

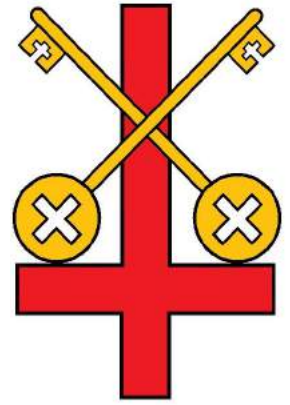
# Welcome



to the Anglican Parish of  
Upper Riccarton-Yaldhurst

**St Peter's  
&  
St Luke's**

**5<sup>th</sup> December 2021  
Advent 2**



"The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple." Our first reading opens with this line: written many centuries before Jesus' birth, it was one of the texts the early Christians saw fulfilled in the first Christmas. It's not hard to imagine Jesus wanting to come to the temple which is St Peter's or St Luke's: it's so beautiful especially after the wonderful work Essie and Edwin Boyce have done to decorate St Peter's. But there is something much more profound than Jesus coming to a building happening at Christmas.



Mysteriously, scripture tells us that the divine wants to come and take up residence in us! Christ is born into every human heart that opens itself to him. I can't speak for you but my heart isn't always the most beautiful of places and yet he desires to be at home in me. In 1534 Martin Luther wrote a carol for his children. It has the verse,

"O dear lord Jesus for your head  
now I make the softest bed  
the chamber where this bed shall be  
is in my heart, inside of me."

As we get ready for Christmas take a moment to invite Christ to be born in you. A poet wrote, "though Christ be born a thousand times if he's not born in you, your hearts forlorn" Silesius.

*~ Nick*



**Join us on Live Stream for our Sunday Service**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaV6CL18TXIVfhsobuKDFRw>

## Contact Us...

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[www.stpeterschurch.nz](http://www.stpeterschurch.nz)  
[www.facebook.com/stpeterschurchcorner](https://www.facebook.com/stpeterschurchcorner)

## News in the Parish

### **Open Church**

With the most restrictive part of the Covid 19 regulations now behind us, we are opening the church for guided and informal tours or visits by church members and the general public on two days each week. A team of volunteers will help to ensure that the church is open from 10.00am to 12.00 noon on Thursdays, and from 1.00pm to 3.00pm on Sundays. If you are interested in joining the volunteers, please ring Dennys on 357 4204.

~ Dennys

### **Orange Light for Rev Margaret Neate's Ordination service**

As from Friday 3 December, we believe Christchurch will be in the Orange Light alert level - which means that Vestry needed to make some decisions about upcoming services. The first service to be affected happens Saturday 4th December, 3:30pm. This has meant that while we can have up to 200 attend the service, each person attending will be required to show proof of their vaccination status (at least one jab.) Most will hopefully have their "My Vaccine Pass" as proof of vaccination status.

~ Rev'd Peg

### **My Vaccine Pass**

If anyone needs any assistance obtaining their online "Vaccine Passport" please contact Heather at 029 779 8800. ~ Heather Caspersen



### **CBC Concert**

Concert by the Christchurch Boys Choir at The Piano, ably led by Bob Gaudin on Sunday 12 December 3pm - 4.15pm Amanda Atlas will be a guest artist along with CBC Alumni. Tickets through

[www.humanitix.com/christchurch.boys.choir](http://www.humanitix.com/christchurch.boys.choir)

~Jo Winfield

### **Live-streaming**

As you might already know we are live-streaming our services. Please be aware of this if you are attending the 9:30am services with your children, and prefer them not to be on camera.

~ Vicar Nick

### **Bishopdale**

Our new Sunday School teacher, Ruth, is in need of transport to the 9:30am services on Sundays. She is located in Bishopdale and if anyone is able to help her please contact her on [youth.stpeter@world-net.co.nz](mailto:youth.stpeter@world-net.co.nz)

~Vicar Nick

### **Office closure**

Please note the office will be closed Thursday, 09 Dec from 11:45am for about 1-2 hours.

