



PARISH WEB

June 2021

St. George's Anglican Church

Gate Pa, Tauranga.



Vicar's Blog

This year is just racing through. We are in June already. In our liturgical year we have finished with Christmas-Epiphany, Lent and Easter. Now we have entered “Ordinary Time”, which means "not seasonal." Christmas and Easter highlight the central mysteries of Christ, namely, the incarnation, death on the cross, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, and the coming anew of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Sundays and weeks of Ordinary Time take us through the life of Christ and is a time of ongoing living the life of Christ as individuals and as a parish. It is a time of growth and maturation. It is also about paying attention to God's activity and presence in the ordinary everyday moments, for example whenever we eat bread and have a drink of wine.

To help us do that we are celebrating our harvest festival on June 27. We give thanks for God's gift of this planet, and all life, and God's generosity in the food we eat. We give thanks for farmers and orchardists, all those who work in the agricultural sector, and in all ways food comes to our local shops and supermarkets. And as we gather for our harvest festival, we are invited to give thanks for God's goodness each time we buy our groceries, or harvest from our garden - the ordinary things of life. And we might also acknowledge the ways our lifestyles damage this world and impoverish others and contribute to climate change.

On August 15th we will celebrate our “Patronal Festival - not on St. George's Day (April 23) but on the Sunday closest to when we became a parish in 1962. It is a chance to remind ourselves of the story of Hori

Tapu, and of the many faithful people who have been part of this church community over the last 120 years who lived in response to God's goodness in the big moments, and in the everyday moments of their lives.

Sadly, over the next couple of weeks we will farewell two people who have greatly contributed to the life of this parish. On June 13th we are farewellling Ava Gardner. Ava has quietly made significant contributions to our life as a liturgist, healer, Synod and Regional Conference representative, and vestry member. I have greatly appreciated her faithfulness, her quiet efficiency and attention to detail. Go well in your move and as you establish a new life in Palmerston North Ava.

And at the end of this month Patricia is leaving us for full time work. While it is a good move for Patricia is a sad day for us. Patricia has immersed herself in our life as a parish. Not only has she been super-efficient as parish administrator, making sure everything is running smoothly and well, but she has been part of the fundraising committee and was a key organiser for the amazing art exhibition last year. She has also become a greatly valued member of the Centrepoint team and Management Committee. We will have a morning tea and thank Patricia after the Harvest Festival on June 27th. Vestry has begun the process of finding a new parish administrator. If you would like to donate towards a thankyou gift please see one of the wardens.

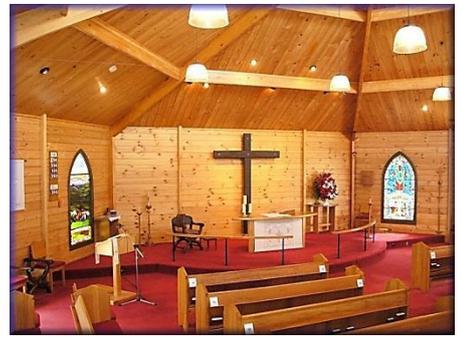
As I write this, we are preparing for vestry to meet for a parish planning day. We will spend time looking at the best experiences of being a parish last year, and then use those to evaluate our goals for the next five years and who we want to be in the future. We will map out the next few steps from this point on. Each year it is exciting to see us achieving our short term goals. Underlying all this is a desire to grow in who we are in Christ. This work is not about keeping St. Georges going, but about us growing in our life in God through this ordinary time.

If you have any questions or comments, please talk to me, the wardens or any of the vestry..

Peace and all good

John Hebert PSSF.

Vestry Notes...



May 2021

We are now into winter and 5 months into 2021, does not time fly when you're having fun!!!

Vestry have been meeting as usual monthly and have been working well.

Our commitment to Kai Aroha has been changing over the first part of this year as Kai Aroha change the way they have been providing food on Friday evenings at Greerton Hall. Since the upgrading of the Greerton Hall kitchen, Happy Puku have been providing the cooking and our involvement has been reduced to provide one course and some home baking with Happy Puku doing the heating and serving.

