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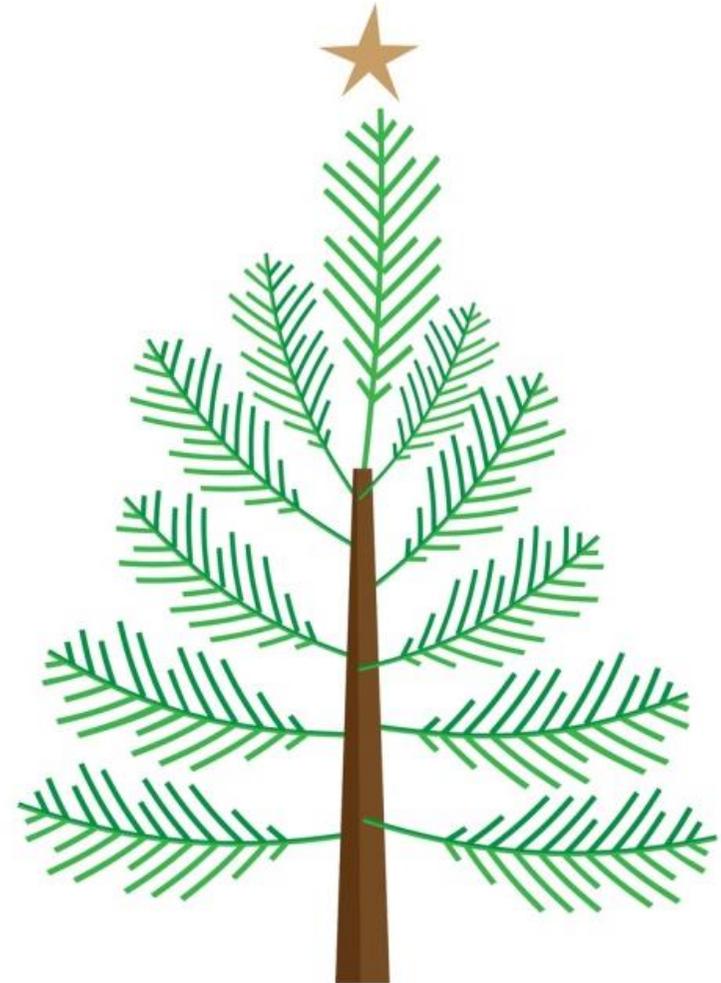
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The bi-monthly magazine for the Anglican
Parish of Upper Riccarton - Yaldhurst
St Peter's and St Luke's Church

The Gateway

Christmas 2017



A very big Thank You to Academy Funeral Services who have very kindly printed this Booklet in colour for us.

Weekly Services



St Peter's Church
Church Corner, Upper Riccarton

St Peter's Church

Sundays

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Good News Club
- 11.00am 4th Sunday Family Service in the Bowden Hall

Wednesdays:

- 10.00am Holy Communion

Fridays during term time:

- 6.00 – 7.00pm Youth Orchestra
- 7.00 – 8.30pm Youth Group

St Luke's Church

1st & 3rd Sundays

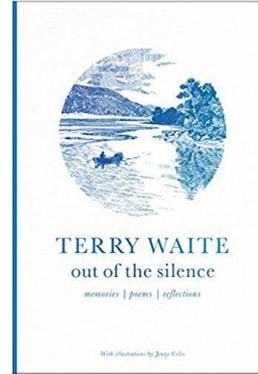
- 9.30am Holy Communion



St Luke's Church
School Road, Yaldhurst

Parish Office

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email: stpeter@world-net.co.nz



**“Out Of The
Silence:
memories,
poems,
reflections”**

by Terry Waite

Throughout Terry Waite's varied career, he is best known as a hostage negotiator who was also taken hostage himself in Beirut where he was kept in strict solitary confinement for almost five years. He wrote about this experience in "Taken in Trust" which many of you would have read.

In this inspiring sequence of poetry and prose, Terry Waite recalls the highs and lows of his life, both during his ordeal as a hostage and in the happier years of humanitarian work that followed. We gain a glimpse into the depths of faith, hope and love that sustained him through his years of suffering; as well as bearing witness to the remaining qualities of forgiveness, truth and reconciliation so desperately needed in the world today.

Set mainly in New Zealand which he had visited many times and grew to love for its tranquility and natural beauty, when with Cornish friends generous with their hospitality, shared the holiday house they rented in Hawke's Bay.