~ Vicar Nick

### **Votive Candles**


A reminder there are small electric candles in Nurse Maude chapel which people can light in prayer and thanks.

~Rev'd Peg

### **Christmas Cards**

There are Christmas Cards for sale at the back of the church. All proceeds to the church. If anyone would like any special numbers please me know 027 251 4777or [mrs.jk@outlook.com](mailto:mrs.jk@outlook.com).

~ Judith

I will bless the LORD  
at all times;  
his praise shall continually  
be in my mouth.  
 Psalm 34:1



"We had a fantastic Christmas celebration with our families last Friday night. The Lord blessed us with a lovely sunny evening and lots of families to celebrate Christmas at preschool.

There were three parts to the evening: picnic tea outside in family bubbles; children's play performance in the church; and six interactive stations in our Christmas installation. There was lots of great feedback from parents and our manger scene at the end got the WOW factor we wanted.

Thank you Ethan for your work with the sound system in the church and Rev Peg for reading stories to our families.

Thanks always to Rev Nick, Rev Margaret and Rev Peg for their ongoing support and encouragement of the preschool."

~ Liz Orr

[stpeterspreschool@mcctrust.nz](mailto:stpeterspreschool@mcctrust.nz)



**St Peter's Church  
Church Corner**

**Sunday – 19<sup>th</sup> December**

Holy Communion @ 8.00am

Carol Service 9.30am

**Christmas Eve – 24<sup>th</sup> December**

Children's Service 5.30pm – Dress-ups provided

**Christmas Eve – 24<sup>th</sup> December**

Candlelit Carol Singing 11.15pm – Midnight Holy Communion

**Christmas Day – 25<sup>th</sup> December**

Festive Communion & Carols 8.00am

All Age Christmas Celebration & Communion 9.30am

**St Luke's Church  
School Road, Yaldhurst**

**Sunday – 19<sup>th</sup> December**

Carol Service @ 9.30am

**Christmas Day – 25<sup>th</sup> December**

Festive Communion & Carols 9.30am

Sunday 05 Dec

**Baptism of Freyja Lee Andreassen at St Luke's**



Monday 06 Dec

**Morning Prayer**—9am, Chapel

**Walking Group** —12pm, Lunch at Anna's

Tuesday 07 Dec

**Morning Prayer**—9am, Chapel

**Staff Meeting**—9:15am, Atrium

**Exercise Class**—9:30am, Parish Hall

Wednesday 08 Dec

**Morning Prayer**—9am, Chapel

**Wed Service** —10am, Chapel

Thursday 09 Dec

**Morning Prayer** —9am, Chapel

**Walking Group**—9.30am, Crosbie Park

**Coffee & Chat**—10am, (last one for this year) Parish Hall

**Church Open for Tours** - 10am-12 noon

**Parish Office closed** - from 11:45am for 1 or 2 hours

**St Peter's Choir** —7:30pm, Church

Friday 10 Dec

**Morning Prayer** —9am, Chapel

**A-Team**—9am, by the hall

9-11am, Garage Sale Shed open

**Family Orchestra** — 6pm, Bowden Hall

Sunday 12 Dec

**Church Open for Tours** - 1pm-3pm



Christmas is coming...Ho ho ho



## Worship Details

### St Peter's Church

8am and 9:30am

### St Luke's Church

9:30am - Baptism

**Readings:** Malachi 3.1-4  
Song of Zechariah  
Philippians 1.3-11  
Luke 3.1-6

### Sentence

A voice is crying in the desert,  
'Prepare the way of the Lord.' (Luke 3.4)

### Hymns

66 (O come, O come, Emmanuel); Long ago, prophets knew; Look toward Christmas (St Peter's) This day God gives me; 73 (A messenger named Gabriel); 28 (Amazing grace) (St Luke's)

### Collect

Let us pray to hear your voice:

Surprising God,  
a wilderness wanderer spoke your truth:  
call us again to hear your voice  
in the deserts of our making  
and in the wilderness of our hearts;  
for Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

### Versicle and Response for Intercessions

God of love  
**grant our prayer.**

### Next Sunday's Readings:

Zephaniah 3.14-20  
Isaiah 12.2-6  
Philippians 4.4-7  
Luke 3.7-18



## Prayer Focus

- For our mission partners...

