

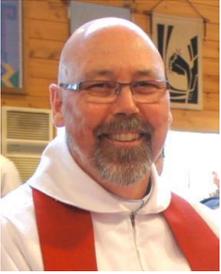


PARISH WEB

December 2021

St. George's Anglican Church

Gate Pa, Tauranga.



Kia tau ki a koutou te pai me te rangimārie o te Atua – May God's peace and goodness be upon you this Advent.

Like last year we need that peace and goodness. Last year was tough but we always got back to something like normal. And much of this year was the same, until August. And since then, we have had to negotiate our way through lockdowns, online church, zoom morning teas, masks in public, and doing church spaced with masks. Life has changed for the foreseeable future. For many of us this has all been very stressful. And now with the new traffic light system many of us are desperately trying to work out what all that means for Sundays, Christmas, and January.

We come to this Christmas tired and in need of God's restoration and peace. I hope Advent and Christmas will give us an opportunity to take a big breath and rest, immersing ourselves in the wonder of God's love, hope, peace and joy found in Jesus.

One of the big themes for Advent is hope. What does hope look like in this covid shaped world where at times it feels like everything is under threat?

Three years ago, I talked about Walter Brueggemann's suggestion that hope begins with honestly acknowledging the situation we are in¹. It seems more apt than even then to say that the world has changed and it is no longer business as usual. It is alright to acknowledge that the world seems very uncertain now, and to admit our feelings of insecurity, bewilderment, frustration, and even anger. It is ok to concede that we are tired and maybe stressed. When we do this, Brueggemann says, we can give voice to our lament, both to each other, and to God. He says that the Psalms are the vehicle we can use to help give voice to all that we are going through. I wonder what our prayer life looks like when shaped by this honest lament? Brueggemann says that only when we honestly grapple with our present reality and only when we allow our lament to have voice can we know real hope – a hope based on God. This is not an easy hope where God will fix everything through divine action. This is the hope born of the knowledge that God stands with us in lament, weeps with us in our despair. We are offered hope knowing that in the cross we are freed from the chains that hold us to our current ways of both seeing and living.

¹ [Reality, Grief, Hope by Walter Brueggemann](#)

Advent invites us to remember the story of God's coming among us in the incarnation of Jesus, taking time to recognise God's presence among us in the crucified and risen Christ, and to glimpse a vision for what our new future anchored in God's love might be. And we so need that this year. So may we all have the imagination, vision, and courage to receive the gift of hope, joy, peace and love this advent.

In a book of unpublished writings by Rachel Held-Evans entitled Whole Hearted Faith, Daniel Jonce Evans says, "But that's the thing about having vision. It's not about always being right about the future. It's about constantly learning what's right and striving for it.... Her (Rachel's) stubborn hope for a better future was all encompassing. She lived more life in her short time with us than most people twice her age. She prioritized doing well at what's important and she discarded her imperfections with the chaff of each day." Advent is a time for taking stock as we look ahead. This has been a tough year. What the next year looks like remains uncertain. So, as we name how this year has been, may we use this time to prioritise what is important, and discard our imperfections with the chaff of each day.

One of the things I have had to learn to do since becoming an archdeacon is to let go of some of my responsibilities, including some that gave me great joy. The diocese has allocated a budget for each parish with an archdeacon for the expenses of being an archdeacon, and to help provide some cover. Vestry decided to invite Rev Deborah Garret to work 6 hours a week as an associate priest in the parish. She began this role on October 1. Her responsibilities include

- being responsible for Sunday services once a month and taking the mid-week Tuesday morning service twice a month.
- being responsible for services at rest homes, including Radius Althorp and Fraser Manor
- offering pastoral care in conjunction with the Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator (Ainsley Max) and the Vicar.

I know that many of you have already appreciated receiving a phone call from Debbie over the last couple of months, and we look forward to her growing ministry in this community. Welcome Debbie.

