

Welcome

HELLO



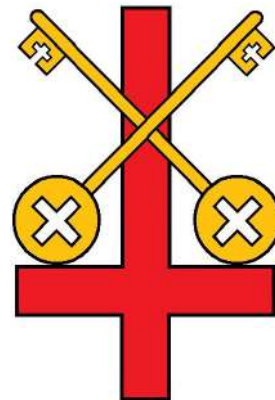
Kia Ora

nǐ hǎo

你好

to the Anglican Parish of
Upper Riccarton-Yaldhurst

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



**18th December 2022
Advent 4**

Are we there yet?

The carols we sing cover most of the important actors in the Christmas story. We sing about the baby Jesus obviously, and sing about Mary, the angels, the shepherds, the magi, and the star. We even sing about Snoopy and the Red Baron, the little drummer boy and the Christmas tree none of whom are in my bible! But I have never sung about Joseph. Come to think of it, I have never been in an Anglican church dedicated to him.



And yet in today's Gospel Matthew goes out of his way to put Joseph front and centre. He is obedient to God's direction, he protects Mary and the infant child. In short; he is strong, loving and wise, and for the most part absent from our Christmas storytelling.

This wouldn't matter on one level and we could easily write a carol or two. But it flows on into our society. Many of our homes and families, and children growing up, lack a dad. (30% according to Stats NZ.) Men often don't have the commitment of Joseph.

Maybe in missing out Joseph we have forgotten to honour the role of fatherhood too. I'll let you be the judge.

~ 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

Home Christmas Communion

Rev Peg and Rev Nick are doing Home Christmas Communion this week for those who are house-bounded, if you would like to receive, please let Peg or Nick know by 20th Dec.

Events & Activities for 2023

It's time to plan ahead for 2023. Please send your group's proposed activities to the office, with time, date and venue needed. Please send everything by Friday 16th Dec so the office would be able to confirm if they are available for your use.

The office will be closed for 3 weeks from Monday 26th December and we hope to be able to confirm all Parish activities by Friday 23rd Dec.

Volunteers needed for Christmas Parade

The Preschool is participating in the Christchurch Christmas Parade this year, on Sunday 18th December. We need some extra hands between 12:00pm to 2:00pm, to supervise children, chat with parents, or to pray for someone, bring along a Parish brochure if you wish to talk about the Parish. Please let the office know if you are available to help, even for an hour or so.

~Liz Orr



Christmas Worship

Sunday 27th Nov

8am and 9.30am - Christmas Appeal (CWS)
with guest preacher

11:15am - Christmas Service with Preschool, followed by lunch

Sunday 11th Dec - 8am and 9.30am

Remembrance of departed
part of normal services

Sunday 18th Dec

St Peter's - Holy Communion 8:00am

St Peter's Carol Service – no Eucharist 9.30am

St Luke's Carol Service – no Eucharist 9.30am

Friday 23rd Dec - 5pm

Rehearsal of the Nativity Dress-up Service

Saturday 24th Dec

5pm - St Peter's Nativity Dress-up Service

Midnight Mass St Peter's

Start with Carols at 11:15pm

Sunday 25th Dec

St Peter's 8am and 9.30am

St Luke's 9.30am



Parish of Upper Riccarton-Yaldhurst

St Peter's: 22 Main South Road, Church Corner

St Luke's: 43 School Road, Yaldhurst



This Week's Diary

Tuesday 20 Dec

Morning Prayer — 9am, Chapel

Staff Meeting — 9:15am, Atrium

Elms Court Village Service — 11:00am

Wednesday 21 Dec

Morning Prayer — 9am, Chapel

Eucharist — 10am, Church

Mahjong Club — 1:30pm, York Room

Thursday 22 Dec

Morning Prayer — 9am, Chapel

Choir — 7:30pm, Church

Friday 23 Dec

Christian Meditation — 9am, Chapel

Parish Office Closed -- 12:30pm

Monday 16 January 2023

Parish Office Opens

Last week the children have been learning about the history of the Christmas Tree tradition as part of our Christmas focus. It's always fun to learn the history and meaning behind the Christmas traditions we honour in our homes and society.

The tradition started in Germany in the 16th century to brighten up homes in the middle of winter. The tree was evergreen to symbolise eternal life. Apples were often put on the tree to remind people of Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. Candles or lights were often placed on the tree as a symbol of Christ as the light of the world.

