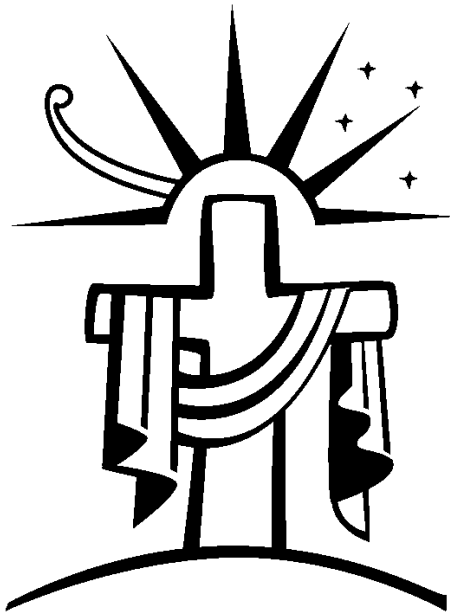




Little Acorns



February – April 2020

The Quarterly Newsletter of
Holy Trinity Anglican Parish, Woodville

Heading into Lent

“Give it up for Lent” is a common shorthand way of describing the traditional spiritual practice of abstaining from an activity or thing during the 40 days of Lent. It is meant to sharpen the mind on self-control and self-reflection. There are plenty of jokes about people starting smoking before Ash Wednesday just so they have something nice and simple to give up for Lent.

As with so many traditions the habit of it all, focusing too much on the thing we’re giving up, can cause us to lose sight of its original purpose. The point of this self-denial is preparation, of examining ourselves to see what we need to change to better live out our faith, to be more fully the people God calls us to be. Giving something up that we normally enjoy or rely on can be a powerful way of jolting us out of normal patterns and ways of thinking.

It’s all too easy to focus our ways of thinking on the big things, the bright shiny celebrations and exciting events. Whether that’s an empty tomb or a bright shining star, or a major birth, wedding or death. But life isn’t all big moments, indeed it is very rarely the big moments. There are times when something major happens and life can shift dramatically. But for most of us, most of the time it is one foot in front of the other, a regular day at work, school or home. And it’s in this regular time, in these regular places, that we need to consider and meet God. God is there in every moment, we just need to be more conscious of that presence, more alert to the million small ways we can be called to live out the Gospel message.

In modern language “to give it up” can also mean to applaud someone or something – you frequently hear it on entertainment shows, “Ladies and gentlemen please give it up for Sir Elton John”, followed by loud clapping and cheering. I like the idea of using this meaning for Lent too, lets applaud this season, this time of reflection and preparation. The popularity of meditation and “mindfulness” in modern society is a reminder that we all have a

need to take time to pause and think – to still our busy minds, and step away from technology, work and the demands of family life. Most of us can't head off into the desert, the hills or the bush for long retreats, but we can take little moments in the day to be still and listen to the Spirit moving inside and around us.

So let us cheer on each other this Lent. Let us encourage one another to reflect, to think, to find small, everyday ways to change and grow, so that when the time comes we can meet the risen Christ.

Arohanui, Rosie



In Memoriam

The last few months have seen the deaths of a number of Woodville and former Woodville folk. Our sympathy and prayers go out to the families and friends of the departed. We remember:

- ⊕ Laura Wilton
- ⊕ Rex De La Haye
- ⊕ Jim Howse
- ⊕ Paul Goldsworthy

Farewell to Ralph and Ngaire Mountfort

In mid-January Ralph and Ngaire moved to the Julia Wallace Home in Palmerston North. A formal farewell event is being planned and details will be advertised separately, once they have been confirmed.

While a necessary move, it is a big blow to the Woodville community and our parish family to have to bid farewell to two such special people. The positive is that it's not too far away, so visits can be planned!

Our love and prayers are with Ngaire, Ralph and all their family.

Prayer for those Affected by Natural Disasters

Recent weeks have seen a number of terrible natural disasters affect different parts of the world, including the Australian bushfires, flooding and volcanic eruptions in the Philippines, cyclones in the Pacific, and earthquakes in Turkey and Puerto Rico. We offer up the following prayer for all those affected by such disasters.

Compassionate Lord, we pray for those who have been devastated by recent natural disasters. We remember those who have lost their lives so suddenly. We hold in our hearts the families forever changed by grief and loss. Bring them consolation and comfort. Surround them with our prayer for strength. Bless those who have survived and heal their memories of trauma and devastation. May they have the courage to face the long road of rebuilding ahead.

We ask your blessing on all those who have lost their homes, their livelihoods, their security and their hope. Bless the work of relief agencies and those providing emergency assistance. May their work be guided by the grace and strength that comes from You alone.