We have made an application to the Diocese for money to assist Kai Aroha with some cooking equipment and funds for the purchase of food. This has been granted and will be an ongoing funding for food when it is our turn to cater.

As mentioned, before we have been investigating the installation of a Peace Pole on our site. While we have agreed to installing one this is progressing slowly. We are investigating getting artwork for the languages instead of printed. Watch this space!

The Council's move to provision of rubbish bins to residences has meant as a church we are not covered by the new bins and our current rubbish collection service will stop in July. This has meant we needed to look at how our rubbish will be collected after the current collections stop. We have decided we will employ Kleena Bins on a fortnightly basis to collect general rubbish from July onwards. They were the cheapest contractor and came with great reviews.

Maintenance has also been ongoing through the last few months.

Additional CCTV camera's have been installed to cover the blind spots we identified once the initial installation was operating. These new camera's are outside, focusing on the driveway and our storage shed, which unfortunately keeps having the door kicked in.

To comply with Health and Safety, you may have noticed a new fence has been erected on the Church Street, side of our buildings. This protects people from falling on to the lower driveway which leads to the St Francis Shelter flat.

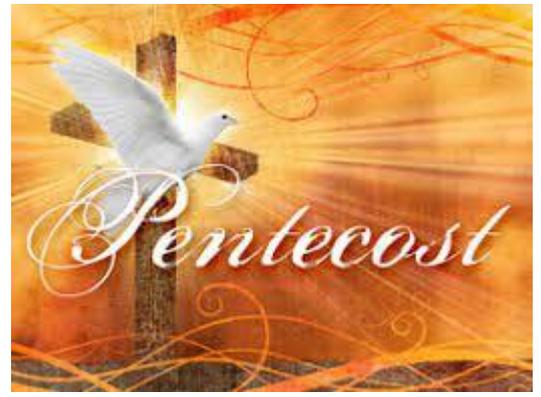
We have also had an on-going issue with leaking in the church foyer. This we think (fingers crossed), has finally been sorted out and Patricia will not have to worry about the condition of the foyer every time we have a good downpour.



Thanks, must be given to the Vestry committee who oversee these repairs and the funding required for them.

Clark Houltram (Vicar's Warden)

Pentecost



When was the last time
that we heard the wind of your spirit
roar through this place?

When was the last time
your fire lit up this room?

When was the last time
we took you at your word and met together in expectation
of your spirit filling this place,
and these lives with your Glory and Power?

Lord you challenge us with Pentecost.

Do we believe that this was once an eternity experience never to be
repeated?

That the Holy Spirit was poured out
on your followers for a single purpose
and ended His work at that instant?

If so, then maybe that is why the Church seems so
powerless in this age,
helpless when faced with the needs
both spiritual and physical,
that we see in the world.

Lord as we meet together and celebrate once again
the memory of that first Pentecost,
may it be for us as it was then,
a moment of empowerment,
an awareness of your Glory in this dark world
a life changing experience.

by John Birch

I found this poem and thought I would share it with everyone. - Faye Mayo (People's Warden)

Bell rings 60 times to commemorate Gate Pa battle

(Reproduced from the Weekend Sun).

As St George's church bell rang out 60 times from the tower in Gate Pa, three cadets stood at attention and heads were partly bowed as people silently reflected on the Battle of Pukehinahina 157 years ago.

Commemorations were held on Thursday afternoon for the Battle of Gate Pa. Services began at 4pm.

Before the bells rang out, Rev'd John Heberton welcomed everyone to the commemoration service and led the reflections on the battle.

As well as members of the public, the service was also attended by Tauranga MP Simon Bridges, Labour list MPs Angie Warren-Clark and Jan Tinetti, and Tauranga commissioners Anne Tolley, Shadrach Rolleston and Bill Wasley.