In the vestry notes Clark has talked a little bit about how we have endeavoured to keep the praying and worshipping life of the parish going since August 16. It has been an evolving situation. Now that we are into the new Covid Protection Framework or traffic light system, I am hopeful that we can return to some kind of regular in-person rhythm and that people will return to church on Sunday mornings, and be willing to offer to be on the roster to be part of the ministry around our services. But this will not be as it was.

I have already emailed out the pastoral message from the Anglican Bishops, Tikanga Pākehā. In this letter the bishops said,

“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 ... 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... We are committed to supporting local Churches in finding ways to minister to all”.

Since then, our Standing Committee has met with the bishop, and we have entered the traffic light system at orange. In line with the bishops’ pastoral letter and the direction of Standing Committee and our bishop, from Sunday 5 December, unless otherwise stated, you will need to show a vaccine pass to attend church. We will livestream the 10am service each Sunday on YouTube and all are welcome to join us in that way.

For some of you this will be a relief. For others, it will be a cause of some pain. I am more than happy to talk with anyone who has any concerns about this. If you need help obtaining your vaccine pass, please ask.

Because we will be operating with vaccine passes many of our restrictions will be removed. There will be no limits on numbers or where you can sit. We will ask you to continue to wear a face mask during the service. We will continue to have communion in one kind (bread only). Singing quietly while wearing a mask will continue. We look forward to offering prayers for healing and morning tea once again. As we look ahead to the next weeks of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, we will be asking people to be part of the roster for the many roles in our services. You will, of course, need to be double vaccinated. For those on the roster we have a form that the diocese, at the request of the government, requires us to fill out with your vaccination status.

I will talk about what affect this will have on our Christmas services later.

As we enter into this season of Advent, I offer this final prayer

*Christ our Lord,
we ask you humbly to gather us under the wings of your love.
Keep us alive with the water of remorse,
the air of contemplation,
the fire of love
and the earth of humility,
so that we may join you,
who are life itself and blessed through all ages. Amen.²*

Peace and all good

John Hebert TSSF.

² Sermons 11.394, Anthony of Padua

Vestry Notes...



As we enter Advent 2021, celebrating Christmas this year is going to be different, Covid has made that decision for us, and so we will need to make the most of what we can do.

When we went back into level 3 lockdown church as we knew it stopped AGAIN, and even in level 2 we are not back to normal. Zoom, Facebook and YouTube were our only means of continuing with some form of church. This has been challenging for some of you and Vestry have been trying to help people with computers or smart phones to get on to the broadcasts, but many of us older folk have found it impossible to master. For the last couple of weeks we have been providing an 8.30 in-church service for those of us for whom on line wasn't working. We have been limiting the number attending to stay within the spacing requirements, and this has worked, then John has run the normal Zoom service following this church service.

For the first time in many months our AAW met in person at Le Chat Noir on the 16th November. Seven members attended. They hadn't been able to meet at church for quite a while due to level two requirements and it was lovely to see some members who we hadn't seen for a while and catch up in person. The AAW are looking forward to their Christmas Dinner. Details to be confirmed.

Covid is changing what we can do for Christmas services and our carol service. The choir is meeting in the church for carol practice, spaced apart and wearing masks when necessary. The carol service will be different. We are currently looking at running the carol service outdoors on the 12th December, weather permitting, at 4pm to allow people attending to be separated by at least 1 metre and masked with the choir doing all the singing and reading the lessons. More information will be in the pew sheets as we develop the service.

Vestry is still working through the logistics of these services and again more detail will be in the pew sheets nearer Christmas as we develop the programmes.

*From the Wardens
Clark Houltram*

Christmas Market

Our **Market Day** will be now held in December. This will be our major fundraiser for the year having been postponed following the **cancelled** Blossom Festival in September. Now is the time to sort out *books, bric-a-brac, toys and games, accessories, jewellery, furniture, china, glassware, quality clothing* and preserves. These can be dropped off at St Georges during office hours or before/after Sunday services. We are also selling *sweets and cakes and produce* . These can be brought to the church lounge on Friday 17th. We would like more people to help on the stalls and someone to run the sausage sizzle. Please contact me if you can help. We look forward to a great fundraiser. Thank you in anticipation.

