



St George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

All who enter here be reconciled

4th October 2020 with Rev'd John Hebenton tssf

Feast of Saint Francis and OT27



SPCA[®]

Today we will celebrate St. Francis of Assisi love of animals with the SPCA Animal Blessing Service, at 10.00am. There is morning tea in the church lounge after this Service. Please join us. Visitors are very welcome.

Service: 404 NZPB

Psalm 19

NZPB Page 216

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

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

First Reading: Exod 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Bible Page 58

Second Reading: Phil 3: 4b-14

Bible Page 954

Gospel: Matthew 21: 33-46

Bible Page 803

Sentence: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes. *Mathew 21.42*

Prayer for the Day

Keep us faithful, O God,
to the inspiration of blessed Francis,
that seeking nothing for ourselves
we may bring true riches to the world,
through him who gave us himself
Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

This Sunday marks the end of the Season of Creation, a celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. We have joined the worldwide Christian family in being reminded that we are created in the image of God who is the Creator and Sustainer of all and how that might shape our relationship

with God's creation and our response to climate change. As we continue to read Matthew's gospel this year, we have reflected on what Jesus describes in Matthew's Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount, where he invites all his hearers into the Kingdom of Heaven, God's reign of justice and peace. Following the tradition of Jubilee, Jesus offers a vision of a world where all flourish; where the common good, including the good of all created beings is held as paramount; a world where the needs of the poor are placed first; and where ALL, including all plants and animals - all creation, are treated with honour and respect and given they need to thrive.

This year our celebration is overshadowed by the global COVID-19 pandemic, which like climate change, is a symptom of our forgetfulness and broken relationships. We have forgotten both that we are created in the image of the creating and sustaining God, and the vision offered by Jesus. Consequently, our relationship with creation is broken and all creation is paying the price. Jesus continues to invite us to be liberated from the old ways of seeing creation as resource and to live in ways that cares for our common home and the sisters and brothers who share it.

This week we celebrate St. Francis of Assisi. Francis saw his life as one of penance. In "The Art of Letting Go" Franciscan priest and writer Richard Rohr suggests Francis understood penance as "making room for God". The Season of Creation is about making room for God by letting go of all that distracts us from seeing God in creation and all who share this world. And as Francis shows, the more we practice making room the more we see God. In the end Francis saw God at work in all people, even thieves, lepers and Muslims; all creatures, even a ferocious wolf; and all creation, including the birds who he commanded to "beware of the sin of ingratitude and be always eager to praise God".

As we finish this season and give thanks for our pets and all creation, what might we need to let go of, and what might we need to pay attention to as we continue to make room for God?

Prayer

Our community - We pray for the communities of Gate Pa, Greerton, Pyes Pa, The Lakes and Merivale, especially for those badly affected by Covid-19, either through the death of a loved one, ill-health, or changes to employment. We pray for all those seeking to bring healing and hope, particularly health workers and organisations like Te Tuinga Whanau, and Foodbank.

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.

Our Church: The people of *Edgecumbe-Kawerau Parish* & their Ministry Support Team members.

Wider Church: Today we pray for the Diocese of Polynesia's Water for All projects for 2020.

Notices:



In Honour of St. Francis of Assisi - A Taizé Service of Song, Prayer and Contemplation will be held **Sunday 4th October at 7.00pm**. Come and feel the stillness within.



Tauranga Faiths Come Together to Support World Peace. The Tauranga Moana Interfaith Council (TMIC) invites you to its sixth annual Prayers for World Peace as part of the International Week of Prayer for World Peace (11th to 18th October). This will be held in The Tauranga Historic Village Hall, on Tuesday 13th October, gathering from 6:30pm for a 7pm start followed by light refreshments afterward. Please bring a small plate of food that represents your faith community to share. Koha-donation on entry. For further information contact John Heberton



St George's Art Show - Friday 9th & Saturday 10th October

Please buy your tickets and invite your friends to the Gala night this Friday night - 7.00pm - 9:30pm, tickets \$25 p.p. available through Eventfinder or the Parish Office. There will be refreshments provided by Happy Puku catering, raffles, and a Mystery Auction, plus a chance to get your glad rags on! All artwork is for sale.

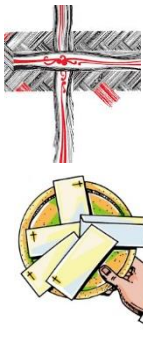
We are also supporting Awhina House with a portion of all sales going to this very worthwhile community initiative. If a ride is required for the evening, please contact Diane Elliott 5449215 to arrange



AAW Notices: Tuesday 13th October. This month Christine Nicholls will be our guest speaker and explain about Indigo Dyeing. We will have the usual Bring and Buy sales table and any contributions gratefully received, raffle and lovely afternoon tea as it is 3 of our members birthdays this month. New members welcome



All Souls Day Remembrance Service, Sunday 1st November, both 8am & 9.30am services. A time to remember those we love, who have died over the last year, especially those we have lost during the Pandemic/Covid-19 lockdowns, when no funeral gatherings were possible. We will give thanks for all they meant to us. We light a candle for them, to represent the light of their life, and our belief we have in the resurrection to eternal life. If unable to attend please forward details, full name, d.o.d, to the Parish Office, admin.gatepa@waiapu.com



Lay Learning Days: The next lay learning days will be early in 2021. The lay learning days previously advertised for August have been cancelled

Giving Envelopes - we have been receiving giving envelopes with no numbers on them. There is no way of tracing who they belong to, so please ensure your envelope is numbered before going in the plate.

This week in the Parish:

Tuesday 6th Oct 9.30am Holy Communion
Friday 9th Oct 9.30am Prayer Circle & 7.00pm Gala Night for Art Show
Saturday 10th Oct – Art Show
Sunday 11th Oct 8.00am and 9.30 Holy Communion Services

Service Next Week 11th Oct (OS28)

Liturgy page 456
Psalm 106:1-6,19-23
First Reading: Exodus 32:1-14
Second Reading: Phil 4:1-9
Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14



Dates to note in your Diary:

- Art Show 9th /10th October
- Week of Prayer for World Peace 11th – 18th October
- An Interfaith Prayer for World Peace, Tuesday 13th October, at 7pm,
- Remembering the Battle of Gate Pa - 28th October at 4pm
- All Souls (All Saints) 1st November
- Carol Service 20th December

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