



Little Acorns



February – April 2021

The Quarterly Newsletter of
Holy Trinity Anglican Parish, Woodville

Lenten Preparations

Christmas is barely over and already we're having to turn our minds to Lent and Easter. There might have been some 30 years for our Lord between his birth and his death, but in the church calendar it's a matter of months between the holy days. The 6-week period of Lent is a time that helps us move from incarnation to resurrection.

I always find the service on Ash Wednesday evening, marking the start of Lent, a moving occasion, with the application of ashes as an outward sign of the inward repentance that the liturgical readings and prayers call us to. It is an old church practice dating back to the sixth century, which takes its inspiration from the even more ancient Biblical use of ashes to express grief. While the outward sign of ashes goes the next timer we wash, hopefully the inward action continues as we reflect on what it meant for God fully present in a human life to be rejected and put to death by the very people he had come to save. Our faith calls us to grapple with the truly big things and it's never easy. We are finite beings asked to consider the infinite, to try our best through head and heart to accept the love of the God who is always reaching out to us, who won't let anything, even death, come between us.

In the face of what is being asked of us, preparation is important. Whether its Easter or a lockdown, preparation helps us view coming events in their proper perspective. Modern life doesn't easily lend itself to reflection, it all feels like "go, go, go". But there is much value in taking time to pause, contemplate, read, and pray. To take the opportunity, whenever or wherever it arises, to step back and let the mystery and wonder of it all infuse us. We will (all going well) be having weekly Lenten studies this year, drawing on a series produced by the Waiapu Diocesan Educator. These will be one opportunity to contemplate the events of the Passion and it would be wonderful to see you there. (Please see the advert later in Little Acorns for details).

I also find Maundy Thursday, at the other end of Lent, a very moving time. It's an intimate service where the eucharist seems so much more present, ahead of the sorrow of Good Friday. The seasons and the church year help to give us focus, and a rhythm that helps us on our faith journey. I find that preparation (to continue the theme) benefits from structure – a framework within which we can be flexible to the particular needs of the moment. The importance of a common framework came home to me last year when we weren't together physically for Lent and Easter, but through our shared prayers and liturgies we were still worshipping together in spirit. There is such comfort and wonder in a faith that is both individual and collective – having our personal relationship with God, and our part in the body of Christ.

I sincerely hope that we can keep COVID at bay so that we may celebrate this most special season in person this year. But even if not, and we need to use worship material that is online or distributed ahead of any lockdown, we are united in a community of faith that stretches back through the generations, embraces us all today, and reaches on into the future.

Arohanui, Rosie



In Memoriam

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

- ⊕ Hermann Goeckel
- ⊕ Mike Poulton



Farewell to Rozelle Pharazyn

The parish bids a sad farewell to Rozelle, who is moving to Paekakariki on Friday 12 February to be closer to family. While we're glad that she will be able to spend time more easily with family and will keep in touch, Rozelle's regular presence will be much missed. Her warm smile, generous laugh, sharp intellect, and calm caring have made Rozelle a beloved member of our parish family and the wider community. Rozelle hosted a farewell afternoon tea at her house on Saturday 6 February, and then had her final service as a regular parishioner on Sunday 7 February.



Stand Up and Sing group

Stand Up and Sing, the community singing group, meets at 7.00pm on Thursday evenings in Holy Trinity – starting from Thursday 11 February. All are welcome to come along and see whether they'd be keen to join!

The 90th Anniversary of the Hawke's Bay Earthquake

Wednesday 3 February marks the 90th anniversary of the Hawke's Bay Earthquake, New Zealand's deadliest natural disaster with the loss of 256 lives and thousands injured. The magnitude 7.8 earthquake lasted for two and half minutes and levelled most buildings in central Napier and Hastings, including the old St John's Cathedral. The land lifted over 2 metres making 40 square kilometres of former seabed dry land. The region rebuilt over the next few years, making Napier the Art Deco city it is known as today, and the Government introduced New Zealand's first proper building code in response to the destruction.

Hold tight this world in your care, O God:
quell its shaking, calm its seas, end its wars;
strengthen the faithful, soothe the fearful,
comfort the mourning, give rest to the dead:
for you are gracious,
O lover of all that you have made,
and nothing is beyond your power to save.
Glory to you for ever and ever.
Amen.



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.



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 17 February 2021 in St Columbkille’s.



Lenten Studies

At 7pm on Wednesdays in Lent, starting on Wednesday 24 February 2021, the Rev. Jo Crosse will be leading Lenten Studies in Holy Trinity.



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.

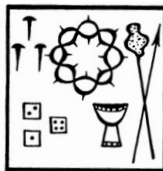
The Board has different projects it is raising money for, focused on supporting vulnerable, disabled, and malnourished children in partner countries. There will be more information on the ‘bring and buy’ table.



Purple Poppy Service

There is a Purple Poppy Service at 11am on Wednesday 24 February 2021 in Fountaine Square.