Faye Mayo

Peoples Warden

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fayemayo06@gmail.com



St George's Christmas Market

**SATURDAY 18TH DECEMBER
9AM-12 NOON**

**CENTREPOINT CARPARK
CHADWICK RD**

**BOOKS, PRODUCE,
CLOTHING, BRIC-A
BRAC, FURNITURE.**

The poster features a green Christmas tree with yellow and red ornaments on the left, a green-bordered box with market items in the center, and a blue and gold decorative ornament on the right.



Here at Merivale Whanau Aroha, one of our priorities of learning this year is ***Healthy Food, Healthy Bodies and Active Movement***. One of the ways we encourage our tamariki in being active, is participating in swimming lessons for 6 weeks each term. We take 2 groups of 6 children along to Greerton Aquatic Centre and our instructor is Andrea from Tauranga Swim School. This is a great regular activity our children love to participate in.



They learn to get themselves ready with their swimming bag, being safe travelling in the centre's van, participating in a group setting. In the pool we practice blowing our bubbles, floating like a starfish on our backs, diving for rings and using a noodle for a flotation device – until we don't need it anymore. We are very fortunate to have a great facility so close to us.



Centrepoint Catchup:



Level 2 at Centrepoint means that things have to be done a little differently. All of the donations are required to be stored for 72 hours before they enter the shop for sorting. This means a lot of double handling and double the work, We are restricted to 10 people on site at any time to allow for physical distancing. This is achieved by keeping staff numbers to 5 and the same for customers, and although most

customer are usually ok with this we have had a few telling us that is ridiculous and walk away. Mask wearing in the shop is required, customers are ok with this. I must admit that wearing a mask all day whilst working has not been easy, especially now it is getting warmer.

The shop is now full of lots of Christmas treasures and these are selling well. It always amazes me the amount of Christmas donations that we receive. These usually start arriving in early Jan as people take down their decoration and trees and continue throughout the year. It is quite a big job sorting and pricing but we always manage to get it into the shop in early November and the customers love it.

Tommy Wilson from Te Tuinga Whanau has commissioned artists to paint a very large mural on one of the exterior walls of the Centrepoint building. This mural is significant to the Greerton/Gate Pa area. Its subject is the historical Maori figure Henare Wiremu Taratoa who was credited with treating wounded British soldiers with consideration and courtesy after the Battle of Gate Pa in 1864 and drafting the `Orders of the Day`. He was an Anglican.

Although the Cherry Blossom Festival was cancelled this year due to Covid, the window dressing competition still went ahead. Window dressing is sort of my thing and we were lucky to win this for the second year running. No pressure for next year! The prize was \$750 worth of advertising in the Weekend Sun. The main exposure we receive is the small article that the Sun run about winning. This has

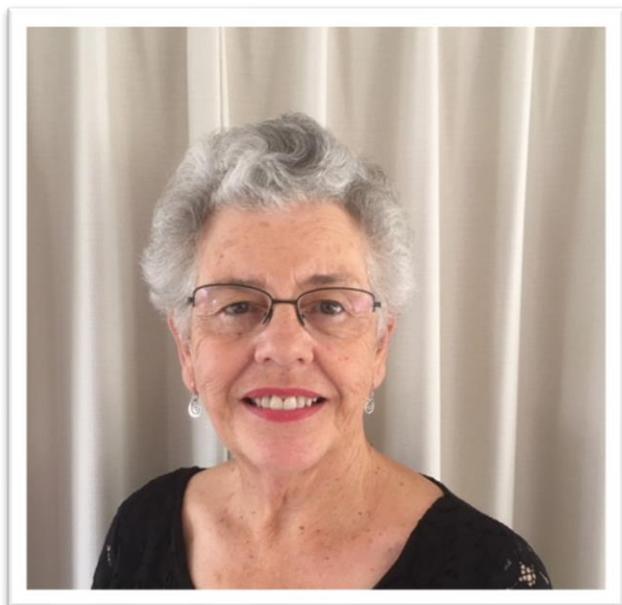
been evident from the amount of people that have commented and congratulated me, saying that they read it in the paper,
Well, Christmas is nearly upon us and this crazy year is coming to an end. All of the volunteers look forward to our Christmas lunch. We will be thanking everyone who gives of their time and energy to keep Centrepont operating including our Management committee with a meal at the Oak Tree Restaurant in Greerton. This is always a fun but casual affair and instead of secret Santa gifts everyone is asked to bring along a donation for the food bank. Last year was the first time that we did this and we were amazed at how generous everyone was and an impressive amount including cash was passed on to this worthy cause.