Kanarahi Poharama, 10, and her cousin Kororia Ngatai, 11, both from Merivale School, spoke about their great-great-great-great-grandfather Taiaho Ngatai.

Ngatai Road in Otumoetai is named for him, and for the pa that was once there.

A time of reflection followed with an audio-visual presentation featuring sand art by Marcus Winter and a further audio-visual presentation of historical photos. During this time, the bell rang out 60 times.

The Battle of Gate Pa, also known as the Battle of Pukehinahina, fought near Tauranga on April 29, 1864, was notable for the ferocity of the fighting, the repulse of the British forces, and an act of chivalry by one of the defenders, Heni Te Kiri Karamu, who at some risk to her own life gave water to a dying British officer and other wounded men.

There are several memorials to the participants in Mission Cemetery in Marsh Street. These include the Tauranga 1st Waikato Militia NZ Wars memorial, Tauranga 43rd Regiment NZ Wars memorial, Tauranga Naval NZ Wars memorial, individual memorials to Hori Ngatai and Rawiri Puhirake, and the Tauranga Maori NZ Wars memorial.

The pa site was garrisoned by men of the 68th Regiment after the battle, and by the colonial Armed Constabulary in the late 1860s.

In the 1870s the redoubt was abandoned, Cameron Road was cut through the site, and the remaining trenches were filled in.

As Peri Kohu prayed for the future of Tauranga, the theme of reconciliation came through his words, and he was followed by *LTCDR Garth Mathieson*, who read out the naval prayer in Maori and by *SLT Justin Young* who read it in English.



NZ Army officer and military historian Cliff Simons who is also a member of St George's church prayed remembering Maori and Pakeha who fought and died at Gate Pa 157 years ago.

His prayer included acknowledgment of the emotional suffering for the families from both sides, and that society would turn from violence to peace. Cliff has [co-authored a book](#) on the history of the battle.



Rev'd John Heberton introduced *Puhirake Ihaka* who spoke of how Rawiri Puhirake who was born about 1808 at the foot of Mauao had been captured in 1818 as still a young boy and taken up north.

There, near the Bay of Islands, he was trained in the art of warfare along with two others, and on returning to Tauranga about a decade later in their early 20s, the proficiency at warfare and trench construction became a significant factor during the Battle of Gate Pa.

When Rawiri died, he was taken from where he fell back home to Matapihi where he laid for 50 years, before being moved to the Mission Cemetery in Marsh Street, where a monument was erected in his honour. The service ended in prayer, followed by refreshments in the attached church hall.



Ordinary Cadet Ward, Petty Officer Bielby and Able Cadet Ward from TS Chatham stood at attention while the bells rang 60 times. Photos: Rosalie Liddle Crawford



Jesus teaching about branches and vine.

For Easter 5, Bonnie and the children created this wall hanging showing the vines of the Parish.

Many parishioners have signed it. Can you find your name? _____





Centrepoint Catchup

Tauranga Special School Community College Class (TC3)

Our class is above the St Geroges Centrepoint Opportunity Shop and we come to school by taxi. we are aged

between 18 – 21 years old.

We do jobs to help the community. The shop give us old t shirts and with the help of our Teacher Aides we cut them up for rags for the mechanics to use. We also help with gardens.

The money we raise enables us to go on trips. Sometimes we have bought clothes from the shop. We enjoy it when the people from the shop talk to us. It is good to meet new people.

Being part of the GreertonCommnity we are able to visit shops and put into practice the life skills we are learning.

We made red poppies for ANZAC day and Kate and Julie used them to decorate the Opportunity Shop.



Each week we go to Sulphur Point and go sailing with Tauranga Sailablity. We wear life jackets to keep ourselves safe and the adults show us how to sail.

We have started a new fitness programme. As part of our Cross Country training we walk round the block. Sometimes we do exercises in the classroom – maybe the shop hear us thumping above them!