"Out of the Silence" is a remarkable book by an extraordinary man, a man of great humility and compassion who shares with us his private inner space. Throughout a life of incident and commitment, he has recorded his feelings in simple and poignant prose and poetry, a record of a unique sensibility. As one reviewer wrote, "Peace would universally reign if the world were full of people like Terry Waite."

Margaret Mahan

Christmas Bible Trivia

Questions

1. Which of the Old Testament prophets had the most to say about the birth of Jesus?
2. Who told Joseph the baby's name was to be Jesus?
3. What are the meanings of the name JESUS and EMMANUEL?
4. What did the angels sing to the shepherds?
5. Can you list five names of Jesus found in the Bible?
6. What is the name of the priest who was told he would not die until he saw the Saviour?
7. Which of the Gospels do we find the Christmas story?
8. Which city was Jesus born?
9. How many miles did Mary & Joseph have to travel to Bethlehem?
10. Who told Mary & Joseph to go to Bethlehem?
11. What animals does the Bible say were present at the birth of Jesus?
12. What is the meaning of the Hebrew term "hesed"?

Reference <https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/christmas-bible-quiz-20-good-questions/>

Milton Goh sermons notes 20/10/17

Answers to questions on page 15 of The Gateway



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FROM THE VICAR
The Ven Nick Mountfort

The Extravagant Gift

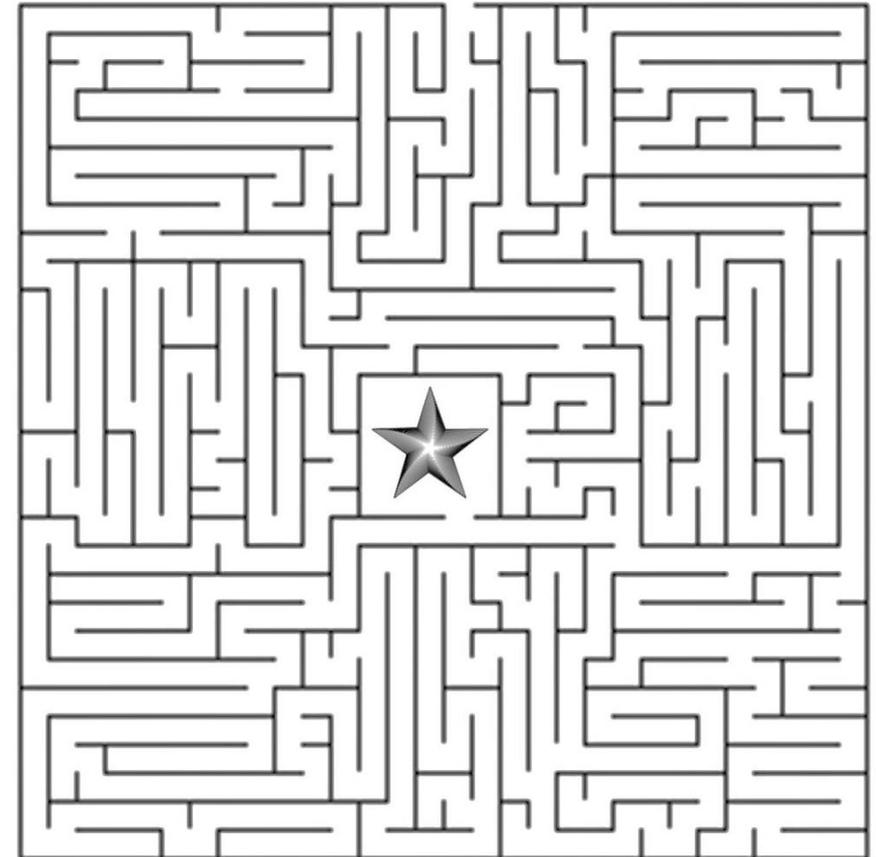
I heard of a young couple, Della and Jim, who were very poor but also were very much in love. Each had a unique possession they treasured. For Della, it was her hair – long, full and beautiful. For Jim, it was a pocket watch given from his grandfather to his father to him. It was Christmas Eve, and Della had no money for her beloved. But she had an idea. She went and had her hair cut off, and sold it. With the money, she bought a beautiful chain for Jim’s watch.