A big THANK YOU to all of you that have helped us out this year! As a volunteer, a customer or you have donated items. I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy less crazy New Year.

Kate
Centrepont Manager



Introducing Debbie Garrett



I have strong connections to three countries – South Africa where I was born, England which is my heritage and Aotearoa New Zealand which has been home for all but three years of my life. I also have strong connections to two churches named St George. I grew up in Hamilton and attended St George's Church in Frankton. When my parents Buster and Muriel Dean moved to Oropi soon after Barry and my wedding in 1973 they joined the Parish of St George's Gate Pa, and it became my go to church

whenever we visited Tauranga.

When I left school, I learnt shorthand typing. A position was advertised for a shorthand typist at Church House in Hamilton, and I was thrilled when I was offered the job. My faith was paramount in my life from an early age, and at last I was working for God. I loved my time at Church House and especially helping at Synod, which in those days only involved men dressed in black!

From about eight years of age, I had been saving up to go back to South Africa to see where I had come from. So, after two and half years working at Church House I set off on my big OE. I stayed in South Africa for a wonderful three months meeting family and seeing the sights before returning to Aotearoa to get married.

After my marriage I attended St Francis Cooperating Parish in Hillcrest. When our youngest child went to school I took on the role of parish secretary at St Aidan's Church and then a few years later became the parish secretary at St Francis' Hillcrest. I was extremely excited when, in 1977, women were given the go ahead to become priests as I had begun to sense a call to the priesthood. *(If you are interested in reading the story about my call to the priesthood you will find it in the book Talanoa Telling our stories Korerohia a tatou purakau 40 years of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood in the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.)*

We moved to Welcome Bay in 1990 when Barry was made redundant from his job with Radio New Zealand. I was working for the NZ Fire Service and every Thursday

on the way home from work I would go to the 5.30 pm Thursday Holy Communion service Joyce Crawford took at St George's. In 1991 I began exploring my sense of call to the priesthood. It became a possibility in 1993 when I was accepted, and we moved to St John's Theological College the following year. Being at St John's was a highlight of my life and it certainly brought me out of my shell. After completing my Bachelor of Theology Degree in 1997 I was sent to Napier Cathedral. In 2000 I became the priest-in-charge of the Edgecumbe-Kawerau Parish and then in 2003 I was appointed vicar of St Chad's West New Plymouth.

Barry had been unwell with heart problems for many years and was quite frail, so in August 2014 I retired early to care for him. He died ten months later. I wasn't ready to be involved parish life then as I was exhausted, so I went to St John's Otumoetai. During the interregnum I assisted the Reverend Geoff Crawshaw who was priest in charge. Last year I decided I was ready to return to a more active church life, so I made the move back to St George's Gate Pa.

I have two children, both of whom live in Australia. My son Simon lives on the Gold Coast and works in the building industry, particularly with cladding. My daughter Penny lives in Melbourne. She and her partner Jase who is Greek, have a three-month-old baby boy named Aloe. Jase is a graphic designer and is building up his own business working from home. Penny was in the photography business and worked in a large printing company in Melbourne prior to having her baby. I'm also a great grandmother as Simon's daughter had a baby a few weeks after Penny. There is only a 22-year age difference between the two new mothers!!

