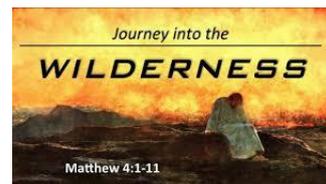




St George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

All who enter here be reconciled



26th February 2023 with The Rev'd John Hebenton

LENT 1

Welcome to worship at St. George's.

There is morning tea after the 10am service.

Please join us. Visitors are very welcome.

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

Liturgy 404

Psalm: 32

NZPB Page 231

First Reading: Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7

Bible Page 2

Second Reading: Romans 5: 12-19

Bible Page 917

Gospel: Matthew 4: 1-11

Bible Page 785

Sentence: We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. Matthew 4:4

Prayer for the Day

God of the desert,
you lead us by day and by night,
Be with us when we are tested;
may it be your bread we eat,
your world we serve,
and you alone we worship.
through Jesus Christ our Liberator,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and 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

As this Sunday is the first Sunday in Lent, we hear again of Jesus testing time in the wilderness. Because we are in the year of Matthew, we get his version. Jesus is baptised and is declared to be the God's Beloved Son. The Spirit then takes Jesus into the wilderness to face the big questions. What kind of beloved son will he be? How will he live that out?

The wilderness is a harsh place where there is no hiding. Here he fasts and prepares. He is anchored in God. And at the end the Satan tests this identity. How will he respond? Will he put his own needs first or trust that God will provide? Will he succumb to the dramatic and lure of fame, or will he trust God and meet the needs of those who encounter him on the way? Will he seek power and fortune, or seek nothing for himself and live in response to God's compassion and justice? The Beatitudes and Sermon on the Mount come out of this experience. They are who Jesus is.

We too are beloved children. But too often, like Adam and Eve, we forget, and we strive for what is ours already. They strove to be like God when they were already created in God's image. They forgot who they were, with dire consequences. We too strive and forget, with dire consequences for God's world.

Lent is a time when we ask "who are we as God's beloved children?" We are invited to anchor ourselves in God and to take time to reflect on how we might live that out. We are invited to join Jesus in placing the beatitudes at the centre of our lives too. This Lent I wonder what distracts us from living as beloved children – what do we need to fast from? And what practices do we need to develop that will help us live the beatitudes?

This lent we will take some time to hear the story of some who have persisted in living the beatitudes. I hope they will help us think about what it means for us to live as beloved children serving God's creation.

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 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. We pray for families and individuals whose lives have been devastated by the loss of their loved ones, homes and belongings in the floods

around Te Ika-a-Maui (the North Island) in the past four weeks. We pray particularly for those who continue to be affected in the Diocesan Office in Napier.

Wider Church: We pray for those in Missions working in Central and South Asia; Bangladesh, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Myanmar.

Our Church: We pray for Hospital Chaplains in Tauranga, Whakatāne, Rotorua, Taupō, Gisborne/Hauora Tairāwhiti and Hawkes Bay Hospital.

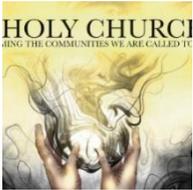
Notices

CYCLONE GABRIELLE EMERGENCY APPEAL

The Anglican Church has launched a Cyclone Gabrielle Emergency Appeal, hosted by Anglican Missions to support communities most affected by the recent disaster.

There are 2 ways to donate:

1. Go online to Anglican Missions [Cyclone Gabrielle Appeal](#).
2. Place an envelope in the giving plate, with your name and 'Cyclone Appeal' on the front, and we will bank it for you.



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 from 26th Feb after the 10am service and morning tea.



March 12th, after the ONE 9am service. We need nominations for the Vestry. Are you interested? Do you think someone else would be good? Forms are in the foyer. There will be a shared morning tea in the lounge after the service followed by the AGM. Please bring a plate. AGM report Booklets will be available next Sunday.



We're now putting together the next Parish Web. Please send your contributions to the office; Stories, poems, jokes, recipes, photos of happenings, gardening tips...



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! 2 spaces left.



The Friday Parish Prayer Circle If you would like prayer for yourself or another, please contact the Rev'd Joyce Crawford (579 4363) or Shirley Scott (571 2450). Please also let them know if prayer is no longer needed.

This week in the Parish:

Tuesday 28th Feb 9.30am Communion Service
 Sunday 5th March 8.30am & 10am Holy Communion Service
 Lenten study after 10am service in Lounge

Service Next Week 5th March

Liturgy page 404
 Psalm: 121
 First Reading: Gen 12:1-4a
 Second Reading: Rom 4:1-5, 13-17
 Gospel: John 3: 1-7



Dates To Note in your Diary

- **Lenten Studies:** 6 weeks during Lent in Church Lounge after 10am service
- **AGM:** Sunday 12th March after the 9am service

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

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Knowing Jesus and making Jesus Known