I would like to thank the students of Tauranga Special School for their thoughtful and informative article they have written for this edition of the Parish Web. (Patricia, Parish Administrator)

Volunteer Now

Can you spare up to 4 hours per week?

Join a fantastic group of like-minded souls, who love giving back to their community.

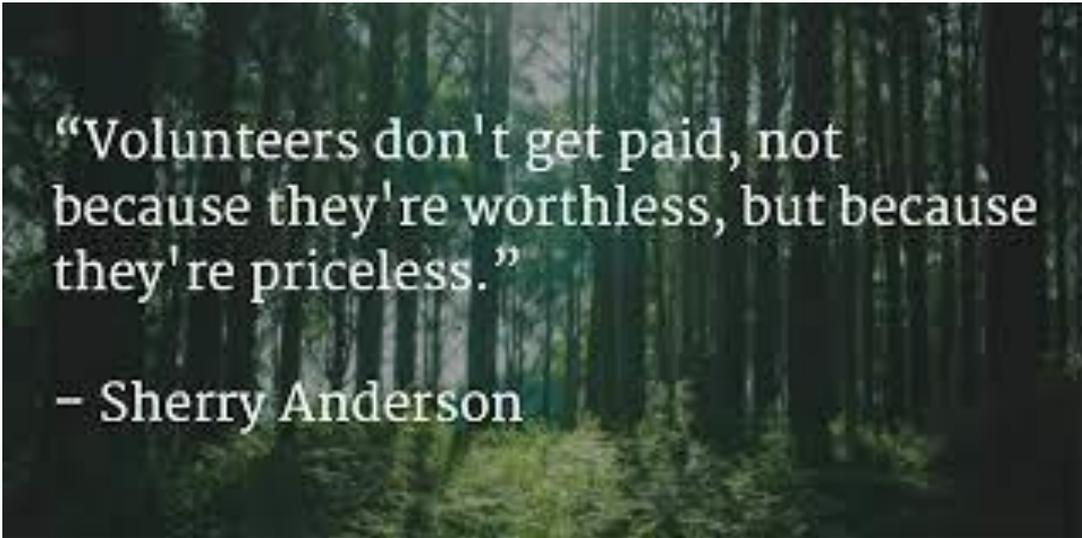
A safe, friendly environment with laughter to make for a relaxing work-place.

Profits go back into our local community.

Centrepont Opportunity Shop

**184 Chadwick Road, Greerton
(next to Greerton School)**

Phone Kate: 578-7298



“Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless.”

– Sherry Anderson

Good Friday Walk of Witness

The Ecumenical Good Friday Service. This is a silent procession of witness. It is a time for meditation as we walk with the Lord on the road to Calvary.

The Walk of Witness was on a gloriously sunny Easter Friday morning. The crystal-clear sky contrasted with the solemn procession that followed the “cross”, from Holy Trinity in Devonport Road, down 5th Avenue, along Cameron Road, finishing at St Mary’s Immaculate.

Dianne Elliott said the readings; Luke 23: 26-31 Simon of Cyrene and the Women of Jerusalem, at the 2nd stop along the route. A beautiful reflection was also read by Mihi Reid, at the same stop.

I look into his face and contemplate his struggle. His weariness and fragility. His impotence. I see how he looks at Simon, with utmost humility and gratitude.

I look at their faces. So full of love and gratitude, loss and fear. I contemplate what words might have passed between them.

I remember all his tender, compassionate, merciful love for me. I place myself with these women and children to support him.

This is for me. So, I let this scene stir up deep gratitude.



Calling All Gardeners

Do you have green fingers?

Is your garden a thing of beauty?

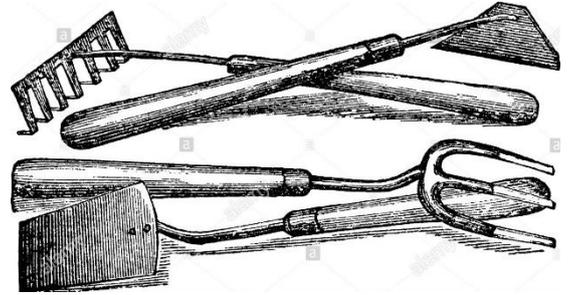
Do you like nothing better than spending time with plants?

