



# St. George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pā

*All who enter here be reconciled*

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023 with **The Rev'd Debbie Garrett**

**Advent 1 – Year B**



Welcome to worship at Hori Tapu - St. George's.  
There is morning tea after the 10am service. Please join us.

## **Liturgy page 476**

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

NZPB page 291

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

Bible page 606

Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:3-9

Bible page 926

Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

Bible page 826

**Sentence:** Heaven and earth will pass away", says the Lord, "but my words will not pass away". *Matthew 24:35*

## **Prayer for the Day**

God of hope,

When Christ your son appears

may he not find us asleep or idle

but active in his service and ready;

Through the same Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

**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

Happy New Year! We are in a new church year! What new year's hopes and resolutions do you bring into the year ahead?

Despite what the shops and media are telling us, it is not Christmas yet. It is Advent – the four Sundays before Christmas. We often see these as a time to prepare for the coming of Christ in Christmas, but it is so much more. Advent is preparing for and celebrating the coming of Christ in history (Christmas) mystery (now) and in majesty (when God's will be finally done on earth as in heaven).

During these weeks we are offered time to reflect on how we have experienced the crucified and risen Christ over this last time, and out of that what we look and hope for as followers of Jesus as we look ahead.

Our gospel reading (Mark 13:24-37) picks up one of the themes of the last few weeks in Matthew; actively waiting. Starting with the story of the ten virgins we are reminded that waiting, hoping, and looking are not passive activities.

Traditionally in Advent we focus our preparation on the themes of hope, peace, joy, and love. This first Sunday in Advent is a time to ask ourselves where we see God at work bringing hope into our community and our world. More than that, we are invited into active watching, to join in that work of hope building. Advent reminds us to live as if our hopes are realised and the reign of God is among us. Because it is – if not fully.

## Prayer

**Our community:** We pray for the communities of Gate Pa, Greerton, Oropi, Pyes Pa, the Lakes and Merivale. We particularly pray for the ministry of Centrepont, 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.

**Our Church:** We pray for the people serving in our Waiapu Diocese; Bishop Andrew Hedge, Registrar Colleen Kaye, Chancellor Jeremy Johnson, Safeguarding Risk Manager Penny Hales, Mission Rejuvenator Carl Tinnion, Standing Committee & its members, Waiapu Board of Diocesan Trustees, Bishopric Endowment trustees.

**Wider Church:** We pray for the people of Tonga and in particular the staff & clergy of the Diocese of Polynesia.

## Notices



**Taizé Service TONIGHT** 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 7pm at St George's. Come and join us for a contemplative service based on the music of the Taizé Community.

**PUB NIGHT!**

**Parish Pub Night:** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm at World's End, Fraser Cove shopping centre. All welcome.



**Tauranga Civic Choir** Saturday 9th December 4pm St Peter's Spring St Tauranga. Charpentier Messe de Minuit pour Noël and a selection of beautiful Christmas Carols. Tickets \$20 from Bonnie or Jan. Eventbrite \$20 plus fees. Door sales \$25. Maybe you could buy someone a ticket as an early Christmas present and go together.



**and Christian World Service** brochures are in the foyer. They have details of how you can give a Christmas gift to those in need.

**ROSTERS**

**The Roster for December** is now available for collection. Please add your name to the Master copy in the Church foyer if you can help.



**Christmas Rosters:** We will be needing volunteers to do Liturgist/readings/prayers/clicker/healing and kitchen help for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services, and for the 5 Sundays Dec 31, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>. If you can help, please add your name to the Christmas Roster in the foyer. Many hands make light work.



**Food for the Foodbank:** Non-perishable items are gratefully accepted, thank you. Perhaps you could donate a few Christmas treats?



**Takeaway plastic food containers with lids** needed for when we have leftovers after an event. Please bring to the office.



**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.

## **This coming week at St George's**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am Holy Communion

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December Pub night

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 8.30am & 10am Holy Communion Service

## **Service Next Week 6 December Advent 2**

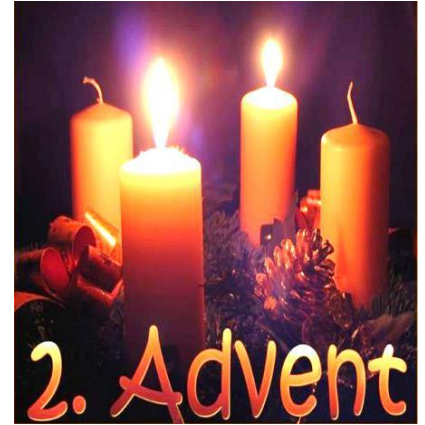
Liturgy page 456

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8



## **Dates to Note in your Diary**

**Pub night** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

**Coffee with the Vicar** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

**Carols on the Lawn** Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 4pm

Vicar	John Hebenton	021 679 202 <a href="mailto:john.hebenton@waiapu.com">john.hebenton@waiapu.com</a>
Priest Assistant	Debbie Garrett	021 868 869
Ministers	The Congregation	
Parish Administrator	Charmaine McMenamin	578 7916 / 0223058729 <a href="mailto:admin.gatepa@waiapu.com">admin.gatepa@waiapu.com</a>
Vicar's Warden	Clark Houltram	543 2366
People's Warden	Faye Mayo	543 3369
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.stgeorgesgatepa.com">https://www.stgeorgesgatepa.com</a>	
<b>Facebook Page</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/GatePaAnglican">https://www.facebook.com/GatePaAnglican</a>	

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***Knowing Jesus and making Jesus Known***