Help us to respond with generosity in prayer, in assistance, in aid to the best of our abilities. Keep our hearts focused on the needs of those affected, even after the crisis is over.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

The 180th Anniversary of the Treaty of Waitangi

Thursday 6 February will mark the 180th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, this nation's founding document.

God, the sovereign of all,
your word is law in every quarter.
Speak your words again;
hold before us the words of Waitangi,
signed by Maori and Pakeha alike
to seal their covenant;
make the treaty they established in Aotearoa
a beacon light for the days ahead;
through Christ, our guide, our way.
Amen.

Monthly Prayer Meetings

Prayer meetings are held at 4.00pm on the last Friday of the month in Holy Trinity, all are welcome to come along! February 28th is the first meeting for the year.



Young at Heart, Older Folks' Social Afternoons

2pm on the fourth Thursday of each month

Holy Trinity Hall

Please contact Rosie McMillan if you'd like help with transportation.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Races

6pm Tuesday 25 February

Teams of four, please bring your own frying pan
There will be children's and adults' races, followed by a free
sausage sizzle

Holy Trinity Church Grounds, Ross Street Woodville



Ash Wednesday Service

We will mark the start of Lent at the joint Holy Trinity – St
Columbkille's Ash Wednesday service at 7.30pm on 26 February in
Holy Trinity.



Lenten Studies

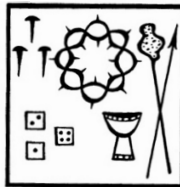
On Wednesdays in Lent (starting on Wednesday 4 March) at 7pm,
the Rev. Jo Crosse will be leading Lenten Studies in Holy Trinity.
They're a set of studies prepared by Diocese of Christchurch, using
the theme of gardens.



AMB Lenten Appeal

During Lent there'll be a 'bring and buy' table at the back of Holy Trinity to raise money for the Anglican Missions Board's annual Lenten Appeal. Please bring in produce, preserves or crafts to sell, as well as buy.

The Board has different projects it is raising money for, focused on supporting vulnerable, disabled, and malnourished children in partner countries. There will be more information on the 'bring and buy' table.



Holy Week Services

Thursday, 9 April, 7.30pm

Maundy Thursday Eucharist at Holy Trinity

Friday, 10 April, 9.15am

Good Friday March of Witness starting at the Salvation Army

Saturday, 11 April, 8.00pm

Easter Saturday Vigil Service at Holy Trinity

Sunday, 12 April, 9.30am

Easter Eucharist at Holy Trinity



Stand Up and Sing group

Stand Up and Sing, the community singing group, meets at 7.00pm on Monday evenings in Holy Trinity – starting from Monday 3 February. All are very welcome to join!



ANZAC Day Events

Saturday 25 April

6.30am Dawn Parade in Fountaine Square
10.00am Civic Service in Fountaine Square, followed by morning tea in the Holy Trinity Hall

Sunday 26 April

2.00pm ANZAC High tea in the Holy Trinity Hall



A Journey into Lent

Jesus, Lord of the Journey,
we thank you
that you set your face firmly towards Jerusalem,
with a single eye and a pure intent,
knowing what lay ahead
but never turning aside.

Jesus, Lord of the Palms,
we thank you
that you enjoyed the shouts of 'Hosanna!'
from the ordinary people,
living fully in that moment of welcome
and accepting their praise.

Jesus, Lord of the Cross and the Empty Tomb,
we thank you
that you freely entered the heart
of our evil and our pain,
along a way that was
both terrible and wonderful,
as your kingship became your brokenness,
and your dying became
the triumph of undying love.

The Iona Community

Christmas Events

Shepherds and their flock receiving the good news was the focus of Holy Trinity's float in the Woodville Christmas parade on Saturday 14 December. While it was a bit breezy, the sun and the crowds were both out for this fun event – Woodville may be a small town, but there is a lot of heart and it was great to see the large number taking part in the parade and the large number lining Vogel and Ross Streets to see it all. Big thanks to the shepherds and the float builders for their great work in helping remind the community of just what the season is all about!



The weather may have been mixed late in the afternoon on Sunday 15 December, with cool gusty wind (hanging around from Saturday and the parade) stopping the sunny day from warming up, but the Woodville Combined Churches' service of lessons and carols inspired nothing but festive joy in the attendees. Starting out with a sausage sizzle at 5pm, the service began at 6pm with the warmth of the Dannevirke Brass Band filling Fountaine Square with beautifully played carols. The readings and reflections by each church rounded out a lovely early evening service.

Several members of the travelling public who had stopped to use the park's facilities were delighted to have stumbled upon the service and took a seat to enjoy the seasonal treat. A big thank you to the Band and everyone involved in the service and sausage sizzle.

