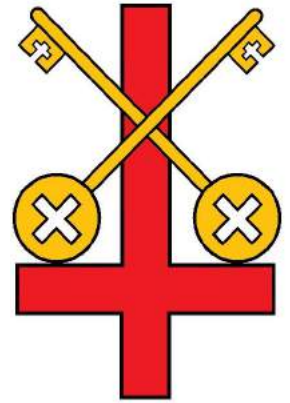


Welcome



to the Anglican Parish of
Upper Riccarton-Yaldhurst

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



**19th December 2021
Advent 4**

The unsung hero of the first Christmas is St Joseph. There are lots of carols about St Mary, the Angels, the shepherds, even the donkey (who isn't in the Bible!) There are carols about Snoopy, the little drummer boy, the Holly and the Ivy, about the tree the Holy Family stood under, even the place; Bethlehem, but Joseph gets no mention.



You may know of a carol about poor old Joe, but I guarantee it's not well known. Anglicans are funny about Joseph, we don't sing about him, we don't have stained glass windows about him, we don't name our churches after him, and yet he is key to the whole Christmas event. Without his willingness to stand by Mary, we may never have heard of Jesus. Joseph is open to the guidance of God through dreams and no doubt much of the character of Jesus, that we see in the Gospels, he would have gained from Joseph.

Men in particular have so much to learn from Joe: how we are to be faithful to the women in our lives, standing by them in hard times when others turn away; how men have such an important role in shaping and forming children to be wonderful people; how men too are to be guided and directed by the Holy Spirit.

~ Vicar 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
www.facebook.com/stpeterschurchcorner

News in the Parish

Sunday School and Family Church

Sunday School dates: There will be Sunday School this week (19 December). Sunday School will resume 16 January. The first Family Church of 2022 will be January 23, 11.15am, in the Church. ~ Vicar Nick

Giving Envelopes

The giving envelopes are now at the back of the church for you to collect.

Under Traffic Light System

This 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 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. 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 Nick

Worship 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

My Vaccine Pass

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

Livestreaming of Services:

The last Livestreamed service for this year will be the Midnight service, beginning 11.15pm on 24 Dec. Livestreaming will resume on Sunday 16 January 2022.

Growing Faith The first meeting for 2022 will be Sunday Jan 30 at 4.30pm in the Atrium.

All are welcome: it is a group designed to help us grow in faith in community; aimed at learning more about our relationship with God and developing our spiritual journey. The first theme we will study is Prayerfulness. Other topics planned include Faithfulness, how to read our Bible, Forgiveness. There will be others as the need arises. If you weren't at the December meeting it will help if you email me at curate.stpeter@world-net.co.nz so I have an idea of numbers.

~ Rev'd Margaret

AAW

The total amount of money remaining after our last meeting was \$570. This was given to Helen McLachlan for the making of a new altar cloth which we look forward to seeing in the near future. ~ Barbara Fleming

Employment Opportunities

St Peter's Anglican Preschool has 2 qualified ECE or Primary trained teacher/Team Leader positions available in its Christian, multicultural preschool situated in Upper Riccarton. Our preschool caters for 1-5 year olds. The applicant will ideally have experience with Christian curriculum in either preschool or Sunday School and be able to relate to Filipino and Indian children. Please send your CV and a covering letter to Head Teacher Liz Orr email lizo@mcctrust.nz. ~ Liz Orr



"Preschool is busy as our children make wonderful Christmas craft items to take home for their families. This week our older children (in the Kōwhai Room) have made colourful candy canes and have been learning about the meaning behind them. The candy cane is a great reminder of why Jesus came at Christmas.

Our younger children (In the Koru Room) have made some colourful Christmas wreaths this week. They are another great reminder of God's everlasting love. They are also making some colourful stars that we will turn into bunting for them to decorate their homes."

~ Liz Orr

stpeterspreschool@mcctrust.nz

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

Today, Sunday 19 Dec

Holy Communion — 8am, St Peter's

Carol Service — 9:30am, St Peter's

Carol Service — 9:30am, St Luke's

Monday 20 Dec

Morning Prayer—9am, Chapel

Tuesday 21 Dec

Morning Prayer—9am, Chapel

Staff Meeting—9:15am, Atrium

Wednesday 22 Dec

Morning Prayer—9am, Chapel

Wed Service —10am, Church

Thursday 23 Dec

Morning Prayer —9am, Chapel

Church Open for Tours —10am-12 noon

St Peter's Choir —7:30pm, Church

Friday 24 Dec **Christmas Eve**

Last day of Term 4!

Morning Prayer —9am, Chapel

A-Team—9am, by the hall

9-11am, Garage Sale Shed open

Children's Service (dress-ups provided)—

5:30pm, St Peter's Church

Midnight Candlelit Carol Singing—

11.15pm, St Peter's Church

Followed by Midnight Holy Communion

Saturday 25 Dec **Christmas Day**

Festive Communion & Carols - 8.00am,

St Peter's Church

All Age Christmas Celebration &

Communion - 9.30am, St Peter's Church



Worship Details

St Peter's Church
Holy Communion - 8.00am
Carol Service - 9.30am
St Luke's Church
Carol Service - 9.30am

Readings: Micah 5.2-5a
Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Hebrews 10.5-10
Matthew 1.18-25

Sentence

The angel said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.' (Matthew 1.20)

Collect

Let us pray to trust God's purpose:

God of our hopes and dreams,
you came to Joseph in a dream and
he trusted;
you give us too hopes and dreams
beyond our imagining:
grant us the courage to trust,
and the imagination to live as you
would have us;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

Versicle and Response for Intercessions

God of love
grant our prayer.

Next Sunday's Readings: (26 December 2020)

2 Chronicles 24.17-22
Psalm 31.1-8
Acts 6.8-10; 7.54-60
Matthew 10.17-22



Prayer Focus

• 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:**

◊ Staff, children and family health
◊ For God to reveal Himself afresh to the staff this Christmas season.

• **For the sick**, especially Diane R, Audrey P, Beverley P, Elizabeth C, Jade H, Alison R, Gill F, Helen E, Bobbity M, Margaret K, Margaret W, Neville, Storm B, Anne S, Sheldine, Bill G, Leonie, Helen, Malcolm G, Shaun C and others who are on our hearts and minds.

• **SUMNER-REDCLIFFS**

Vicar: The Rev'd Thomas Brauer (Cheryl)

Assistant Curate: The Rev'd John Fox

• **Alcoholics Anonymous and Drug Addiction Services.**

All alcohol and drug dependents and those who care for them

Mission Focus

Last Sunday's Mission Table for the CWS Christmas Appeal raised \$450 (including \$91-70 from the Exercise Class). This was a wonderful effort, so sincere thanks to everyone who contributed goods, and also supported the Table with purchases.

~Jill and Noeline



Contrasting Requests for Father Christmas

Last weekend when playing Father Christmas at Countdown, Church Corner I received two contrasting requests. The first from a man aged in his mid-fifties asked for a fancy car, the second from a woman of the same age. Her request: "I would like more people to be nice to one another as Jesus would. That is good material for a sermon. Best wishes to everyone.

~ Peter Coman