

A huge thank you to everyone who made last weekend so special for me. I feel very honoured to have been placed in such a welcoming and encouraging parish; and privileged to have Nick as my training vicar.

It is rather hard to shift from such feelings of joy to read this Sunday's Gospel with the rant from John the Baptist. I doubt that I'd be well



received if I turned up and told you that you were self-satisfied, entitled so-and-sos, as bad as a family of venomous snakes. Yet the Grace of God still shines through. He is only preparing his followers that they might be able to receive Grace through the Holy Spirit. And notice repentance does not mean giving everything up or giving all you possess away. This message is about justice - sharing what you don't need so that all may be comfortable; and about not abusing positions of power.

As we move through Advent - a time of preparation - may we find the unsurpassable peace of God through our relationship with Christ Jesus. That is pure joy. ~ *Margaret*



Join us on Live Stream for our Sunday Service https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaV6CL18TXIVfhsobuKDFRw

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News in the Parish



Worship Under Traffic Light System

The following pastoral message came from the Anglican Bishops, Tikanga Pākehā on Friday, 26 November 2021: "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 emergency in a way that health reflects two key agreements in common: 1. The normative position for worship, events and gatherings, is that they will be fully-vaccinated. 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." 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 Ničk

Church Tour Guides

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. Please know that if we do not get more volunteers, then the church is unable to be opened for tours.

~ Dennys

<u>Office closure for Christmas/New</u> <u>Year</u>

Please note the parish office will be closed 25 Dec 21 to 16 Jan 22 for Christmas and New Year.

~Vicar Nick

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 today, 12 December 3pm -4.15pm. Amanda Atlas will be a guest artist along with CBC Alumni. Tickets through

www.humanitix.com/christchurch.boys.choir ~Jo Winfield

<u>Bishopdale</u>

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**

~Vicar Nick

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. ~ Judith

Mission Focus

The funds from today's mission table are going to the Christian World Service Christmas Appeal. We were fortunate to have their director speak to us at last Sunday's service. We will have lots of Christmas goodies for sale so bring some cash.

~Jill and Noeline

Christmas 2021 Worship

St Peter's Church Church Corner Sunday – 19th December Holy Communion @ 8.00am Carol Service 9.30am Christmas Eve – 24th December Children's Service 5.30pm – Dress-ups provided Christmas Eve – 24th December Candlelit Carol Singing 11.15pm – Midnight Holy Communion Christmas Day – 25th December Festive Communion & Carols 8.00am All Age Christmas Celebration & Communion 9.30am

St Luke's Church School Road, Yaldhurst Sunday – 19th December Carol Service @ 9.30am Christmas Day – 25th December Festive Communion & Carols 9.30am





Sunday 12 Dec Family Church —11:15am, Church Remembrance Service —5:00pm, Church

Week's Diary

<u>Monday 13 Dec</u> **Morning Prayer**—9am, Chapel **Walking Group**—1:30pm, Riccarton Domain

<u>Tuesday 14 Dec</u> **Morning Prayer**—9am, Chapel **Staff Meeting**—9:15am, Atrium **Exercise Class (last one for the year)**— 9:30am, Parish Hall

<u>Wednesday 15 Dec</u> Morning Prayer—9am, Chapel Wed Service —10am, Church

<u>Thursday 16 Dec</u> **Morning Prayer** —9am, Chapel **Walking Group**—9.30am, Gardens (coffee) **Church Open for Tours** —10am-12 noon **St Peter's Choir** —7:30pm, Church

<u>Friday 17 Dec</u> **Morning Prayer** —9am, Chapel **A-Team**—9am, by the hall 9-11am, Garage Sale Shed open **Family Orchestra** — 6pm, Bowden Hall

Sunday 19 Dec Church Open for Tours — 1pm-3pm



St Peter's Church 8am and 9:30am

Family Church - 11:15am

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

Hymns

601 (On Jordan's bank); Where is the room? 192 (Hark! a trumpet call is sounding)

Sentence

Jesus said, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.'

(Luke 3.11)

Collect

Let us pray to share what we have:

God of the poor and needy, in John you taught us to share: when we are overwhelmed by the needs of the world, renew our vision of justice, that a coat given is enough; in Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**.

Versicle and Response for Intercessions God of love grant our prayer.

Next Sunday's Readings:

Micah 5.2-5a Luke 1.47-55 or Psalm 80.1-7 Hebrews 10.5-10 Luke 1.39-45 (46-55)



• For our mission partners... ⇒Petersgate:

- We pray for the staff and clients of Petersgate as we approach Christmas, mindful of the financial stress this time of year can cause. May God help us to balance simplicity and a generous spirit in life."
- ⇒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.
- SHIRLEY BURWOOD MARSHLAND Ministry Unit (extended Parish of Shirley)

Vicar: The Rev'd Dr Carolyn Robertson (Paul Hegglun) The Rev'd Carolyn Swift (Andrew)

 Bishop's Chaplain to Retired Clergy, Spouses & Clergy Widow (er)s:

The Rev'd Lynnette Lightfoot (Alistair)

 The Cathedral Grammar School Principal: Mr Scott Thelning Chaplain: Mrs Teresa Kundycki-Carrell (+Peter)

