



St George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

All who enter here be reconciled

14th January 2024

with **The Rev'd John Hebenton**

Epiphany 2 Year B

**COME
AND
SEE**

Welcome to worship at St. George's.

There is morning tea in the church lounge after the 9am Service.

Please join us. Visitors are very welcome.

Liturgy page 456 NZPB

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-18

NZPB page 363

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Bible page 215

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20

Bible page 929

Gospel: John 1:43-51

Bible page 863

Sentence: We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the king of Israel! *John 1.41-49*

Prayer for the Day

God of call and vocation,
you call the greatest and the least to follow you;
open our ears to hear your call,
empower us by the Holy Spirit to respond
and willingly embrace the new and living way of discipleship.
For you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

All are welcome to receive communion

Prayers and anointing for healing are available during communion in the chapel, at the back of the church.

Theme

We continue our time in Epiphany hearing the stories of Jesus finding Nathaniel, and elderly Eli helping young Samuel hear and respond to God's voice. Epiphany is this time of the church year when we pay particular attention to how God is revealed in the Jesus. We are invited to read our stories in that light.

John's gospel is so different from the other three synoptics. This gospel is all about helping us see the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us. See God in Jesus is the central theme. Seeing and following. Within that John 1: 43-51 is a weird little story. Later in John there is another weird little story when Greeks come to Andrew, and then Philip and Nathaniel to see Jesus. It all jars with discontinuity. There seems to be a lot of back story missing. Maybe that is the point. To draw our attention to what is happening. So, what is happening?

Through Philip Jesus finds Nathaniel, and he becomes a representative of Israel. Jesus does that, finds people. Nathaniel is an Israelite without guile, unlike the first "Israel", Jacob, who was full of guile and deceit, and who saw visions of angels on ladders. Nathaniel will see those angels at Jesus crucifixion and resurrection. Nathaniel's response to being found is to apply titles to Jesus, rabbi, King of Israel, son of God. Son of God is a term for one with a close relationship with God. In the Hebrew Bible, "Son of God" refers to someone commissioned with a divine task. This is not trinitarian language here.

Lastly Nathaniel was suspicious of Jesus. He was not from the right place. Last week we heard of the Magi, Persian Zoroastrian priests, being the ones who recognised Jesus' birth in the stars. The powerful and educated elite were ignorant. We will hear this week of God speaking hard words to a young boy Samuel. The revelation of God comes from surprising places. Where have been the surprising places we have been found?

Prayer

Our community: We pray for the communities of Gate Pa, Greerton, Oropi, Pyes Pa and Merivale. We particularly pray for the ministry of Centrepont, Whanau Aroha Centre, Hodgson House and Merivale Community Centre.

We pray for those who are dying, sick, in hospital or in any other kind of need, parishioners in rest homes and those who receive home communion and any others you hold in your hearts at this time.

Our Church: We pray for the clergy & people of Whakatane Parish; the people of the Edgecombe-Kawerau Parish & their Ministry Support Team.

Our World: We pray for Anglican Financial Care (AFC) which has provided financial services to clergy and lay workers for almost 50 years.

Notices



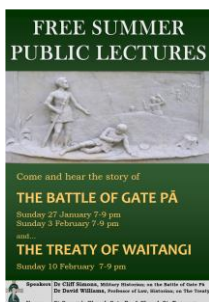
January Rosters: We need people to fill all the roles for all the Sundays in January 2024, which is one service at 9am and on 28th January at 9.30am. A big “THANKS” to those who have already responded. The roster is in the foyer. Please let the office know if you can help.



Parish Picnic: Sunday 28th January after the 9.30am service. The social committee will again provide a delicious summer luncheon/picnic, so do attend. Bring along family and friends if they are visiting for the long weekend. All food and drink will be provided. Cost \$10 a head, with tickets available now from the office.



Food For Foodbank: Please keep your generous contributions coming to help the Foodbank over this holiday season.



Historical Talks: Three Sundays 7- 9pm in early 2024

1. **The Battle of Gate Pa**, on Sunday 28th January, presented by Lt. Col. Dr Cliff Simons
2. **The Battle of Te Ranga**, on Sunday, 4th February presented by Lt. Col. Dr Cliff Simons
3. Graham Cameron on Sunday 18th February (To be confirmed)



First Taizé of the New Year – Sunday 11th February 2021 at St George's.

Come and join us for a quiet contemplative service based on the style and music of the Taizé Community in France

The Friday Parish Prayer Circle for prayer for yourself or another, please contact Rev'd Joyce Crawford (5794363) or Shirley Scott (571 2450). Please let them know when prayer is no longer needed.

Youth Exchange Hosting Opportunity:

Paul Higson is looking for hosts for Luiza Jamnik. Luiza is coming to Tauranga on a year long exchange and would ideally stay with a host for 3 months, though lesser time may also work. The exchange is voluntary, so host families are not paid. But hosting is an incredibly rewarding experience. Luiza is a very intelligent 17 year old who loves playing volleyball and would like to become a chemical engineer. For more info contact: pauldhmiddleton@gmail.com

Service Next Week 21st January Epiphany 3 (One Service Only at 9am)

Liturgy page 456

Psalm 62:5-12

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5,10

Second Reading: 1 Cor 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20



Dates to note in your Diary

- **Parish Picnic** – 28th January 2024
- **Lecture Series** – 28th January, 4th & 18th February
- **Pub Night** – February 9th 5.00pm
- **Coffee with the Vicar** – Tuesday, 13th February 10.30am
- **Shrove Tuesday** (Pancakes!), Tuesday 13th February
- **Taize** – Sunday, February 11
- **Ash Wednesday** – 14th February 2024 **9.30am** and **6.30pm**
- **AGM** – Sunday 17th March after 9am service
- **Good Friday** – 29th March
- **Easter Sunday** – 31st March

Summer Together

*Up until 21st January there will be
one Sunday service at 9am
followed by morning tea.*

*The service on 28th January is at 9.30am
followed by our Parish Picnic.*



**8.30am and 10am Church Services will resume from
Sunday 4th February 2024**

Vicar	John Hebenton	021 679 202	john.hebenton@waiapu.com
Priest Assistant	Debbie Garrett	021 868 869	
Ministers	The Congregation		
Parish Administrator	Charmaine McMenemy	578 7916	admin.gatepa@waiapu.com
Vicar's Warden	Clark Houltram	543 2366	
People's Warden	Faye Mayo	543 3369	
Website	www.stgeorgesgatepa.com		
Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/GatePaAnglican		

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St George's Anglican Church, Gate Pa in the Diocese of Waiapu

Knowing Jesus and making Jesus Known