I have a brother, Mark Dean. He and his wife Esme set up Naturally Native New Zealand Plants based in Oropi. I have a four-legged family living with me – a Border Collie dog called Ruby because we got her in our Ruby wedding anniversary year. Ruby and I have been going to agility training at Moreland Fox Park ever since we came back to Tauranga. If she had a better trainer, she would have been a champion, but I lack coordination and can't run as fast as she does! I walk Ruby for at least an hour six days a week, usually around the Lakes. I am a passionate animal lover – they are my babies! I have two 14-year-old Thai cats, male and female, who came from Australia. When I was at St Chad's they would come into the services sometimes and on one occasion the male, who was a kitten then, leapt on the altar three times while I was doing the Great Thanksgiving Prayer. It was too much for one parishioner who picked him up and shut him outside.

I also enjoy gardening and grow my own vegetables. I've been a "book-a-holic" since childhood and am an avid reader of spiritual books and novels. Becoming a priest was great because I got a book allowance every year – not for novels though. I can

knit and sew but don't do either these days probably because I struggle with numbers and maths. I enjoy keeping fit and go to the gym twice a week. I love travelling and have been Australia many times, to the UK three times and to various countries in Europe on three separate trips. The only island I've been to in the South Pacific is Vanuatu.

I am enjoying being back at St George's and getting to know you all. Thank you for your warm welcome and the opportunity to take on the role as priest assistant to Archdeacon/Vicar John.

Debbie Garrett

"THERE IS NO ROSE" –
a 15TH Century hymn honouring Mary.

*There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesus.*

Alleluia.

*And in this rose contained was
Heaven and earth in little space.*

*Resmiranda. **

*And by that rose we may well see
That he is God in persons three.*

*Pariforma. **

*The angels sang the shepherds to
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Gaudeamus. **

*And leave we all this worldly mirth
And follow this joyful birth.*

*Transeamus. **

*There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesus.*

Alleluia.

** Resmiranda: a wonderful thing.*

Pariforma. Of the same form.

Gaudeamus: Let us rejoice. Transeamus. Let us go.





Imagining the future of Greerton Greerton Maarawaewae Study

Tauranga City Council is inviting our community to tell it what we think would be the best use of the land, presently occupied by the Tauranga Golf Club and the Tauranga Racecourse, over the next 10 – 50 years. The options on the table include keeping the reserve land use as it currently is – or making changes that improve access for a wider range of uses and users. One of the options is to put housing on all or some of this land.

It is important to aware that, in 2019 representatives of Envirohub Bay of Plenty, whose regional network spans Katikati, Rotorua, Taupo, Tauranga, and Te Puke, were in London to support the launch of London’s National Park City programme and to sign the National Park Cities Charter. The National Park Cities movement aims to apply national park principles and values to urban environments, promoting nature and re-wilding towns and cities as vital to health and wellbeing. This event was marked by an article in The Weekend Sun dated Friday 26 July 2019. In that article Envirohub Bay of Plenty representatives Laura Wragg and Geoff Canham were quoted as saying: “While the National Park City concept is what we are modelling our programme on, we want to take it beyond just one city to the whole of the Bay of Plenty. We’re aiming to give residents the opportunity to become more connected to nature and to enjoy all the benefits that go with that... It is about creating more green spaces so we can all access nature closer to where we live and work.”

Laura Wragg explained in the article, that the National Park Cities Charter includes committing to:

- A city which is greener in the long-term than it is today and where people and nature are better connected
- A city which protects its core network of parks and green spaces and where buildings and public spaces are not defined only by stone, brick, concrete, glass, and steel
- A city that is rich with wildlife
- A city where every child benefits from exploring, playing, and learning outdoors

- A city where all can enjoy high quality green spaces, clean air, clean waterways and where more people choose to walk and cycle.



If we, who live in this beautiful city of Tauranga, are going to “walk the talk” and fulfil our obligations as a signee to the National Park City concept, we cannot, under any circumstances, allow the land, currently leased from the Government, and occupied by the Tauranga racecourse and Tauranga Golf Club, to be used for housing.

