



# St George's

**Anglican Parish of Gate Pa**

*All who enter here be reconciled*

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021

**Easter 5 Yr B with The Rev'd John Hebenton**

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It's not how much you love someone that matters, it's how much you make them feel loved.

There is morning tea in the church lounge after the 9.30am Service.

Please join us. Visitors are very welcome.

## **Liturgy Page 404 NZPB**

**Psalm 22:25-31**

NZPB Page 220

Psalm Response: Glory to God – Creator, Word and Spirit

**As God always was, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40 Bible Page 892

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21 Bible Page 991

Gospel: John 15:1-8 Bible Page 878

**Sentence:** In this love, not that we loved God, but that God loved us. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. *John 14.10-11*

## **Prayer for the Day**

O God,  
form the minds of your faithful people,  
that we may love what you command  
and desire what you promise,  
so that, amid the many changes of this world,  
our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives 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 are so many themes at play this week. On Thursday we coffered a place for our city to commemorate the battle that paved the way for the founding of Tauranga town. A dark and sad story. Amid the violence are moments of compassion that arose out of the deep wells of faith within people like Henare Wiremu Taratoa, Heni Te Kiri Karamu and Rawiri Puhirake.

In our gospel reading (John 15:1-8) Jesus comforts his shocked disciples (this is part of his farewell speech) by using the image of the vine to invite them to “abide in me as I abide in you.” (John 15:4). To abide is to have a place where you are deeply at home. Henare, Heni and Rawiri offer examples of people who were deeply at home in God’s compassion, generosity, and life. They help us see how Jesus’ use of the vine offers an image of divine life welling up from beneath and within pouring out in their courageous act of offering water. Their fear and hate had been pruned allowing them to act in ways that changed the story. I wonder in what ways do we seek to abide in love that we might act in such life giving ways?

Today is also Mother’s Day. A day to remember and for many of us to given thanks for our mothers and for the important role they played in our lives. For too many this is not a day of celebration. Let us also hold all for whom this Mother’s Day is a day of mourning and grief, a day of regret and sadness, and day anger and betrayal.

## **Prayer**

**Our community:** We pray for the communities of Gate Pa, Greerton, The Lakes, Pyes Pa and Merivale. We particularly pray for the ministry of Centrepoint and Whanau Aroha.

**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:** Today we pray for the Diocesan Mission Committee; Anglican Missions Board; NZCMS/SAMS, Anglican Church in Aotearoa, NZ and Polynesia; NZ Anglican Pensions Board; Social Justice Commission; Religious Orders and Missions to Seafarers Oceania Region.

**Our World:** Today we pray for those in the community who are especially vulnerable and for all who support them.

## Notices:

**Lenten Studies** restart this Sunday - after morning tea in the Lounge. Rebuilding the Ruins: Through Lent with the Prophets. What new world might we see when we listen for God's invitation to rebuild the ruins? Join us for Lent 2021 as we look at the ruins in our lives, our Church, and our world – and seek God's direction as we rebuild what has been destroyed.



**Tauranga Moana Interfaith Council** (*Fostering understanding and co-operation among faith groups in Tauranga Moana*) Annual General Meeting will be held at 7:00pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 in the lounge of the Anglican Church of St. George, Gate Pa.

We are delighted to have Fungai Mhlanga from the Office of Ethnic Communities as our guest speaker this year. Fungai will share the OEC's vision for flourishing ethnic diversity that thrives in Aotearoa New Zealand, discuss the role of the OEC in advising the government on issues related to ethnic diversity and provide information on the Ethnic Communities Development Fund. There will be time for questions after his presentation. The AGM is also an opportunity to meet with representatives and leaders of a diverse range of faith groups in the Tauranga Moana rohe. **ALL ARE WELCOME**



**Rosters:** Duty Rosters for May out in foyer now for your collection and/or signing up.



**Social night at Oasis Bar & Grill**, cnr of Chadwick and Greerton Roads. May 7<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.



**2020-2021 Tax Receipts** for the End of the Financial Year 31.3.21 are now ready for your collection, or have been posted out.



**AAW meet Tuesday 11th May** 1.00pm in the church lounge. We will have our usual raffle and bring and buy sales table. Our very own Dr Cliff Simons is our guest speaker and the topic is "The story of the early (Anglican) Church Mission Society Missionary's in New Zealand". As this is a very interesting topic we extend an invitation to all the congregation to join us at 1.30 - 2.30pm in the church.

**Installation of new Vicar for Parish of Tauranga** - The Rt Rev'd Andrew Hedge, Bishop of Waiapu, invites you to attend a Service of Installation for The Reverend Nigel Dixon as Vicar of the Parish of Tauranga, at Holy Trinity Tauranga, on **Saturday 26 June 2021** 4:30 pm. All are invited to support Nigel with your presence and your prayers. Please RSVP your attendance for catering purposes to [admin@holytrinitytauranga.com](mailto:admin@holytrinitytauranga.com)

## This week in the Parish:

Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> May 8.00am and 9.30am Holy Communion.
Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup> May
Tuesday	4 <sup>th</sup> May 9.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday	5 <sup>th</sup> May
Thursday	6 <sup>th</sup> May
Friday	7 <sup>th</sup> May 9.30am Prayer Circle 5pm Social Night at Oasis Bar & Grill
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup> May 8.00am and 9.30am Holy Communion.

## Service Next Week 9<sup>th</sup> May Easter 6

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Psalm 98

Acts 10:44-48

1 John 5:1-6

Gospel: John 15:9-17



## Dates to note in your Diary:

- **30<sup>th</sup> May** – Taize 7pm
- **27<sup>th</sup> June** – Harvest Festival
- **25<sup>th</sup> September** – Greerton Village Blossom Festival Gala Stall

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*Knowing Jesus and making Jesus Known*