

## Worship Details

### St. Peter's Church

8 am Holy Communion; 9.30 am Holy Communion, Good News Club & Young Persons' Play & Blessing of the Christmas Flyers



### St. Luke's Church-

9.30 am Holy Communion & 5 pm Night Prayer

#### Readings:

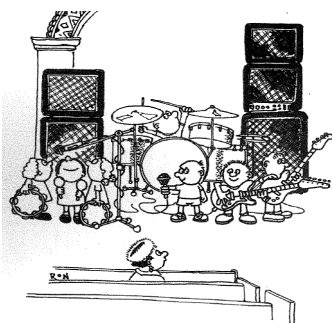
Isaiah 11: 1-10; Romans 15: 4-13; Matthew 3: 1-12

#### Sentence:

The voice of one crying in the wilderness; prepare the way of the Lord, make his ways straight. *Matthew 3: 3.*

#### Collect:

God of fresh hope, you chose John the Baptist to prepare the way for Christ, help us in our day to prepare the way for the gospel of hope; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer Amen.



*The congregation braced herself for another little song from the Sunday school.*

#### Post Communion

#### Sentence:

They will not hurt or destroy on my holy mountain for the earth will be full of the knowledge of God, as the water covers the sea. *Isaiah 11:9.*

### Prayer Focus - Please Pray .....

- \*We give thanks for the Good News Club and Youth in our Parish.
- \* For a new Youth Orchestra Director.
- \* For all those affected by the recent earthquakes; especially those in Kaikoura and surrounding district.
- \* For the family and friends of the late Harry Bowley.
- \* For the family and friends of the late Brian Laffey. (Olga Holloway's brother)
- \* For those known to us who are sick or having an operation - Ryan Holley, Craig Anthony, Ashley Legat, June Woods, Keith Spragg, Michael Hawke, Elizabeth Goodwin, Phyllis Hay, Alec Nelson, Estelle Laugesen, Takeshi Hasegawa, Crystal & Stuart Munro, June Flint, Sunita Rai, Bill Fleming.
- \* For support for all fundraising towards the restoration of St. Peter's Church.
- \* The Parish of Shirley. The Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki.

### Mission News

Our Mission Table today is for the CWS Christmas Appeal. We have Christmas novelties for sale - please visit our "Christmas Shoppe". Thank you for your support. ....Irene Coman, ph. 348.7554

**Sermons are  
on the web**



is available  
in the porch.

# Welcome

To the Anglican Parish of Upper  
Riccarton-Yaldhurst

## St. Peter's & St. Luke's Churches

Sunday 4 December 2016

**THE YEAR OF GROWING**

### Advent II



#### From our Vicar....

I'm delighted that a new tenant has been appointed for 31 Yaldhurst Rd that is in keeping with our core values as a church. Youth Pathways will begin their work soon. Youth Pathways works with young people between the ages of 14 and 18 who need one to one work to help them get back on track. We all know how vital these years are and how a bit of work done in these vulnerable years can be just the help they need. Please pray for Youth Pathways. In the meantime we need to keep ourselves focused on the core value of this season of Advent/Christmas, i.e. love. I offer you a reworking of 1 Corin. 13.....



If I decorate my house perfectly with tartan bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.  
If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas biscuits, preparing gourmet meals and arrange a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my friends, I'm just another cook.  
If I work at the City Mission, carol in the Rest Homes and give all my money to charity, but do not show love to my neighbours, it profits me nothing.  
If I trim the tree with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of Christmas parties and sing in the choir's cantata but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.  
Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the spouse. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love doesn't envy another's home that has co-ordinated Christmas china and table linens. Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way but is thankful they are there to be in the way. Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.  
Love becomes all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. Smart phones will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust, but giving the gift of love will endure.  
....Nick

## News in the Parish

### Church Picnic

TODAY after the Nativity Play at the 9.30am service, there will be the family picnic to celebrate the end of the year. We usually start about 11.15am. Bring your own chair, hat and picnic lunch. There will be a barbecue going and some sausages, but if you wish to bring any other meat to cook, you are more than welcome to pop it on.

One of the cakes that the children made for Stir-Up Sunday will be cut and served. Apparently Santa has found some time in his busy schedule to visit us as well. We hope to have a lolly scramble and a couple of games for all to share in.