She anxiously waited for Jim to come home from work, not knowing how he would respond to her new look. When he came in, he was in shock, not because of her hair, but because of his gift for her – a set of expensive tortoise-shell combs with jeweled edges for her hair, bought with the money he was given for selling his prized possession – his family pocket watch.

Kids Corner

Christmas Maze

Can you help the wise men follow the star to find Jesus?



NOTICEBOARD

Carol Service

17 December, 9.30am
in both St Peter's Church &
St Luke's Church

Remembrance Service

17 December, 7.00pm
St Peter's Church

Children's Service

24 December, 5.00pm
St Luke's Church

Coffee And A Chat

Thursday mornings at 10 am,
York Room
St Peter's Church Hall
All Welcome
Coffee \$2 Cake 50c

Next Gateway Closing Date

Please send articles and
notices for the next Gateway
to the Editor
(seokjen@yahoo.com.sg)
by 9 March 2018.

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Parishioners' Warden	Jo Winfield	322 8723	027 256 7205

Website: <http://stpeterschurch.nz>



(Proudly helping to put the church back in church corner)
St Peter's Anglican Church at Church Corner and St Luke's Valdhurst

Such is the nature of extravagant love. It gives, even gives that which is most precious, for the sake of the beloved.

At Christmas, we honour the gift of God's own Son to us. **"For God so loved the world that he gave us his only Son."** Such is the nature of God's love for us that he gives that which is most precious.

When we love someone we want to honour that love with a gift. This Advent Christmas we have a gift for you. It's all the wonderful worship, music, plays, social events and parties that make up these seasons in the Parish. So many give of their time and talents, and it's my great privilege to join them.

This year, we planned as a year of strengthening and so much has happened. We have seen continued generosity to our restoration appeal, and many adults and children baptized. We have continued to support each other and an estimated 22,000 visits on site by members of our wider community. They might come for coffee and chat, for mainly music, for the English class, for one of the many choirs or be a St John cadet or an exercise class groupie. Whatever reason people come, they often tell me they can feel the warmth and love of a Christian community.

Rosemary and I pray here at the Vicarage that you may come to know the love that God has for you on a deeper level this Advent Christmas.

Nick

JOHN MCLISTER'S ORDINATION

On Saturday, 25th November, we witnessed the ordination of our beloved John McLister from Deacon to Priest at the Transitional Cathedral. John's family, Yaeko (wife) and his children, Joseph and Caeli, were there to share in the proud moment. John was really thankful to the choir for being there and making the occasion so special and for the Youth Orchestra for playing as well.



News from the AAW Groups

DAYTIME FELLOWSHIP

As 2017 draws to a close, we look back on a year of "highs and lows".

Our AGM in November went off with no surprises, so it will be business as usual in 2018.

Our loss of the year was the death of Estelle Laugesen. She will be greatly missed by us all.

Our Christmas morning tea on Wednesday, 6 December, will bring the year to a close.

We wish all our members a very happy and blessed Christmas.

Barbara Fleming (342 8982)

EVENING FELLOWSHIP

At the AGM chaired by Vicar Nick, after much consideration throughout the year, prayer and further discussion, it was voted that the Evening group amalgamate with the Daytime Fellowship from the beginning of 2018. This is "sign of the times" with an aging membership, and no one wanting to assume leadership or be committee members. We are continuing as AAW members in a different group.

We had a party supper at the conclusion of the meeting, and will gather for a final morning tea in December.

**Margaret Mahan, Leader (942 2114) or
Janice Newnham, Secretary (358 6242)**

Christmas Bible Trivia Answers

1. The book of Isaiah
2. An angel in Matthew 1:21
3. Jesus means Saviour and Jesus is the same name as the Old Testament name Joshua which also means Saviour. Matthew 1:21,23. EMMANUEL means God with us.
4. "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will towards men" Luke 2:14
5. Jesus, Emmanuel, the Christ, Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace
6. Simeon Luke 2:25,26
7. Matthew and Luke only.
8. Bethlehem
9. 80 miles
10. Caesar Augustus. He ordered the people to go back to the city of their forefathers. Joseph's family was from Bethlehem.
11. In the New Testament account of Jesus's birth, there was no mention of any animals.
12. Grace/Loyal Love

Coffee & Chat



Coffee and Chat is a thriving group who congregate each Thursday morning in the York Room, from 10am to Noon for refreshments and a chat. We welcome up to twenty folks – some are from the St. Peter’s congregation and many are people who pop in ‘off the street’, see our signs at the gate or come along with friends. At the moment we have as many males as females in our midst, which is a first for us. They come from around the local community and beyond and enjoy our companionship.

