

Neville, Ann with a beautiful Austin A7 purchased from Jean



CHURCH LIFE

DECEMBER 2020



Ann Dowson receiving a thank you gift from Christine Bygrave for 21 years of community service at St Michael's, Hakaru



Margot & Fay, collecting on Pink Ribbon Day outside the Italian bakery



Margaret W. and Jo selling the Mangawhai-Kaiwaka Calendar

Magazine for Mangawhai Mission District

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



Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

So spoke the prophet Jeremiah to a people who were disillusioned and dispirited. A people whose homeland was under the control of powerful enemies, for Jerusalem and the Temple lay in ruins. A people who thought God had deserted them

Imagine the Beehive in Wellington a heap of rubble; Richard Seddon's statue smashed, Parliament grounds vandalised. Imagine our church building smouldering embers. Our homes looted, families split up. A foreign army controlling everything ... then we might have some idea of what things were like when Jeremiah spoke.

"Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah." Like water to a parched land these words gave God's people something they desperately, desperately needed: hope.

That's a lot of what this "Advent" season is about: hope. Behold the days are coming ... at Christmas God breaks into our world and into our lives in a totally new and unexpected way. The four weeks of Advent are a journey towards that great event. A journey of hope.

Advent is the time to stand up and lift our heads because "our redemption is drawing near". Because at Christmas we see these things happening, in the coming of God's Son, Jesus Christ. For sure, this hope is with us always, throughout the whole year. But during the season of Advent, we take out our hope from our treasure bag. Maybe some of us need to rummage around a bit, but I assure you it's there. So we take out our hope, dust it off, get out the 'Brasso' and give our hope a really good polish. Then we put it in pride of place.

During these four weeks of Advent we get ready. We prepare ourselves to celebrate the hope we have because of God's nearness in Jesus Christ. And we watch. Watch for that hope which comes again in a new and special way.

"Watch" for the signs of Christ's coming.

"Watch" for what Christ's coming means in our lives.

"Watch" for opportunities to help others to see and share the hope we have.

Look for the hope that comes into our world and our lives anew this Christmas.

- Christ came

- Christ comes

- Christ will come

Christ is our hope, the light that overcomes our darkness.

Shalom, Wayne

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**A Prayer for a New Year
from St Teresa of Avila (1515 - 1582)**

*Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things.
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices.*



Church Bulletin Bloopers!

The sermon this morning 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'

The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus'

Don't let worry kill you off—let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.



The Church is Advent.

The unwrapping of God's greatest gift is near.

Advent – coming

God will take away the tinsel

and decorate our human hearts in hope.

So that Christians can sit laughing in the rain,

knowing that the Lord is going to

shine in upon their being.

For no matter how long the darkness, God will send the light.

In spite of cursing and violence and the massacring of human dignity,

we will dance in the streets of Bethlehem,

for He will be born!

Ann Weems

St Michael's and All Angels, Hakaru

Our beautiful little church, which sits in such peaceful surroundings, continues to look wonderful, thanks to the care of Sexton, Bevan Lawrence. Speaking of Bevan, he appears to have fully recovered from a hip replacement operation, as a little bird told me that he and the "always ready and willing" volunteer, Neville Dowson, were seen on the grounds the other day, trimming some trees. Thank you so much for the care you take in maintaining the grounds and graveyard attached to St Michael's.

We had a 5th Sunday service on 29th November which was well attended. It was a special service for Rev. John McClean as he celebrated Communion and his 37th anniversary of ordination as a Priest. Ann Dowson was thanked for her 21 years as Secretary of the St Michael's Property and Hakaru Cemetery Committee.

We note with sadness that one of our regular attendees, Ken Brown passed away on 26th November. His funeral was held at St Michael's on 2nd December, led by Rev. Wayne. Our thoughts and prayers are with Gayle and family at this time.

Our usual Christmas Service will be held at 7.00 pm on Christmas Eve. This is such a joyous event and we encourage people to attend, even if it's just to enjoy the carols which are always sung with great gusto.

Another exciting occasion to look forward to is a wedding, which is being planned to take place in January 2021. The young couple live locally which makes it even more special.

Don't forget that when there is a fifth Sunday in any given month, a service is held at St Michaels and this is followed by a shared lunch at the Hakaru Hall. A time of great fellowship.

Jo Sarah.