### ⇒ **Petersgate:**

- ◇ We pray for God's guidance as Petersgate adapts to the new COVID regulations, and pray for clients who are unvaccinated and can't access face-to-face counselling – that they will accept phone or video counselling support.

### ⇒ **Preschool:**

- ◇ Wisdom as we transition into the traffic light system.
- ◇ Our children will remember Jesus at Christmas.

- For the sick, especially Diane R, Audrey P, Beverley P, Elizabeth C, Jade H, Alison R, Gill, Helen E, Lynette W, Bobbity M, Margaret W, Neville, Storm B, Anne S, Bill G, Leonie, Sheldine and others on our hearts and minds.

### • **ROSS AND SOUTH WESTLAND**

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev'd Vivien Harber  
The Rev'd Vivien Simkin (David)

- Elder Care Project
- Christian Conference of Asia
- World Peace and Organisations



## Mission Focus

Our Christmas Mission table will be held on Sunday Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, in the Atrium, before and after both morning services.

We hope to have a "Christmas" theme, but all the usual donations - baking, sweets, pickles and jams, produce, plants, and crafts etc are very welcome.

~Jill and Noeline



# Baptism



Freyja Lee  
ANDREASSEN

5<sup>th</sup> December 2021

At St Luke's



## Worship Under Traffic Light System

The following pastoral message came from the Anglican Bishops, Tikanga Pākehā on Friday, 26 November 2021:

"From the time of our nation's first lockdown response to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequently throughout these extraordinary times, we as Bishops have met weekly together to pray, to support one another and to reflect on our leadership through the rapid changes in our nation's continuing response to COVID-19. The foundational unit of the Anglican Church is the Diocese; that group of individuals, communities and organisations who gather around the bishop. We honour and respect the independence and integrity of each Diocese, whilst seeking in these circumstances, to offer as much consistency and commonality as we possibly can.

Out of a deep love for the church and the people we serve, we have sought to approach the next stage of our nation's response to this world-wide health emergency in a way that reflects two key agreements in common:

1. The normative position for worship, events and gatherings, is that they will be fully-vaccinated. In other words, vaccine certificates will be required to attend services of worship, events and gatherings. This fully vaccinated approach, as the norm, reflects the best and most current health advice available to us, as we seek to do all that we can to minimise the risk of anyone becoming infected with COVID-19.

2. We have a pastoral responsibility for the care of all people. This responsibility is to both vaccinated and non-vaccinated, but particularly to the most vulnerable. This care includes those who may not be able to worship with us because they have chosen not to be vaccinated. It also includes those who are in quarantine after exposure to infected people and are awaiting test results. Such pastoral responsibility also includes those who are ill, or those who are choosing to limit their potential exposure to infection because of their level of vulnerability or the level of vulnerability to members of their households. We are committed to supporting local Churches in finding ways to minister to all.

As bishops, we are committed to constantly reviewing these principles, and the protocols and policies that are being established in each Diocese regularly, to ensure that we continue to reflect the greatest level of care possible.

As we continue to navigate this season together, we would also like to take this opportunity to thank and honour all those who lead and serve within our church in Christ's name and who work for the coming of Christ's Kingdom. We continue to faithfully hold each other before God in prayer.

*"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7*

Yours in Christ,  
Bishop Ross Bay  
Bishop Peter Carrell  
Bishop Andrew Hedge  
Bishop Philip Richardson

Bishop Steven Benford  
Bishop Justin Duckworth  
Bishop Steve Maina  
Bishop Eleanor Sanderson

What this means for us is that there are no limits on the number at worship but proof of double vaccine will be requested to attend worship and church events. If this is difficult for you, please talk to the clergy. If you are having trouble downloading your **"My Vaccine Pass"** - again please let us know so that we can help. These are tricky times but we will get through working together.

- Vicar Nick