



St George's



Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

All who enter here be reconciled

27th November 2022 with **The Rev'd Debbie Garrett**
Advent 1

ADVENT

Welcome to worship at St. George's.

There is morning tea after the 10 am Service in the church lounge.

Please join us. Visitors are very welcome.

Please remember to turn off your cellphone during the church service

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Psalm: 122

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

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Sentence: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.

Isaiah 2.3a

Prayer for the Day

Almighty God,

you give us this season to make ourselves ready for the coming of your Son.

In this time of waiting and hoping, assist us to order our lives

so that we may be ready to welcome Jesus in the flesh.

through Jesus Christ our Liberator,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Prayers of the People

To the phrase: Jesus, in your mercy

Please pray: **hear our prayer**

Theme for the week

Today is the first Sunday in Advent. The word *advent* means “coming.” It signifies the period preceding the birth of Christ when the Church anticipates the coming of the Messiah. It is the beginning of the Church’s year in the Western tradition. Traditionally we use the colour purple during Advent as it signifies royalty, but also the suffering of the cross, pointing to the connection between Jesus’ birth and death. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of Christ, first in his incarnation as the baby born in Bethlehem and in his second coming at the end of time. Today’s reading from Matthew 24:36–44 reminds us that only God knows when Christ will return, but in the meantime we must live our lives in a spirit of anticipation, expectation, and hope.

The beginning of Advent is a time to decorate the church with the Advent wreath and a tree to help symbolize the new and everlasting life brought through Jesus the Christ. The wreath is circular, real, or artificial, with five candles, four around the wreath which represent the period of waiting during the four Sundays of Advent with the Christ candle in the centre. The circle of the wreath reminds us of God and God’s eternity and endless mercy which has no beginning or end. The green of the wreath speaks of the hope that we have in God, the hope of newness, of renewal, of eternal life. The candles symbolize the light of God coming into the world through the birth of God’s son.

Prayer

Our community: We pray for the communities of Gate Pa, Greerton, Pyes Pa, Oropi, the Lakes and Merivale. We particularly pray for the ministry of Centrepoint, Whanau Aroha, Hodgson House, Pyes Pa Country Lodge.

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.

Our Church: Anglican Care Waiapu, Waiapu Anglican Social Services Trust Board, affiliated residents and staff of Aged Care Homes.

Our World: The Anglican Church of Tanzania and their missions projects.

Notices



Food bank – Please remember to bring something for Foodbank to help top up their Christmas boxes for those less fortunate than us this year



A Taizé Service of song, prayer and contemplation will be held
TONIGHT Sunday 27 November at 7pm. Followed by supper



Carols on the Lawn: This year, no masks, and food will be served after we finish. Invite your friends and get ready for Christmas with some great carols, ancient and modern. Sunday 18th Dec at 4pm.



Vivaldi Gloria and Christmas Carols. Tauranga Civic Choir
Saturday 3rd December 4pm, St Peter's Presbyterian Church.
\$20 tickets. Cash door sales or see Bonnie



Working Bee – In preparation for Carols on the Lawn and all the services during the Christmas season there is a working bee on Saturday 17th December at 9am, for the church, lounge, kitchen and the grounds. Come along and join in whichever area you want and help us get ready to welcome people to celebrate Christmas.

Whanau Camp: Run by the diocese for all families and all who want to join them. A great weekend of being together from 24-25 March 2023 at Tui Ridge Park, Hamuranga, Rotorua. For more information contact office@holyltrinitytauranga.com or book direct at www.eventbrite.com.

Christian World Service: Christmas Appeal pamphlets available now in the church foyer. This year's appeal is about supplying clean water for drinking, cleaning and growing crops.
Let hope flow this Christmas. www.christmasappeal.org.nz

This week in the Parish:

Monday	28 Nov
Tuesday	29 Nov 9.30am Mid-Week Communion Service
Wednesday	30 Nov
Thursday	1 Dec Christmas Choir 7pm
Friday	2 Dec
Saturday	3 Dec
Sunday	4 Dec Nov 8.30 and 10 am Holy Communion Services

Service Next Week 4th December – Advent 2

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Psalm: 72:1-7, 18-19

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12



Dates To Note in your Diary

- **Singing Group Practice** – Thursdays, in the church at 7pm
- **Working Bee** - Saturday 17th December at 9am
- **Carols on the Lawn** – 4pm Sunday 18 December

Christmas Services:

24th December 7pm Children's Service

24th December 11 pm Midnight Carols and Communion Service

25th December 9am Family Eucharist

In January there will be one Sunday Service at 9am.

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

All are welcome to receive communion

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