This year we will also be collecting gifts for the City Mission. Please bring any gifts you wish to donate so we can ensure as many people as possible have a wonderful and truly blessed Christmas.

....*Fiona Gilmore*

### Gateway Magazine and Christmas Card Flyer

Magazines are ready for delivery today. Thank you to Academy Funeral Directors who have very kindly printed this in colour for us.

Also for delivery are our red Christmas card flyers. Please take a bundle and have a stroll. Mark the list with the streets you deliver to. Thank you.

### Daytime Fellowship AAW

Our meeting on Wednesday 7 December begins at 10 am with Holy Communion. This will be followed by our Christmas morning tea and an opportunity to taste test our homemade Christmas cake. As we bring 2016 to a close we wish everyone a very blessed Christmas and look forward to a happy and successful 2017. *Barbara Fleming, ph 342.8982.*

### Church Restoration Fundraiser

As Christmas approaches it is a good time to remind you of the ideal gifts associated with John Brasell's print of St. Peter's. A2 print (\$75), A4 print (\$30) and cards (pack of 5 \$10). For orders or further information speak to David or Jo Winfield, Heather Cox or Pamela in the Office. ....*David Winfield (Convenor)*

**Two Requests from the Care Bears** (the Parish Pastoral Care Team). Can you please let the office know if you are aware of people who have been missing from worship for more than a couple of weeks. Sometimes we miss people who are unwell.

Secondly if you would like to be checked on in the event of a disaster, e.g. an earthquake, can you please let the office know. Again we want to be able to check on those who are most vulnerable.

### Operation Christmas Child



Your gifts are on their way now to the children of Fiji. Please pray that these children will have a very happy and blessed Christmas. After a child receives a shoebox, they can go on and do **The Greatest Journey**. This is a children's discipleship programme.

**Exercise Classes** - conclude Tuesday 13th Dec.

## News Beyond the Parish

**Christmas Wishes** - sent from the Riccarton Horticultural Society. *"The Committee and Members of Riccarton Horticultural Society wish you all at St. Peter's a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy 2017.*

*We thank you for your help and support during 2016 and look forward to our continuing happy association with St. Peter's during the coming year."*

### Kaikoura and North Canterbury

The Anglican Diocese has set up a "Give a Little" page for donations to be given to the affected communities after the recent earthquake. It is .....

<https://givealittle.co.nz/anglicanshelvearthquakeaffected2016/donate>

If you wish to give something practical (non perishable items) please take to the Transitional Cathedral or to 10 Hinton Place, Rangiora.

### Carols at Riccarton Bush -Sunday 11 Dec, 6.30 pm

Music by Addington Brass. Go early and take a picnic tea. A lovely way to spend a relaxing Sunday evening, enjoying the Christmas spirit.

## This Week's Diary

### Monday 5 December

Sharing & Caring - 10 am, 111a Yaldhurst Road.

Walking Group - 1.30 pm, Christmas Lunch at the Gardens

### Tuesday 6 December

Morning Prayer - 8.30 am, York Room.

Exercise Class - 9.30 am, Parish Hall.

Parkstone Service - 10.30 am.

Mainly Music - 11 am, Parish Hall.

Oaks Service - 11.30 am.

### Wednesday 7 December

Morning Prayer - 8.30 am, York Room.

Holy Communion - 10 am, Parish Hall.

AAW Daytime Fellowship - 10 am.

Ilam Life Care Service - 1.30 pm.

### Thursday 8 December

Morning Prayer - 8.30 am, York Room.

Staff Meeting - 9 am York Room.

Walking Group - 9.30 am, Deans' Bush.

Coffee & Chat - 10 am, York Room.

Choir Practice - 7.30 pm, Parish Hall.

### Friday 9 December

Create With Fibre - 12.30 pm, York Room.

**Beautiful Christmas cards are available for purchase from the table in the hall. \$5 a pack of 5. Kindly made by Judith Bylett with the proceeds going to our Restoration Fund.**

Next  
Sunday -  
our  
Lessons  
and  
Carols  
Service  
9.30 am

### Christmas Cards



### Next Week's

### Readings:

Isaiah 35: 1-30

James 5: 7-10

Matthew 11: 2-11



### Cat Minding

Helen and Matt Melchert need someone to look after their two cats from 11 Dec until 4 Jan - at their house, feeding 1-2 times a day. If you are interested, please phone 022 050 3671.