WE NEED YOU to become part of St George's Garden team. A roster of keen gardeners or anyone else who would like to help with this task is being made. Could this be your ministry for the parish?

If you can spare an hour or two once a month or even every two months helping maintain our grounds and gardens, please let me know (see below) or sign up on the sheet in the foyer. I will send the roster out once we have our team. Thank you.

Faye Mayo Peoples' Warden

5433369 fayemayo06@gmail.com



@ St. Georges 2021

7pm on 25th July

7pm on 3rd October - Remembering St Francis

7pm on 28th November - Advent

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

1 Church St, Tauranga

Office 07 578 7916

A Poem by Edward Heselden

I am me because you are you.

*My eyes are brown
because yours are blue.*

*I use my left hand
because you use your right.*

*If it wasn't for darkness
there would be no light.*

*If it wasn't for space
there would be no form.*

*Death would not exist
if life wasn't the norm.*

*By now I hope we're beginning to see
That we depend on otherness for our reality.*

*So never scorn your neighbour
treat everyone as a friend.*

Be for them a safe harbour.

For our existence is inseparable from them. (courtesy of the Heselden family)

From The Registers



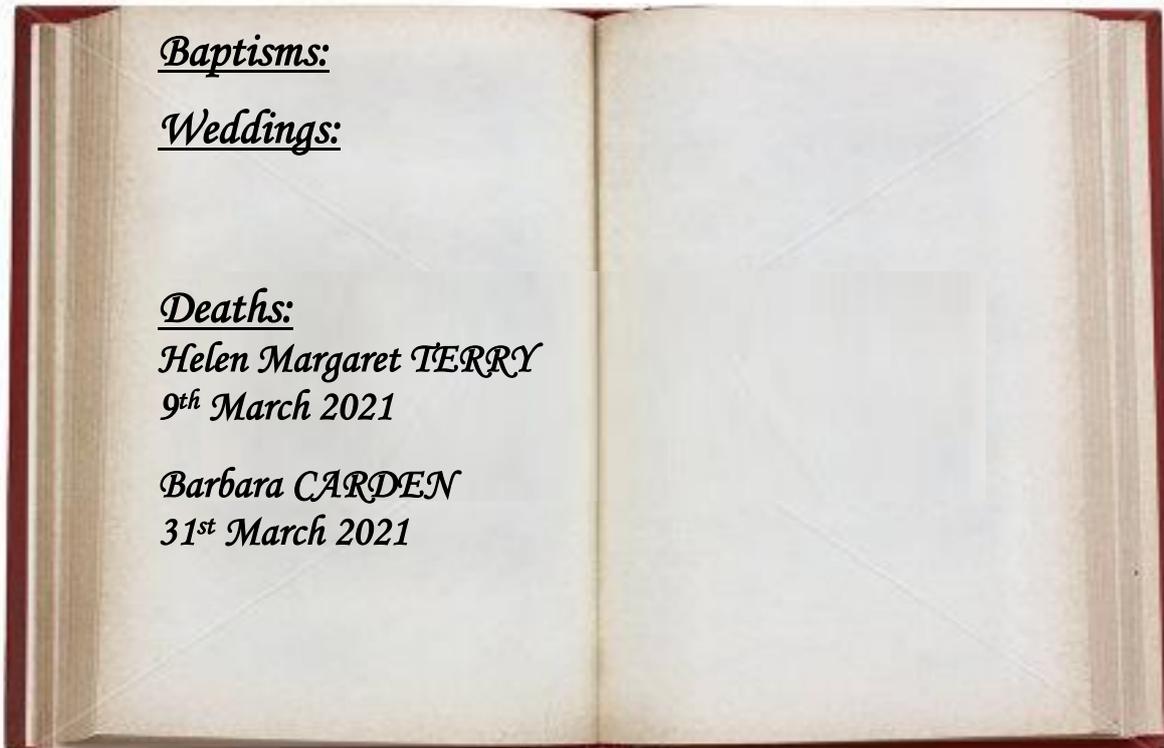
Baptisms:

