



St George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

All who enter here be reconciled

29th January 2023 with The Rev'd John Hebenton
Year A Epiphany 4 and The Presentation of Jesus



Welcome to worship at St. George's.

Our Annual Parish Picnic is on after the service.

Please join us. Visitors are very welcome.

Please remember to turn off your phone during the Church Service.

Liturgy 456

Psalm: 15

NZPB Page 210

First Reading: Micah 6: 1-8

Bible Page 757

Second Reading: Luke 2: 22-40

Bible Page 833

Gospel: Matt 5: 1-12

Bible Page 785

Sentence: What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

Prayer for the Day

Living God,

in Christ you make all things new:

transform the poverty of our nature

by the riches of your grace,

and in the renewal of our lives

make known your glory,

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

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

There is a lot to squeeze into this week's theme. Firstly, we are observing the **Presentation of Jesus at the Temple**; which falls on 2 February, 40 days after Christmas, marking the end of Christmas-Epiphany season. Jesus was presented at the Temple as the law required of a first son, and we hear the response of Simeon (The Song of Simeon or Nunc Dimittis) and Anna. The name **Candlemas** comes from the tradition of blessing the candles that were to be used in the church during the coming year. Candles were the main means of providing light – in every way we can understand that. Over these 40 days when we have been invited to wrap our minds around the light of God revealed in Christ. God is with us; God is with all. The presentation story is one more revelation of who Jesus the Christ is, and through that who God is and the nature of God's ongoing work in the world today.

This week in our gospel reading we begin a four week journey through the Sermon on the Mount. Crowds have gathered in hope to hear and to be healed – those who live on the edge and suffer under the brutal poverty of Rome's empire, and Jesus gives words for what is happening. In the empire of heaven these who are broken, who mourn, who long for God's justice, including those disciples, are the blessed, honoured, the most important. Brian McLaren describes them as, “the poor and those in solidarity with them; those who mourn...; the nonviolent...; those who hunger and thirst for the common good and aren't satisfied with the status quo; the merciful and compassionate... those who work for reconciliation and peace...”¹

In this short little teaching Jesus turns the normal status ladder upside down. And he invites his disciples, you and me, sitting with him on that hill, to base our identities and our understanding of success on these things. We are to be among the non-conformists speaking from the edge, living these values. Wrap your minds around that.

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.

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.

Wider Church: The province of central Africa and Uganda.

¹ p. 158: We Make the Road by Walking by Brian McLaren

Our Church: Church Army, Mission to Seafarers Oceania region; Chaplains, ship visitors, Director.

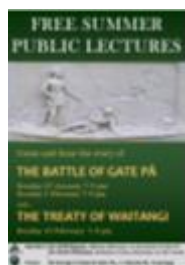
Notices



The **Aotearoa Bike Challenge** is happening again this February, and you are invited to join the Anglican Parish of Gate Pa team and to ride our bikes towards a cleaner, greener, happier Aotearoa New Zealand!. Register at www.lovetoride.net/bop Plus, we'll be riding to build up points and win prizes! It doesn't matter if you haven't ridden in years, everyone's welcome. Every ride you do counts!



The Parish Picnic is on Sunday 29th January after the 9am service. All food and drink provided \$10 each. Let office know if attending.



Pukehinahina Summer Lectures:

Please promote these amongst your friends and communities.

There are posters and handouts in the Church foyer.

2.Treaty of Waitangi: He Tatau Pounamu-viewing the Treaty through a reconciliatory lens

Sunday, 29th January 7pm with Dr. Alistair Reese

3.The Battles of Gate Pā- Pukehinahina and Te Ranga

Sunday 12th February 7pm-9pm, with Dr Cliff Simons



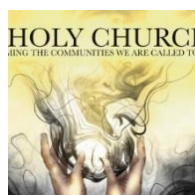
The Friday Parish Prayer Circle If you would like prayer for yourself or a family member, please contact the Rev'd Joyce Crawford (579 4363) or Shirley Scott (571 2450).



Parish Pub Night: Friday 10th February at 5pm at Oasis Bar and Grill, corner of Chadwick and Cameron Roads. All welcome.



First Taizé of the New Year: Sunday 19th February at St George's - a contemplative service using the music of the Taizé Community.



Lenten Studies: A HOLY CHURCH – BECOMING THE COMMUNITIES WE ARE CALLED TO BE. This is a six-week bible study on living up to our calling as God's Church. Each chapter focuses on the lessons we can draw from scripture about how we should live as Christian communities. To be held after the 10am service and morning tea.



Please send your contributions to the office before 15th Feb. Stories, poems, jokes, recipes, photos of happenings...



First Aid Course with The Red Cross on Saturday 11th March
8.30am – 5pm in the Church lounge. \$50 each. Please register with Charmaine in the office. You could save a life!

This week in the Parish:

- Sunday 29th Jan Parish Picnic. Lecture Two 7pm in the Church
- Tuesday 31st Jan No Tuesday service
- Wednesday 1st Feb Senior Chef starts
- Sunday 5th Feb Normal Services resume at 8.30am & 10am
- Monday 6th Feb **OFFICE CLOSED** for Waitangi Day

Service Next Week 5th February – OT5

Liturgy 476
Psalm: 112:1-9
First Reading: Isa 58:1-9a
Second Reading: 1 Cor 2:1-12
Gospel: Matt 5:13-20



Dates To Note in your Diary

- **Parish Picnic TODAY after Church.**
- **Lecture Series:** January 29th, February 12th 7pm in the Church
- **8.30 & 10am services** resume Sunday 5th February
- **Mid week services restart** – 7th February
- **Taizé Service:** Sunday 19th February 7 pm
- **Shrove Tuesday:** Tuesday 21st February
- **Ash Wednesday:** 22nd February

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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