There is a choice of plunger or instant coffee or a cup of tea where there is also a choice of tea flavours. Food is provided (mostly homemade) which is thoroughly appreciated by our guests.

We do have two couples who call every time they visit from Australia and Auckland and can be described as regulars plus several locals visit in spite of the fact they belong to other denominations. All adds spice to our conversations where topics range from world affairs to subjects of local interest; in particular the restoration work on St. Peter’s Church. All appears to enjoy what we have to offer – fellowship and food!

Our clergy usually appears and mixes and mingles with our diners. This is a good ‘ad’ for St. Peter’s and is of mutual benefit to us all. We have a wonderful band of volunteers who contribute towards the roster for baking, hosting/serving and tidying up. All do a fabulous job and we are grateful for their assistance.

Coffee and Chat is a wonderful outreach for our Church as it shows people are comfortable mixing with us.

Helen Easterbrook



A good deal of work continues thanks to the tireless efforts of our committee and the staff at Barrer and Co. In addition this has meant extra work for our Parish Administrator Pamela, Treasurer Bruce, along with particular involvement by Graema and Heather Cox. Not forgetting our pen seller extraordinaire Fay (she still has some available). Paper work has been the order of the day recently with extensive forms to be completed in our applications to Trusts and grants and we await the results with keen anticipation. In addition we have been in contact with the City Council seeking contributions there and appreciated the time given by five City Councillors who visited us and listened to our case.

A further push on our ‘Blocks and Stones’ scheme has had a favourable response and we continue to give encouragement for people to donate in this way – ensuring that their names (or the names of loved ones) can be given a permanent record in the restored Church. Further details are on the website or descriptive brochures available in the Parish Office.

Coming up now is our Monster Christmas Raffle with 30 prizes to a total value of approximately \$6000. Tickets are \$5 each and we now look for volunteers to take a book of ten and get selling amongst family, neighbours and friends. Note: there will be a special prize for the one who sells the most tickets. The raffles will be drawn

under supervision on Friday 22 December with all winners notified and results on the Parish website and Facebook page.

And speaking of Christmas – if you are puzzling over what to give someone as a Christmas gift, could we suggest a donation in their name to the restoration? We will happily provide one of our St. Peter’s cards with a message to this effect inside. Contact one of the committee or the Parish Office to make this happen.

We continue to be so very grateful to all those who have been so generous in so many ways and who have brought us to our present total of \$1,500,000. There is obviously still a good way to go but we remain confident of reaching our \$2million goal with further generosity from parishioners and others, along with a positive response from Trusts and grants.

Please continue your prayers for this project, a most vital contribution to its success.

David Winfield

From the PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals

David Harcourt Kent	9 Oct 17
Lona Margaret Nation	19 Oct 17
Charles Dextor Hodgkinson	20 Oct 17
Estelle Frances Laugesen	27 Oct 17
Phyllis Mona Cochrane	27 Nov 17

Baptisms

Naveen Gill	1 Nov 17
Ikumi Sakamoto	26 Nov 17
Crystal Miyu Sakamoto	26 Nov 17
Daniel Akira Sakamoto	26 Nov 17

Interment

Trevor Charles Carleton	2 Nov 17
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Advent, Christmas & New Year

St Peter's Church Church Corner, Upper Riccarton

Sunday 17 December Advent III

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Carol Service. Afterwards a special morning tea on the lawn with Christmas cake, sherry and lemonade. Please bring some Christmas cakes or minced pies to share.
7.00pm Remembrance Service - a quiet time amidst the bustle of the Christmas season to remember loved ones who have died. Please bring a flower.

Sunday 24 December Advent IV

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Holy Communion
11.15pm (Christmas Eve) Candle Lit Carol Singing & Holy Communion

Christmas Day 25 December

8.00am Holy Communion & Carols
9.30am Holy Communion & Carols

All Services in January 2018 will be held in the Methodist Church across the road.
 Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am - Holy Communion

St Luke's Church School Road, UpperYaldhurst

Night Prayer will be held on all Sundays during Advent at 5.00pm.

Sunday 17 December Advent III

9.30am Carol Service. Afterwards a special morning tea on the lawn with Christmas cake, sherry and lemonade. Please bring some Christmas cakes or minced pies to share.