Weddings:

Deaths:

*Helen Margaret TERRY
9th March 2021*

*Barbara CARDEN
31st March 2021*



Awhina House Donation

Following on from our successful Art Exhibition and Show last October 2020, we were very happy to present to Tim Jackson, the Operations Manager of Awhina House (He Kaupapa Kotahitanga Trust Tauranga) and Tania Lewis-Rickard, Board Member of Awhina House a cheque for \$1,000.00.



Nau mai, haere mai

Please join us to celebrate our

**REOPENING &
HAKARI MATARIKI**

8th July 2021 at 1pm

In the spirit of Matariki, we are reflecting on our growth over the past 13 years and celebrating our future in our newly renovated centre.

Thank you to all those who have supported us through these times.

**Mā tōu rourou mā tōku rourou, ka ora ai te iwi
Merivale Whanau**

45 Henderson Crescent, Merivale, Tauranga

p. 07 571 5121 m. 027 571 5121

merivale.waiapukids.nz



Merivale.waiapukids.nz Aroha Centre- Waiapu Kids



We are so excited to be open again and welcome back our families to the centre after closing for 6 weeks.

Every room in the centre was upgraded and had a much-needed touch of paint, carpet or a revamp.

We will be having an official celebration in the coming month and welcome all to join us for this blessing of the centre renovations and Matariki. An invite will follow soon.

Here is a few photos of just before opening



our news for you

3 May 2021

The TC Yasa response is progressing along well with some heart-warming feedback on the impact of food security from the food parcels families have received. Initial repairs to housing have been undertaken with a before and after picture of staff accommodation from St Pauls School in Naviavia. Next steps are to support farmers regain food security and get back to producing nutritional food for their families and communities. Safe water supply is another priority with many women and children still having to travel considerable distances to access water, the goal is to have more communities with safe close water supplies such as these two children are enjoying in Naviavia! (see photos below)



A very BIG THANK



YOU to all who have donated to our Lenten Appeal. There are likely to be some final donations, particularly from parishes, still to come, however to date we have raised \$31,872 to go to:

\$9,386 for St Luke's Hospital, Nablus

\$9,242 for the youth leadership training at the Diocese of Egypt

\$13,244 for the Anglican Church of Melanesia (ACoM) - religious communities rainwater project (\$12,244) and the Christian Care Centre (\$1,000 specified to date). Division of monies between these two ACoM projects to be finalised.



St George's Anglican Church Events and Services for 2021

CHURCH
CALENDAR



@ St. Georges

2021

~~7pm on 21st February Preparing for Lent~~

~~7pm on 28th March Palm Sunday~~

~~7pm on 30th May~~

7pm on 25th July

7pm on 3rd October Remembering St Francis

7pm on 28th November Advent

Parish Social Pub Night @ Oasis Bar & Grill, Greerton

June 11th 5.00pm

July 9th 5.00pm

August 13 5.00pm

September 10 5.00pm

October 8th 5.00pm

November 12 5.00pm

December 10th 5.00pm

Harvest Festival Service 27th June 2021

St George's Day, 1st August 2021

Season of Creation – September 2021

Cherry Blossom Festival Gala Bric a'Brac Stall

Centrepark Carpark 9.00am

September 25th, 2021

Vicar John Hebenton 021 679 202 -

john.hebenton@waiapu.com

Ministers The Congregation

Parish Administrator Patricia Price 578 7916

admin.gatepa@waiapu.com

Vicars Warden Clark Houltram 543 2366

People's Warden Faye Mayo 543 3369

Website www.stgeorgesgatepa.com

Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/GatePaAnglican>