

SPRING FAIR
on the
17th October 2026

9am to 12pm

The fair is being held on the grounds of St Matthews church and St Matthews School grounds 200 King St South and as a stallholder who could support this venture, we are inviting you along to be a part of it!

Cost will be \$50.00 per stall and the fair will run from 9am to 12pm.

To register please contact Parish Office
(06) 878 9476
hastingsparish@waiapu.com

We look forward to your support! 🍷

Diary Dates ... or “What’s on When?”

Date	Day	Time	Meeting / Event / Activity - September & October 2026
17	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
18	Friday	10.00am	Colwyn House Lifecare
18	Friday	1.40pm	School Eucharist
19	Saturday	1.00pm	Hastings Blossom Festival Parade.
20	Sunday	8.00am	Eucharist at St Matthews - <i>The Patronal Festival of St Matthew</i>
20	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist with Hymns at St Matthews & St Peters
23	Wednesday	6.00pm	Greater Hastings VESTRY.
24	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
24	Thursday	1.45pm	Summerset in the Orchard
25	Friday	2.00pm	End of Term School Assembly
25	Friday		Term 3 Ends
26	Saturday	4.00pm	Hawke’s Bay Interfaith
27	Sunday	8.00am	Eucharist at St Matthews - <i>Daylight Saving Begins.</i>
27	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist with Hymns at St Matthews & St Peters
27	Sunday	11.30am	Café Lunch @ Serendipity Café, 1412 Pakowhai Road, Frimley, Hastings 4120.
1	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
4	Sunday		Francis of Assisi, Friar, 1226.
4	Sunday	8.00am	Eucharist at St Matthews
4	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist with Hymns at St Matthews & St Peters
5	Monday	11.45am	Heretaunga Seniors Community Day
7	Wednesday	2.00pm	Gracelands Resthome & Village
7	Wednesday	4.30pm	Building & Property Maintenance Sub-Committee
8/18	Thursday		Hawke's Bay Arts Festival.
8	Thursday	10.15am	Eucharist - St Matthew’s Lady Chapel
8	Thursday	11.45am	Ministry Team Gathering. Review November, December & January R-Evolving Diary.
9	Friday		DIOCESAN SYNOD. Hawke’s Bay.

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

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