



# St George's

**Anglican Parish of Gate Pa**

*All who enter here be reconciled*

4<sup>th</sup> February 2024 with The Rev'd John Hebenton  
Year B The Presentation of Jesus & Candlemas



Welcome to worship at St. George's.  
There is morning tea after the 10am service.  
Please join us. Visitors are very welcome.

## **Liturgy page 476 NZPB**

Psalm 24:7-10

First Reading: Isaiah 40: 21-31

Second Reading: Luke 2:22-40

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

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**Sentence:** My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel. *Luke 2:3-32*

## **Prayer for the Day**

Everliving God,  
your Son Jesus Christ  
was presented as a child in the temple  
to be the hope of your people;  
grant us pure hearts and minds  
that we may be transformed into his likeness,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God 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

Mark's gospel starts with a bang. After just 39 verses we already have had John the Baptist preaching and baptising, Jesus baptised and tested in the wilderness, Jesus preaching and calling his first followers, Jesus casting out a demon on the Sabbath in the meeting place (synagogue) in Capernaum. "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom!" (Mark 1:15)

And now we have this intimate story of Jesus healing Peter's mother-in-law – still on the sabbath. Her response can be understood in many ways. She joins the angels in serving Jesus and becomes a model of what discipleship looks like – serving Jesus in our service to others. And this is just the beginning.

We are also observing the **Presentation of Jesus at the Temple**; which falls on 2 February, 40 days after Christmas, marking the end of Christmas-Epiphany season. As the law required of a first son, Jesus is presented at the Temple. And we hear 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. Candles were the main means of providing light. Over these 40 days 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 the nature of God's ongoing work in the world today.

Tuesday is Waitangi Day, when we commemorate the first signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. For us Anglicans this is an important day. We were instrumental in creating the treaty with the British crown, and then taking it to nga iwi o Aotearoa across the motu, the land, and negotiating their agreement. It sits at the heart of Te Pouhere, our church constitution, and has led to our co-governance decision making structures for the last 30 years.

So, I wonder what the light of the coming reign of God reveals this Waitangi Day and who and how we serve?

## 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.

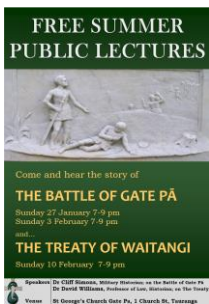
**Our Church:** We pray for the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia; Diocesan Administration Waiapu Anglican Centre staff; Chaplains to retired Clergy & spouses in Bay of Plenty & Hawkes Bay.

**Our World:** We pray for the Diocese of Polynesia The Moana Community of St. Clare in Fiji and all those in similar communities who care for the vulnerable and marginalised.

## Notices

### Back to normal

**8.30am and 10am Church Services** resume from today. The Tuesday morning service at 9.30am starts again on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb.



### Historical Talks: Sundays 7- 9pm in our Church

**2. The Battle of Te Ranga**, on Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> February TONIGHT presented by Lt. Col. Dr Cliff Simons

**3. Faith as resistance: Pai Mārire & Tauranga Moana**, on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February presented by Graham Cameron

**Waitangi Day Dawn Service:** Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 6.30am at the base of Hopukioire (Mt. Drury) with a whakatau from local iwi/hapu followed by a blessing. Cultural performances will feature during the celebration.



**Parish Pub Night:** Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm at World's End, Fraser Cove shopping centre. All welcome.



**Home Communion meeting** - Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February after the 8.30am service (9.30am) in the Lounge.

**Pastoral Care meeting** - same day after the 10am service (11.30am)



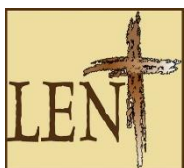
**First Taizé of the New Year :** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at St George's at 7pm. Come and join us for a quiet contemplative service based on the style and music of the Taizé Community in France



**Coffee with the Vicar:** Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 10.30am at Columbus Café in Mitre 10 at Gate Pa.



**Imposition of the Ashes** services are on 14<sup>th</sup> February at 9.30am and 6.30pm. Please bring in your palm crosses from last year to burn.



### 2024 Lenten Study: This is Us – Who we are as Anglicans.

Join us after the 10am service during the 6 weeks of Lent for a time of study and reflection as we engage with our identity as Anglicans – the values that have shaped us and our way of being in the world.

A donation towards photocopying of the booklet would be appreciated. Please let the office know if you would like to join us.



**Shrove Tuesday** is on 13<sup>th</sup> February and we are having a pancake meal in the Church lounge. Come at 5pm for a 5.30pm start. All food and drink will be provided. Please let the office know if you're coming.

**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.

## Service Next Week 11<sup>th</sup> February OT 6

Psalm 30

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-14

Second Reading: 1 Cor 9:24-27

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45



Compassion for the Untouchable

## Dates to note in your Diary

- **Office closed Monday 5<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February (Waitangi Day)**
- **Parish Pub Night** Friday February 9<sup>th</sup> 5pm
- **Taize** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 7pm
- **Coffee with the Vicar** Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> February 10.30am
- **Shrove Tuesday** (Pancakes!), Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 5pm
- **Ash Wednesday** 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024
- **Lecture Series** 18th February
- **Vestry meet** Wed 21<sup>st</sup> February 7pm Church Lounge
- **AGM** Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March after 9.00am service
- **Good Friday** 29<sup>th</sup> March
- **Easter Sunday** 31<sup>st</sup> March

Vicar	John Hebenton	021 679 202	<a href="mailto:john.hebenton@waiapu.com">john.hebenton@waiapu.com</a>
Ministers	The Congregation		
Parish Administrator	Charmaine McMenamin	578 7916	<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	
Website	<a href="http://www.stgeorgesgatepa.com">www.stgeorgesgatepa.com</a>		
Facebook Page	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/GatePaAnglican">https://www.facebook.com/GatePaAnglican</a>		

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

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