Welcome

HELLO **Kia** Ora

nǐ hǎo 你好

to the Anglican Parish of Upper Riccarton-Yaldhurst

St Peter's & St Luke's

S () 2021

25th December 2021 Christmas Day

There's a great scene in Notting Hill, the romance comedy where Julia Roberts is trying to convince Hugh Grant to give her a chance. She plays a famous actor and it's hard for them to get past her fame. She says, "I'm just a girl, standing in front of a boy, asking him to love me."

The only way to communicate love is to be vulnerable. This is what God did at the very first Christmas. There is nothing more vulnerable than a newborn child, especially when that child is born to homeless parents on the edge of an oppressive empire.

Christmas is God's message of love to each of us. God becomes so vulnerable because there's no other way love can be. It is that same self-giving love that will bring Jesus to his knees washing feet and that love takes him to the cross.

As we come to Christmas this year, we come very aware of our own vulnerability, as COVID rages around us. But we know that God is with us still, in the child of Bethlehem, and that love will never let us go.

Rosemary and I wish you a very blessed and peaceful Christmas.

348 5653

~ Nick

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St Peter's Church Church Corner

Christmas Eve – Friday 24th December
Children's Service 5.30pm – Dress-ups provided
Christmas Eve – Friday 24th December

Candlelit Carol Singing 11.15pm – Midnight Holy Communion

Christmas Day – Saturday 25th December
Festive Communion & Carols 8.00am
All Age Christmas Celebration & Communion 9.30am

St Luke's Church
School Road, Yaldhurst
Christmas Day – Saturday 25th December
Festive Communion & Carols 9.30am







Worship Details

Christmas Day Worship: St Peter's Church

Festive Communion & Carols - 8.00am All Age Christmas Celebration & Communion - 9.30am

St Luke's Church

Festive Communion & Carols - 9.30am

Boxing Day Worship:

St Peter's Church Holy Communion - 8.00am

Hymns & Holy Communion - 9.30am

2 Chronicles 24.17-22 Readings:

Psalm 31.1-8

Acts 6.8-10; 7.54-60 Matthew 10.17-22

Hymns

91 (See him lying on a bed of straw); 51 (Child in the manger); Good King Wenceslas); 73 (A messenger named Gabriel)

Sentence

While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' (cf Acts 7.59-60)

Collect

Let us pray to follow Stephen's example:

Suffering God,

in the lives of the persecuted we see

your grace:

be present this day with all who suffer for their faith and, when we suffer for your name, grant us grace like Stephen to forgive those who hurt us;

through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Post Communion

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. (Isaiah 60.1)

Versicle and Response for Intercessions Holy God

hear our prayer

Prayer Focus

For our mission partners...

⇒Petersgate:

We pray for the staff and clients of Petersgate, that they might have a refreshing mind and Christmas season.

⇒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, Élizabeth 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.
- The Bishop, the Cathedral and all the Ministry Units of this Diocese
- · Hui Amorangi o te Waipounamu Bishop: The Rt Rev'd Richard Wallace (Mere)
- The Bishopric of Aotearoa

Other Regional Bishops:

Te Tairawhiti – The Rt Rev'd Donald Tamihere (Kisa)

Te Upoko o te Ika – The Rt Rev'd Waitohiariki Quavle

Te Tai Tokerau - The Rt Rev'd Kitohi Pikaahu (Lynnore)

Te Manawa o te Wheke - The Rt Rev'd Ngarahu Katene (Kamana)



News in the Parish

Under Traffic Light System

At the time of writing the current traffic light setting is orange. You will be asked to present your "My Vaccine Pass" on entry to the church for worship. Mask wearing is expected. ~ Vicar Nick

Sunday School and Family Church 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.

Office closure for Christmas/New Year Please note the parish office will be closed Saturday 25 Dec 21 to Sunday 16 Jan 22 for Christmas and New Year. ~Vicar Nick

Employment Opportunities

St Peter's Anglican Preschool has qualified ECE or Primary trained teacher/Team Leader position 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

My Vaccine Pass

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

Church Tour

No church tours over the holiday and shall reopen at the end of January. Watch this space. ~ Dennys

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.

~ Rev'd Margaret





Proudly helping bring children back to Church Corner

The staff and children of the Preschool wish you all a peaceful and joyous Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour.

> ~ Liz Orr stpeterspreschool@mcctrust.nz

Merry Christmas