Rev. John McClean at St Michael's Church, Hakaru, celebrating 37 years since his ordination as a Priest

A word search puzzle titled "Christmas Birth of Jesus Word Search". The puzzle is set within a decorative white frame with a gold border, surrounded by a red background with gold snowflakes and stars. The puzzle grid consists of 15 rows and 15 columns of letters. Below the grid is a list of words to be found, arranged in four columns.

Christmas
Birth of Jesus Word Search

N	K	H	F	O	S	H	I	N	I	N	G	Z	I	P
C	C	I	D	R	J	G	W	T	V	R	K	M	V	P
T	Q	H	V	A	A	K	G	A	B	R	I	E	L	W
C	W	Q	W	M	A	N	G	E	R	S	N	S	N	L
D	X	O	L	E	Y	P	K	L	Z	T	G	S	M	C
O	L	J	L	H	N	R	G	I	F	T	S	I	Q	U
I	W	D	E	E	K	I	R	S	N	G	W	A	S	W
N	T	R	G	L	M	E	V	H	C	C	Y	H	D	I
N	V	S	N	H	S	O	K	E	G	J	E	S	U	S
K	R	R	A	T	S	X	N	P	F	E	K	N	L	E
E	F	C	A	E	Q	S	I	H	P	Q	N	X	S	M
E	Z	B	P	B	U	O	G	E	A	Y	O	V	A	E
P	L	H	V	S	Q	Y	H	R	M	Q	D	R	E	N
E	F	G	L	Q	K	Q	T	D	Q	H	Y	B	A	B
R	D	O	G	F	O	N	O	S	I	O	R	N	M	M

ANGEL	GABRIEL	MAGI	SHEPHERDS
BABY	GIFTS	MANGER	SHINING
BETHLEHEM	GOLD	MARY	SON OF GOD
CENSUS	INNKEEPER	MESSIAH	STABLE
DONKEY	JESUS	MYRRH	STAR
EAST	JOSEPH	NIGHT	STRAW
FRANKINCENSE	KINGS	SHEEP	WISE MEN

BiblePuzzles.com





Christ the King, Mangawhai

We have held several special services at Christ the King recently. On 27th September we had a service dedicated to grandparents and their grandchildren. On 11th October we held our popular Blessing of the Animals service. All the animals were very well behaved and those who attended enjoyed the service very much. For our Patronal Festival on 22nd November we invited our church lounge users to share the occasion with us. Our service was followed by a special morning tea. It was good to get to know the people who use our facility. We have restarted our Wednesday morning communion service and will be having an Advent bible study from 25th November. Our annual combined Carol Service with the Roman Catholic and Baptist churches will be held at Christ the King on Sunday 13th December at 7p.m. Mark this date in your diary and bring family and friends. It is always a lovely evening. We have recently changed the way we do communion because of Covid 19 using individual small glasses instead of intinction. It took a bit of getting used to but is working well now.

We had our last coffee morning for the year at Parkview Waters on 5th November which had a Christmas theme. It was well attended and very much enjoyed by church members and friends.

Synod was held at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Auckland on 20th and 21st November after being postponed earlier in the year. Wayne, Jo and Bernard attended on our behalf.

We have produced calendars for 2021 as a fundraising initiative and are selling these now at market days at the school and tavern and outside shops, together with a Christmas hamper raffle. Our grateful thanks to Jo Sarah for all the work she has put into organising the calendars and to those who have been helping to sell them. If you would like a calendar these can be purchased from Jo at Christ the King and Fay Burnett at St Paul's. They would make a lovely gift for Christmas.

David Stacey has agreed to be Treasurer for Mangawhai Mission District in place of Bernard Chivers. We welcome him and offer a huge vote of thanks to Bernard for all his years of hard work handling our financial affairs.

A flag worded "Church Open" has been purchased and is displayed beside the road whenever Christ the King is open.

Our thanks to Lindsay and Neville who waterblasted the concrete paths around the church and to those who helped to clean all the windows inside and out. The carpet has also been cleaned in the lounge area and the church, which was paid for by a donation from Rhythm'n'Riggle, so we are looking very spick and span now.

As in previous years, parcels can be placed under the Christmas tree in the church in the coming weeks for distribution to children of needy families. Don't forget to indicate the sex and age of the intended recipient. These gifts are always very gratefully received.

We at Christ the King wish everyone a blessed and happy Christmas season.

Lynda Wintle Warden

St Paul's, Kaiwaka

Another three months have flown by and now we are talking about Christmas services! Wayne has continued taking services on the first Sunday of the month, and these are recorded on livestream for those people unable to attend church.