This land is precious to our city! Once it is gone, it is gone for ever, and we will have lost a once in a lifetime opportunity to provide this city with a large green space that could, at some time in the future, be developed into a beautiful “inner city” park, the likes of which are seen in cities around the world, such as London’s Hyde Park, New York’s Central Park, and Melbourne’s Royal Botanic Gardens located just south of the CBD. Closer to home we have Hagley Park in Christchurch, and Pukekura Park in New Plymouth to name just a couple.

From an environmental perspective green space is vital to our health and wellbeing. It also helps to clean air and lower carbon emissions. A city park would achieve all these things and more and be an enormous asset to our beautiful city. The land on which the racecourse and golf club is situated is asking for this vision to become a reality.

This is a critical issue for this city so please send in your thoughts and ideas to the Tauranga City Council. Google Tauranga City Council Greerton Maarawaewae Study the council your thoughts and ideas. You could also write a letter or submission. This needs to be done by Christmas.

Debbie Garrett

CREATION'S GIFT OF THE GLORIOUS COLOURS OF CHRISTMAS.

Our native Pohutukawa tree, so glorious with its dramatic red flowers, tinged with gold against the dark green leaves and gnarled trunk has become a loved Aotearoa New Zealand Christmas symbol.

The rich reds, greens and golds of the Christmas Season have a history worth reflecting on as the major celebration colours of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. Yule cards, book illustrations and decorations feature red and green predominantly with gold and ivory-white not far behind in popularity. Blue (Mary's robe traditionally) is not so prevalent in use.

The red berries of dark, shiny, green-leaved holly; the jade and forest green tones of evergreen trees and climbers have been favoured for background- foliage for centuries as homes, halls and churches were festooned for the Christmas Season. Hence the natural link with the Pohutakawa.

This 'holy' colour scheme has expanded to the use of poinsettias, carnations, roses, crab apple, pomegranates, crimson-skinned apples to name but a few. And this cheerful combination extends to using red tartans and red and white plaids as expressions of hope and joy. In Australia, the bottle brush, the eucalypt and other gum trees align wonderfully with the festive colour scheme. So too, do certain creatures: the robin red-breast; red canary; rosellas and the cardinal bird – different countries with symbolic birds. The gold breast of our wax-eye birds would make it an apt Christmas or Easter symbol.

So, what connection do these festive colours have with Palestine and the story of the birth of Jesus? Gold – the colour of the Bethlehem Star, of haloes, of the Magi's gift must be one of the truest colours of Christmas worship and decoration. Green is for new growth and hope but also for ruggedness. So the Cedars and Palm trees of the Middle East may have been the inspiration for later Europeans to use foliage extensively for decoration (as they had in pre-Christian times) and for the popularity of Christmas trees. Yet, although dry lands like Palestine have few trees, Holy Land churches have adopted the green tree symbolism also. I attended a Christmas Service in Ramallah, West Bank, which had a highly decorated Christmas tree in the Sanctuary. Similar trees were in Civic as well as worship spaces within the region.

As for red, the native flowers of Palestine include vivid red anemones and wild red poppies. The bible story of the Burning Bush and the Red Sea are simple connections. Bright red is the dominant colour of the brilliant cross-stitch embroidery created as articles by women in both ancient and present days. Within the symbolic shapes are hints of green, gold and blue. This comprehensive embroidery work remains a core activity of Palestinian women's lives. Some of the

sewn symbolism is of cedar trees and native flowers. I purchased several samples when in Palestine/Israel and have a book giving the history of this craft work. Words of a prayer for the U.N. Environmental Sabbath refer to: “the beauty of the world robed in all its splendour declaring the glory of God.” The Pohutukawa tree with its crimson red flowers sprinkled with gold against glossy green, is an example of such splendour and a superb Christmas symbol declaring the story of the infant Jesus. For this, we Aotearoans, can be grateful.

Glenn J Barclay



Fatal Passage

by Ken McGoogan

This was a book I would not have selected for myself but was recommended by a friend after we had been discussing Sir Ernest Shackleton and his epic expedition one day.