The senior citizens lunch on Thursday 18 December saw approximately 60 people sit down to a meal of ham off the bone, potatoes, peas and salad, followed by pavlova, fruit salad, and cheesecake. Ralph Mountfort hit the piano to get the crowd singing carols at different times during the lunch. A big thank you to Ralph and everyone that cooked and served the lunch.



The beautifully renovated St Andrew's was the site of the next service of lessons and carols, this time for the Kumeroa community on the evening of Sunday 22 December. Readers of all ages took part, each reading part of the incarnation narrative. After the service, everyone headed to the community hall for a cuppa and some tasty supper. The folks of Kumeroa have done an amazing job with St Andrew's, and we'd encourage people to go out when there's next a community service to see it for yourselves.

Stand Up and Sing, the community choir, filled Holy Trinity with professionally sung carols from 8pm on Christmas Eve. The choir started mid-year and this was their first full performance. Following the conclusion of the singing, port (or orange juice for the younger attendees) and Christmas cake was served to everyone, a time of fellowship before the Christmas Eve Eucharist started at 9pm.



It's always lovely seeing the large congregation on this special evening, which concludes with a time of contemplation when the church is lit only by candles. The brickwork of the building is softened by the golden light, and as music plays people hold loved ones before God in silent prayer.

The Christmas morning Eucharist is a smaller, more intimate service that is nonetheless every bit as special as Christmas Eve. In both evening and morning there is a beautiful sense of Emmanuel, God with us!

Pastoral Visits

As disciples we are constantly called to be the hands and feet of Christ. Please let Rosie McMillan know if you would like a visit, or you're aware of someone who would appreciate a visit.



Events

February 2020

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|--|
| Friday 14 th | 2.00pm | Anglican Women's Group meets in the Hall to plan the year's events |
| Thursday 27 th | 2.00pm | Young at Heart social afternoon in the Hall |
| Friday 28 th | 4.00pm | Monthly prayer meeting in Holy Trinity |

March 2020

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|---|
| Friday 6 th | TBC | World Day of Prayer Service, details to be advertised separately once confirmed |
| Thursday 26 th | 2.00pm | Young at Heart social afternoon in the Hall |
| Friday 27 th | 4.00pm | Monthly prayer meeting in Holy Trinity |

April 2020

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|---|
| Thursday 23 rd | 2.00pm | Young at Heart social afternoon in the Hall |
| Friday 24 th | 4.00pm | Monthly prayer meeting in Holy Trinity |
| Saturday 25 th | 6.30am | ANZAC Day Dawn Parade in Fountaine Square |
| | 10.00am | ANZAC Day Civic Service in Fountaine Square, followed by morning tea in the Holy Trinity Hall |
| Sunday 26 th | 2.00pm | ANZAC High tea in the Holy Trinity Hall |



Church Services

February 2020

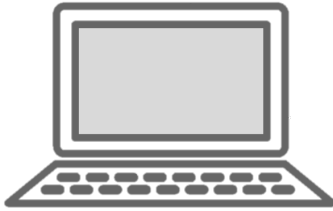
Sunday 2 nd	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 9 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 16 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 23 rd	9.30am	Eucharist
Wednesday 26 th	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service

March 2020

Sunday 1 st	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 8 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 15 th	9.30am	Family Service, followed by the Parish AGM
Sunday 22 nd	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 29 th	9.30am	Union Service

April 2020

Sunday 5 th	9.30am	Palm Sunday Eucharist
Thursday 9 th	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Eucharist
Friday 10 th	9.15am	Good Friday March of Witness starting at the Salvation Army
Saturday 11 th	8.00pm	Easter Saturday Vigil Service
Sunday 12 th	9.30am	Easter Day Eucharist
Sunday 19 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 26 th	9.30am	Eucharist



Facebook

Holy Trinity now has a Facebook page, address, to help promote upcoming services and events – the web address is listed in the 'Key contacts' section below. The Facebook page is another way to reach people in the community and help keep people up to date on things in the parish.

Key contacts

Parish website: www.htwoodville.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/htwoodville/

Role	Person	Telephone
Local Priest	Rev. Rosie McMillan	06 376 5972
Parish Wardens	Janice Wiri	06 376 4838
	Rona Squires	06 376 5076
Vestry Chair	Vicky Tomlinson	022 643 9419
Parish Treasurer	Janice Wiri	06 376 4838
Parish Secretary	Rona Squires	06 376 5076
Anglican Women's Group	Rev. Rosie McMillan	06 376 5972
Foodbank Coordinator	Jim Worboys	06 376 4023