



St George's

Anglican Parish of Gate Pa

All who enter here be reconciled

12th March 2023 Lent 3

with The Rev'd John Hebenton



Welcome to worship at St. George's.

There is morning tea after the 9am service followed by the AGM.

Please join us. Visitors are very welcome.

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

Liturgy 404

Psalm:	Psalm: 95	NZPB Page 308
First Reading:	Exodus 17:1-7	Bible Page 8
Second Reading:	Romans 5:1-11	Bible Page 917
Gospel:	John 4:5-42	Bible Page 864

Sentence: God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

Prayer for the Day

Fountain of life,

we your desert wanderers come to you
thirsty and parched.

Become in us a spring of living water,
bubbling and brimming over to eternal life,

in the power of the Holy Spirit

and through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with us in the
unity of 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

Last week we heard the story of Nicodemus scurrying in the night and not seeing. This week we have the story of the woman from Samaria and Jesus (John 4) meeting at noon at Jacobs well for all to see. Wells are important in-between places where all go. Wells are where patriarchs and Moses meet their wives. The well is where critical life changing encounters with God occur.

Bill Loader (<http://wwwstaff.murdoch.edu.au/~loader/MtLent3.htm>) says is a wonderful piece of drama with many levels of meaning. "As always in John its central character is God and God's gift of life through the invitation to live in the holy space of love, the true worship in the Spirit, which is also the living space of the Father and the Son. That love, embodied, cuts across racial and cultural prejudice, affirms women, engages and loves sinners. In a man's world a woman is the supreme example, exercising ministry, but doing so with the fragility and hesitancy and perhaps inadequacy which happens when ordinary human beings engage in ministry. That is also cutting across a prejudice of perfectionism with which we plague ourselves. The fruit of such faithfulness is the setting free of others from what binds them (including us). It is bringing to birth and caring with that as the goal. The stereotype, Nicodemus, the teacher, will not see this either."

Jesus sees as invisible woman for who she truly is. In return she sees him for who he is – the messiah and hears the first "I am" with all its echoes of exodus. Nicodemus for all his learning and maleness could not see who Jesus was. She becomes the first evangelist – bringing other Samaritans to this life.

I wonder what this woman made visible by Jesus offers us as we reflect on people of persistence this lent and gather for our AGM. Who does she invite us to see as we seek to be who Christ calls us to be?

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 Centrepoint, 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.

Our Church: We pray for the people of the Te Puke Parish & their clergy; The Kauri Centre – Te Puke Manager; Growing through Grief Coordinator; NZ Police Chaplain in Tauranga & Hawkes Bay.

Wider Church: We pray for the staff & Board of Anglican Missions who help enable global mission through our well established partners and deliver real positive impact and change for good, in areas of greatest need.

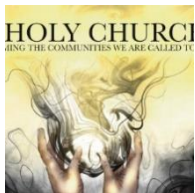
Notices

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. To be held after the 10am service and morning tea for the six Sundays in Lent. A koha to pay for the booklet is welcome.



March 12th, TODAY after the ONE 9am service.

There will be a shared morning tea in the lounge after the service followed by the AGM. Please bring a plate. AGM report booklets are available.



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...



We have some bottles of Old Masters Madeira Port that we cannot use for altar wine as the alcohol content is not high enough. We are offering these to people for a koha. There are 2 bottles 750 mls and 6 bottles of 1000mls available. See Charmaine in the office.



Art for sale: Artist Anne Westerskov will be selling her art after the 10am church service on 26th March.



Coffee with the Vicar: John will be at Columbus Café in Mitre 10 Gate Pa at 10.30am on Thursday 30th March, if you would like to join him for a coffee and a chat.



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 let them know if prayer is no longer needed.

This week in the Parish:

Today 12th March AGM after 9am service
 Tuesday 14th March 9.30am Communion Service
 Sunday 19th March 8.30am & 10am Holy Communion Service
 with The Rev'd Adrienne Bruce.

Service Next Week 19th March Lent 4

Liturgy page 404
 Psalm: 23
 First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13
 Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14
 Gospel: John 9:1-41



Dates to Note in your Diary

- **Lenten Studies:** 6 weeks during Lent in Church Lounge after 10am service
- **Vestry** Wednesday 22nd March, 7pm, St George's Lounge
- **Taizé Service**, 7pm Sunday 2nd April (Palm Sunday)

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Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/GatePaAnglican	

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Knowing Jesus and making Jesus Known