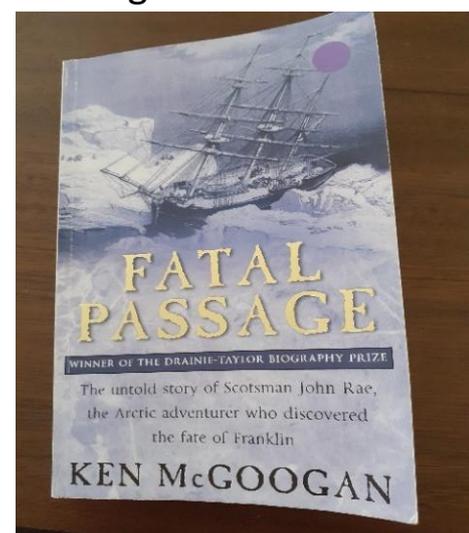
It is the biography of Scotsman Dr John Rae who lived in the mid to late 1800's. As an experienced Arctic explorer he was sent to find what had happened to the missing explorer Sir John Franklin and the members of his Arctic expedition. They had been sent to find the North West Passage that was being sought as a trade route by British and American interests.

During Rae's search over many miles of mostly undiscovered Arctic territory he found out what had happened to Franklin and his men.

On returning to England he gave a report on his findings but because of the contents, was vilified by many powerful people in English society including Charles Dickens. He never received the recognition he so rightly deserved for not only finding out about the Franklin Expedition but for discovering the Northwest Passage. He was a very brave man and resourceful man who was well ahead of his time. This book truly puts him in his place in the history of Arctic Exploration along with other great explorers.

The book won the Drainie-Taylor Biography Prize
I highly recommend this book as a gripping read.

Faye Mayo



OUR NEW ALPHABET

Miriam Peevor

A is for apple and B is for Boat,
That used to be right, but now it won't float.
Age before beauty is what we once said,
But let's be a bit more realistic instead.

Now, A's for arthritis; B's the bad back,
C's the chest pains, perhaps cardiac.
D is for dental decay and decline,
E is for eyesight, can't read that top line.

F is for fissures and fluid retention,
G is for gas which I'd rather not mention.
H high blood pressure--I'd rather it low;
I for incisions with scars you can show.

J is for joints, out of socket, won't mend,
K is for knees that crack when they bend.
L for lethargy, what happened to vim?
M is for memory, I forget! what comes next?

N is neuralgia, in nerves way down low;
O is for osteo, bones that don't grow!
P for prescriptions, I have quite a few,
Just give me a pill and I'll be good as new.

Q is for queasy, is it fatal or flu?
R is for reflux, one meal turns to two.
S is for sleepless nights, counting my fears,
T is for Tinnitus; bells in my ears.

U is for urinary; troubles with flow;
V for vertigo, that's 'dizzy,' you know.
W for worry, now what's going 'round?
X is for X ray, and what might be found.

Y for another year I'm left here behind,
Z is for zest I still have -- in my mind.

I've survived all the symptoms my body's deployed,
And I've kept twenty-six doctors fully employed!
May your troubles be less, be your blessings more,
And nothing but happiness come through your door



Leche Flan

Due to my love of cooking and eating. I would like to share with you my favourite Christmas Dessert back home. Leche Flan is a famous dessert in my country, Philippines. This classic dessert is made-up of eggs and milk (the “leche” means milk) with caramel on top. It is like soft crème caramel in Europe, but the difference is, we use evaporated milk and condensed milk instead of cream to achieve the creamy and rich flavour flan. Warning: This is deliciously addictive, easy to prepare, and last a long time.

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 35 minutes
Total Time: 45 minutes
Servings: 15 people
Calories: 287 calories



Ingredients:

10 egg yolks
1 can condensed milk
1 cup evaporated milk
1 cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Instruction:

- Place the egg yolks in a big bowl and beat them using a fork or an eggbeater.
- Add the condensed milk and mix thoroughly.
- Add the evaporated milk and the vanilla. Mix well.
- Put the leche flan mould/ any cooking pan on top of the stove over low fire.
- Pour-in the granulated sugar inside the mould/pan and mix thoroughly until the granulated sugar turns into caramel.
- Spread the caramel evenly into the leche flan mould.
- Wait for 5 minutes to cool down. Then, pour the egg yolk and milk mixture into the mould.

