

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

We hope you find God's presence in the service today. Please join us for refreshments after the service and share our hospitality and fellowship.

Happy Birthday!

We extend our best birthday wishes to **Margot Christie-Linnell**, celebrating her birthday on **Wednesday 18th March**, and also **Andrew Allen**, celebrating on **Friday 20th March**.



Lent Studies - This year's Lent Studies focus on discipleship in Matthew's gospel has commenced and continues 18, 25 March, 01 and 08 April.

Wednesdays 10 am in Christ the King. Studies available on the entry table.

Harvest Festival Service - Sunday 22nd March

Next Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent, we will take a small timeout from the sombre season of lent to have our 'Harvest Festival' at Christ the King Church. During this service there will be an opportunity to give thanks for all the good things we are blessed with. People are invited to bring something from the garden, orchard, field or pantry for our 'Harvest Offering', which will then be shared through our local foodbank. We will also pray for our farmers and growers, and together give thanks to God for our good and pleasant land and the life we enjoy.



Mangawhai Mission District AGM 2020 - Sunday 5th April

Christ the King Mangawhai, following the 9am morning service shared with St Paul's, Kaiwaka congregation. Please bring a plate for a shared lunch after the AGM. **Note: There will be no 9 am service at St Paul's on this date.**

Nomination forms for Governing Body members and People's Warden are available on the noticeboard.

Community Focus Prayer

Lord, we know with no doubt that You are bigger than the threat of anything, especially illnesses. We pray that those who have the virus will be healed, and that its spread would slow and be soon eradicated. We pray for those who are caring for the sick. Protect them with a hedge of protection against the germs of coronavirus and help those who are giving to be protected as they nurse others back to health. We pray that the government agencies would have wisdom and skill in containing the epidemic, and that doctors and nurses would be energized for their work. We pray for scientists and biomedical engineers scrambling to invent a way to cure and immunize against this new virus.

Gracious Heavenly Father, please comfort those who are living in fear and free them from the bondage that anxiety creates within. Remind them that You are still in control. Grant the serenity that comes only from the Prince of Peace. Help those who are living in unease to trust You in this time so that in times to come we may rest assured that You will be faithful and be with us.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Wayne's Word

A weekly column by our Priest in Charge

VIRUS REACTIONS?

The COVID-19 virus has changed things. In response people have changed some of their usual normal behaviour, and that has repercussions for us who gather for Christian worship. We have always had very strict protocols around communion: using a metal chalice and patten which can be properly sterilised with hot water; those distributing bread and wine use hand sanitiser beforehand; holding the chalice by the stem and using the purificator properly. We are still offering the "common cup" - the advice we have been given is using 18% alcohol prevents the spread of infection. However it is possible to receive communion with bread/wafer only. And if the situation merits we may move to individual cups.

There are some other usual things that we may wish to consider at this time ... when we greet each other do we still shake hands, hug etc.? The greater wisdom says perhaps we should put this on hold for the time being.

An article in the New York Times includes this advice from a church leader: *"At this time, we recommend that an 'elbow bump' may be a more appropriate way of offering a warm welcome while also staying healthy."*

This is hard because much of what we do as church on Sundays is about gathering as a community, welcoming and acknowledging each other and any visitors or new folk. It kind of feels "unnatural" to not do the usual things. Diocesan advice is that during the exchange of peace we should refrain from shaking hands, hugs etc. This may seem rather strange and off-putting. However I think it's also an opportunity to reconsider something we might perhaps have taken for granted: how can we really engage with another person without physically touching? Now is our chance to do something new and different and meaningful. We can make eye contact; say the words "Peace be with you" very intentionally; put our hands together and bow our heads. We can be real in a new way, and be creative!

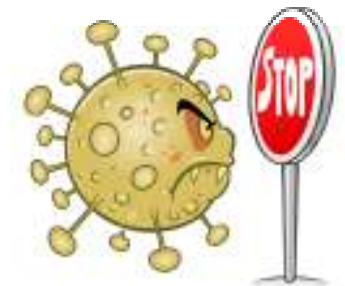
That same New York Times article records:

When it came time for the sign of peace ritual, parishioners did exactly what their pastor had asked. Instead of reaching across the pews to shake hands, they greeted each other with gentle bows.

The threat is real and serious. We do have to be realistic, and if we are, we will be able to continue to gather and express that we are the body of Christ. God is with us and will lead us through so we can be a beacon of hope for our community. We are called to model sensible behaviour and to continue to be warm and welcoming in all we do. For we trust in God who promises to be with us and guide us through the Holy Spirit. And we pray. The new "Community Focus" prayer is on the opposite page and can help us in our prayers.

So let us gather, pray and live life sensibly and abundantly as followers of Jesus.

Shalom, Wayne





Please keep in your prayers:

Julia Smith, Elspeth, Win, Susan, Judy, Bishop Jim, Terry & Helga, Mary Hitchcock, Tevita, Jonathan, Jocelyn, Sibyl and Jac.

Visiting: If you are aware of people you think need or would appreciate a visit from the visiting team, please let Wayne or Fay know. Also if there is anyone who would appreciate Home Communion.

Video of our new Archdeacon, Jonathan Gale, talking to Bishop Ross. Type the details below in your internet browser to watch. <https://youtu.be/Rw1yAsKrBdM>

What's on: 16 - 22 March

Tues.	17 Mar	Rhythm 'n' Riggle	Christ the King	10.00 am
Wed.	18 Mar	Holy Communion Bible Study	Christ the King Christ the King	9.00 am 10.00 am
Thurs.	19 Mar	C+ K Craft Group	Christ the King	9.30-noon
Sun.	22 Mar	Holy Communion	Christ the King	9.00 am

Next week

22 March: Service at 9 am
Theme: Lent 4: Harvest Festival & Refreshment

Readings: OT: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11
Gospel: John 6: 30-35

MISSION DISTRICT CONTACTS

Priest in Charge: Wayne Thornton 431 4122
Priest's Warden: Lindsay McCaw (on leave)
Co-People's Wardens: Ann Dowson 431 5913
Lynda Wintle 431 4766
Office Administrator: Fay Burnett - Fridays 8am – 12 noon, 431 4122
Assisting Clergy:
Rev Derek Christensen, Rev John McClean, Rev Dr Tony Stroobant
Christ the King Church: 9 Molesworth Drive, Mangawhai Village
Postal address: PO Box 58, Mangawhai Village, 0540



Pew News

Christ the King, Mangawhai

15 March 2020

**Lent 3:
Driven Out**

NT: Romans 5: 1-11
Gospel: John 2: 13-16



Theme & Readings

Prayer Book P 476

Scripture for the Week (Sentence)

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

Prayer for the Week (Collect)

Fountain of life, we your desert wanderers come to you thirsty and parched. Become in us a spring of eternal life, bubbling and brimming over, to eternal life. With the Father and the Son, you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Prayer Cycle

In our Diocese, we pray for the Parish of Manurewa, the Parish of Clendon, the Parish of Papakura, the Papakura Military Camp, Te Tai Tokerau: South Auckland Maori Mission and the Manukau Institute of Technology. In our mission district we pray for our Clergy team, Communion Assistants, welcomers, morning tea helpers, all involved in hospitality and home communions. In our community we pray for all involved in the legal sector, especially lawyers, judges and the police.

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12 noon
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Website: www.mangawhaianglican.org.nz

Christ the King Mangawhai, St Michael & All Angels Hakaru, St Paul's Kaiwaka