~ Liz Orr

stpeterspreschool@mcctrust.nz

Mission Table

Last Sunday's Mission Table was most successful, raising \$605.00 for the Christian World Service Christmas Appeal (including Exercise Class and Card-Sales \$\$\$)

We had a wonderful selection of Christmas goodies, jams, baking, sweets and flower posies etc., which were eagerly snapped up by many generous customers!

Our thanks go to all the willing helpers from the 0800 Service, and also to everyone who gave us such a lovely range of things to sell.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas.

~ Jill and Noeline

PSALM 37:11



BUT THE MEEK SHALL
INHERIT THE EARTH,
AND SHALL DELIGHT
THEMSELVES IN THE
ABUNDANCE OF PEACE.

ly Bible-Verse.net



ONLINE GIVING

Bank: **Bank of New Zealand**

Branch: **Upper Riccarton, Christchurch**

Account Details: **02-0874-0021566-00**

Worship Details

St Peter's Church

8am—Holy Communion

9:30am—Holy Communion

St Luke's Church

9:30am—Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 7.10-16
The Song of Hannah
Romans 1.1-7
Matthew 1.18-25

Sentence

The angel said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for he 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

Midnight:

Isaiah 52.7-10
Psalm 98
John 1.1-14

Christmas Morning

Isaiah 62.6-12
Psalm 97
Titus 3.4-7
Luke 2.8-20



Prayer Focus

• For our mission partners...

⇒ **Petersgate:**

♥ In the light of this year's financial deficit, we pray for an upturn in the funding and grants for Petersgate in 2023.

⇒ **Preschool:**

♥ For our children and their families to receive God's love this Christmas season.

♥ For joy for staff as we teach our children about Christ at Christmas.

♥ Continue to pray for new enrolments each week.

Youth in our Parish:

♥ **Sunday School:** May the Lord's word be a light unto our children's path.

♥ **Intermediate:** Pray that whatever he has planned for their futures the youth would bring glory to Jesus.

• **For those in need of prayer,** especially Helen, Jim C, Barbara F, Ashley L, Graham S, Maureen D, Anne J, Elizabeth C, Alison R, Neville, Irene Ch, Helen E, Anne & John S, Carole & Ian B, Winifred, Lesley J, Barbara F, Marie T, Daniel, Irvine K, Lesley J, Nesta B, Marlene and Brian, and any others on our hearts and minds.

Hui Amorangi o te Waipounamu

Bishop: The Rt Rev'd Richard Wallace (Mere)

The Bishopric of Aotearoa

Other Regional Bishops:

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

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

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

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





Restoration Fundraising

Yes, it's still ongoing and we can happily report that our outstanding balance is now under \$150,000 so one more push can clear the debt in 2023. Parishioners and others continue to be most generous and of course donations can qualify for tax exemption at the end of the financial year. There is a facility for this on the parish website or the Parish Office can provide EFTPOS for the purpose.

Thank you to our quiz supporters who added just over \$700 to the cause recently. You may be wondering about our Christmas raffle but time has not allowed us to get tickets printed and distributed and so this will be postponed into the new year (perhaps an Easter raffle!). In thanking those who have donated prizes we would still appreciate some more quality items, business vouchers or monetary gifts please.

Our committee recently considered a number of fund-raising events for 2023 and these will guarantee to entertain and interest all ages. Watch this space.

Our committee join to wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas.

David Winfield





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JOIN US ON A CELTIC CHRISTIANITY PILGRIMAGE THROUGH

England, Wales, Ireland & Scotland

APRIL 22nd - MAY 11th 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

On this comprehensive and unique 20-day pilgrimage you will:

- Visit well-known and less-visited sites, all important in the development of Celtic Christianity;
- Walk in the footsteps of the Celtic saints;
- Experience the heart of Celtic Christianity and learn of its relevance for today.

The pilgrimage includes time on the islands of Iona and Lindisfarne.

Two Retreats:

- 3 days on Iona
- Half day with Bishop Ellie Sanderson
previous Assistant
Bishop of Wellington
and now Bishop of Hull



The Chaplain:

Archbishop (Emeritus) Sir David Moxon

The Leaders:

Rev John Hornblow & Dr Jenny Boyack

This pilgrimage is offered in association with

Tours International (UK) www.tours-international.com

The fee for the pilgrimage (excluding international airfares)
is £4956 per person.



Keen to know more or Register?

Email: jennyjohnhornblow@gmail.com

Call: (+64) 021 437 566

Visit: www.pilgrimagenz.nz

for a full itinerary, other details and a registration form

Interested in a Franciscan Pilgrimage through Italy in 2025?

Email for initial details