- Cover the top of the moulder with an aluminium foil.
- Steam the mould with the egg and milk mixture for 30 to 35 minutes.
- After steaming, let the temperature cool down. Then, refrigerate.

Share and enjoy!

Where did Leche flan come from?

From the 1500s, the Spaniards colonized the Philippines for about 300 years, the Spanish influences had permeated many aspects of the Philippine culture which includes the cooking.

During the Spanish colonization, several Catholic missionaries came over to build churches in the Philippines. They largely used egg whites to build most of these churches as a strong adhesive when mixed with quicklime. The Spaniards found ways to use the egg yolks, sugar and fresh milk, and this was how the leche flan was discovered. The original name of this dessert was “leche de flan”. The English translation is “milk flan”. With time, it was shortened to leche flan.

When the American colonization took place, it also contributed some changes in Leche flan because of the canned goods, such as condensed milk and evaporated milk. When the classic leche flan added with condensed milk and evaporated milk, the result is a heavenly tasteful, rich, dense taste and the texture of the dessert is appetizing.

Nevi Fernandez
Parish Administrator





From The Registers:

Deaths:



Volunteers wanted

Make a New Year's Resolution of Volunteering in your Community!
If you have a few hours free each week and would like to join us, call in and have a talk to Kate. We would love to hear from you.

Flexible hours and days shifts

Able bodied double vaccinated people to assist in the shop.

Call into the shop and speak to Kate or phone: 578 7298





The uncertainty around traffic lights and Covid has meant that this year Christmas will be a little different and a lot simpler for us at St. George's. We hope we are able to cope with any changes that might happen in the coming weeks. Some of our traditional events have been simplified. Some have been rearranged to make them “all welcome”. Some might be online or possibly not occur at all. And on Christmas and Boxing day we will offer the same service. You just need to pick one. So, what does Christmas look like this year?

- **Carols on the Lawn December 12 at 4pm.** (new time and new place). All are welcome (no vaccine pass needed). Our carol service will be shorter and simpler than usual, and it will be outside on the back lawn beside the church. It will be a grand celebration of carols from around the world. Some carols will be sung by the choir and some by everyone. Bring your own masks (to be worn at all times), blankets and chairs. Some seating will be provided. **If wet postponed until 19th December.**
- **Follow the Star** walk through experience for families, **Christmas Eve (24 December) from 4-6pm.** All are welcome (no vaccine pass needed) to spend around 30 minutes making, eating, reading, watching and taking home ways to think about Christmas. Masks to be worn by those over 12 at all times
- **Christmas Services:** All services with Vaccine passes.
 - There will be no midnight service this year. There is a possibility of an online event
 - One service on **Christmas Day at 9am**, and the same service on **Boxing Day at 9am.**
- **January** - There will be one service each Sunday at 9am during our summer together. Vaccine passes will need to be shown to join us, sorry.

MERRY
christmas





Christmas 2021



at
St. George's Anglican Church

Carol Service on the lawn
12th December 2021 at 4:00pm

**St George's Carols
on the Lawn**

**SUNDAY
12TH
DECEMBER
AT 4PM**

ALL ARE WELCOME! POP ON
YOUR MASK, BRING ALONG A
BLANKET OR A CHAIR FOR A
CELEBRATION OF CAROLS
FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

FACEBOOK.COM/GATEPAANGLICAN
STGEORGESGATEPA.COM

NO Midnight Communion Service

There is a possibility of an online event





Follow the Star



Christmas Eve
24th December 2021
at 4:00pm to 6:00pm



Christmas Day Friday 25th December
One Service at 9:00am



Boxing Day Service 26th December 2021
One Service at 9:00am



We highly appreciate your insights and helpful comments on the Parish Web. This will help us improve the contents' quality. Please write your comments and suggestions on the space below and send it to the Parish Office or email at admin.gate.pa@waiapu.com



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We wish everyone a MERRY CHRISTMAS!



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