Sunday 24 December Advent IV

5.00pm Children's Service. Children may take part, costumes provided.

Christmas Day 25 December

9.30am Holy Communion & Carols

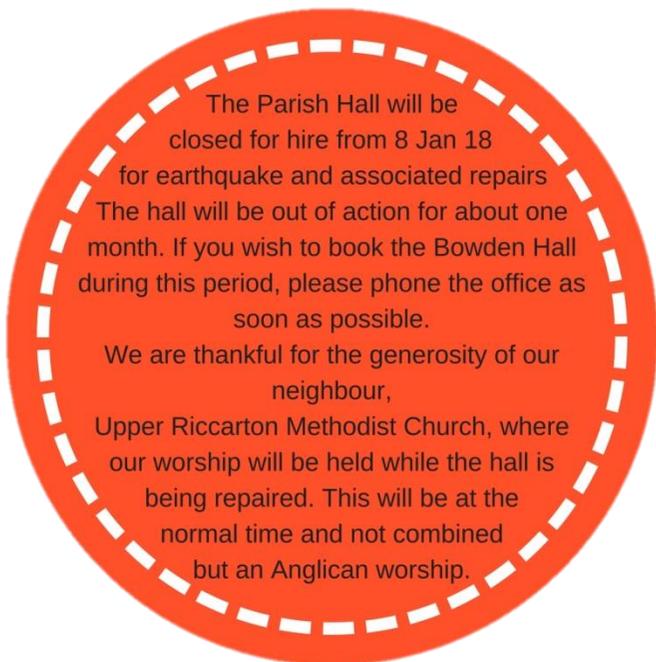
1st and 3rd Sundays in January.



The Committee and members of the Riccarton Horticultural Society wish The Ven. N. Mountfort, Mrs Mountfort, the staff and all members of St Peter's all the very best for a very Merry Christmas and for Health and Happiness to you and your loved ones during 2018.

We do thank you for your co-operation during 2017 and we look forward to our continuing very happy relationship during 2018 and beyond.

Riccarton Horticultural Society



The Parish Hall will be closed for hire from 8 Jan 18 for earthquake and associated repairs. The hall will be out of action for about one month. If you wish to book the Bowden Hall during this period, please phone the office as soon as possible.

We are thankful for the generosity of our neighbour, Upper Riccarton Methodist Church, where our worship will be held while the hall is being repaired. This will be at the normal time and not combined but an Anglican worship.



PICNIC

On Sunday, 10th December, at the 9.30am service we are presenting our play. It is very exciting this year as the music group will be accompanying us and some groups in the parish have also helped us out.

Immediately after the play, from 11.00am onwards, on the Vicar's Lawn, we will have our parish picnic. This is open to EVERYONE; you don't need to have a child. There will be some games; we will eat the cake we made at Stir Up Sunday; there will be a lolly scramble and there might even be a visit from someone very special dressed in red! Just bring whatever you wish to eat (a barbecue will be available), a chair or blanket, and sunscreen and/or hat! We would love to see you all there and this is a great way to celebrate our year together.

Tis the season to be gifting

In addition, during the month of December, we would like to invite you to donate a gift for Christchurch children in need. Once the Christmas tree has been put up, these can be left underneath the tree and we will ensure that they are delivered to the City Mission the week before Christmas. If wrapped, you might like to indicate gender and approximate age.

GOOD NEWS CLUB

Christmas Performances

Everyone's encouraged, young and old, to attend our two special shows in the days leading up to Christmas.

Especially for the children (and the young at heart)

"What's It All About"

This is an interactive and entertaining retelling of the nativity story with songs for all to sing along with. In the Bowden Hall, at 11am on Wednesday 20th, Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd December.

Running time is approximately 45 minutes.

And then for everyone

"Basil and The Choir"

A heartwarming evening of music, readings and theatre in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20th and Friday 22nd December. We will be featuring the Paua Cantata on Wednesday and on Friday, our own Parish Choir, and a special guest soloist on both evenings. There will be Christmas music to listen to and enjoy, community carols to participate in, and a revival of the very funny 'Christmas at the Bethlehem Fawltly'. Just imagine if Basil Fawlty had been the innkeeper those many centuries ago...it doesn't bear thinking about!

Finishing up with a tasty supper.

So gather up all your friends and family and plan to attend.