Purple Poppy Day was introduced in 2006 to commemorate the animals that served, and continue to serve, during wartime. Animals have often been the forgotten casualties of war, for example approximately eight million horses and donkeys (that were critical for hauling supplies and artillery) died during the First World War. Dogs and carrier pigeons have been among the other animals involved in war efforts, with many earning medals for acts saving the lives of soldiers and civilians.



Holy Week Services

Thursday, 1 April, 7.30pm

Maundy Thursday Eucharist at Holy Trinity

Friday, 2 April, 9.15am

Good Friday March of Witness (starting church to be confirmed closer to the date)

Sunday, 4 April, 9.30am

Easter Eucharist at Holy Trinity

Follow Me

'Follow me', we hear you calling, God,
but that is such a journey.

Sometimes we have to go over old ground,
trudging back to the wrong turns we made and retracing our steps.
That can mean we have to admit to the times
we should have asked for directions,
and to the times we decided on a shortcut
that turned out to be a dead end.
Going over old ground is not a popular tourist destination.

'Follow me', we hear you calling, God,
but that is such a journey.

Sometimes we have to venture into new territory,
choosing paths we can't be sure of.
We can't see over the tops of the hills or around bends
until we've travelled a long way on them,
and there are usually bumps and blocks in the road too.
Some places are so new that the satnav wouldn't even work,
so what do you expect us to do when we come to a crossroad?

Following you calls us to journeying, God, so give us the
determination we need – courage when we stumble,
light in the darkness,
friends to point the way
and our own inner ear to follow the voice we hear calling us home.
It is Lent and we hit the highway of self-reflection.
On our journey with you
we will meet a lot of interesting people.
The most surprising may just be the real us,
so keep us going, God.



The Iona Community



ANZAC Day Events

Saturday 24 April

2.00pm ANZAC High tea in the Holy Trinity Hall

Sunday 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

Please note, given the ANZAC services there will be no service at Holy Trinity on the morning of Sunday 25 April, instead there will an evening prayer service at 7.30pm.



COVID-19 Reminder

As a nation we need to remain vigilant to ensure our communities remain COVID free, or that in the event there is an outbreak it can be contained quickly.

In the Church and Hall, we have the government-issued tracking scanner codes and a book for those who do not have mobile phones. Please ensure you either scan or sign in for all services and events.

Christmas Events

The Holy Family was the focus of Holy Trinity's float in the Woodville Christmas parade on Saturday 12 December. The crowd was 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 float builders and riders for their great work in helping remind the community of just what the season is all about! It was also great to see all the festive letterboxes around the town as Holy Trinity ran its annual competition under the tagline "Sending the right message at Christmas".



The Woodville Combined Churches' service of lessons and carols started out with a sausage sizzle at 5pm on Sunday 13 December, before the service began at 6pm. 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. A big thank you to the Band and everyone involved in the service and sausage sizzle.

The Kumeroa folks turned out to fill St Andrew's for the service of lessons and carols 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 senior citizens lunch on Tuesday 22 December saw approximately 55 people sit down to a meal of ham off the bone, potatoes, peas and salad, followed by a choice of pavlova and fruit salad, or Christmas pudding and custard. 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.



Stand Up and Sing, the community choir, filled Holy Trinity with professionally sung carols from 8pm on Christmas Eve. 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 2021

- Thursday 18th 10.00am Anglican Women's Group meets at Café 88, Vogel Street Woodville
- Wednesday 24th 11.00am Purple Poppy Service in Fountaine Square
- 7.00pm Lenten studies start in Holy Trinity (every Wednesday evening 31st March)
- Thursday 25th 2.00pm Young at Heart social afternoon in the Hall

March 2021

- Friday 5th TBC World Day of Prayer Service, details to be advertised separately once confirmed
- Thursday 25th 2.00pm Young at Heart social afternoon in the Hall

April 2021

- Thursday 22rd 2.00pm Young at Heart social afternoon in the Hall
- Saturday 24th 2.00pm ANZAC High tea in the Holy Trinity Hall
- Sunday 25th 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



Church Services

February 2021

Sunday 7 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 14 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Wednesday 17 th	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service at St Columbkille's
Sunday 21 st	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 28 th	9.30am	Union Service

March 2021

Sunday 7 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 14 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 21 st	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 28 th	9.30am	Eucharist, followed by the Parish AGM

April 2021

Thursday 1 st	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Eucharist
Friday 2 nd	9.15am	Good Friday March of Witness
Sunday 4 th	9.30am	Easter Day Eucharist
Sunday 11 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 18 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 25 th	7.30pm	Evening Prayer Service

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	J Wiri	06 376 4838
	R Squires	06 376 5076
Vestry Chair	V Tomlinson	022 643 9419
Parish Treasurer	J Wiri	06 376 4838
Parish Secretary	R Squires	06 376 5076
Anglican Women's Group	Rev. Rosie McMillan	06 376 5972
Foodbank Coordinator	J Worboys	06 376 4023