Kaiwaka School have been clearing their bank next to St Paul's, removing trees and bamboo for safety reasons. Unfortunately a contractor broke a water pipe whilst digging, leaving the Archie Bull Hall without water during a funeral service. We are in correspondence with Kaiwaka School's Principal re clearing up the bank once the contractors have finished.

Sadly we have had two funerals at St Paul's since September. A service for Peter Mortlock was taken in September by Rev. Derek Christensen. A new door for St Paul's Church has been gifted by Marissa Chalmers in memory of Peter. The door came from a very old villa on Onewa Road.

We also had a funeral for Gay Jaques on 19th November taken by Rev. Wayne Thornton and attended by a large number of mourners who filled the church and hall with still more standing outside. Many very moving eulogies were given by Gay's family and friends. Gay was a long-time member of St Paul's, and looked after bookings for Archie Bull Hall for many years. She was known for her beautiful craftwork and it was always a pleasure to look over at the beautiful garden kept by Brian and Gay. She will be sadly missed.

Taking Communion has undertaken some changes because of Covid-19 regulations, and the wine is now offered in small glass cups as well as sipping from the Communion cup (no more dipping wafers).

We are very grateful to David Stacey who agreed to take on the position of Treasurer for the Mangawhai Mission District. Thank you David for taking on this important role. We have also been selling Mangawhai-Kaiwaka calendars outside Jaques Four Square as a fundraiser for the Mangawhai Mission District – many thanks to all who had time to help. Also a grateful thanks to Peter Linnell for removing bamboo and poisoning regrowth and for replacing a leaking downpipe.

We also acknowledge and thank our Ministers, Rev. Wayne Thornton, Rev. John McClean and Rev. Derek Christensen for taking services over the last three months, and to Anneliese and Andrew Allen and Margot Christie-Linnell who organised third Sunday services when Derek was away. We are grateful to Isa Christensen as well for taking care of the morning tea roster and organising birthday cakes, cards and gifts. All blessings for a happy, restful and refreshing Christmas and New Year break.

Fay Burnett

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Help to make this Christmas special for children
less fortunate



Please leave gifts at Christ the King Church,
9 Molesworth Drive, Mangawhai Village between 9 and 11 am,
Tues, Wed, Friday and Sundays. Please label your parcels, boy
or girl and age. Gifts will be distributed in the
Kaiwaka/Mangawhai area.

Enquiries: Mangawhai Ph Church Office 09 431 4122
Kaiwaka: Ph 09 431 2449

Church Profile - David and Surrey Stacey

I was born in Sydney & grew up in Armidale on the northern New South Wales tablelands. We had a homestead that was built in the 1860s on ten acres. The property backed onto a dairy farm so my playground went on forever. We moved to Port Macquarie when my Dad retired & I surfed nearly every day. I studied a Bachelor of Business degree majoring in Accountancy in Lismore for three years & moved to Sydney when I was 21 years old.

I met my wife Surrey who grew up in Devonport & was on her OE a few years later. We were married in 1990 & had our daughter Isabelle in 1991. We decided to move to Auckland in 1995 & have had three kiwi boys Tim, Matt & George who are now 23, 22 & 19 respectively.

We owned a chartered accountancy practice in Albany with a business partner for 12 years which we sold in March, 2015. Isabelle & I set up a Motor Trade Finance franchise in West Auckland which has been a great business completing vehicle finance & personal loans. Isabelle manages the business & Tim & Matt both work full time with us which gives me lots of time to spend in Mangawhai.

I have previously been the treasurer at St Stephens Anglican Church in Bellevue Hill in Sydney & St Cuthberts Presbyterian Church in Browns Bay. I worked with Fay Burnett at St Cuthberts before she moved to Kaiwaka.

We have a five acre lifestyle block in Cames Road property & have 10 alpacas. Our family home is in Murrays Bay & shortly the two younger boys will be the only ones at home. I love golf & surfing & old cars. Surrey loves scrapbooking & the local markets.



Mangawhai Mission District Anglican Church Christmas Services

CAROL SERVICES



**Combined Churches Carol Service
Christ the King Church
Sunday 13 December 7.00 pm**

**St Paul's, Kaiwaka
Carols by Candlelight
Sunday 20 December 7.30 pm**

CHRISTMAS EVE

**St Michael's, Hakaru
Christmas Eve Carol Service
Thursday 24 December 7.00 pm**

**Midnight Christmas Communion
Christ the King Church
Thursday 24 December 11.00 pm**



CHRISTMAS DAY

**Family Communion
Friday 25 December**

**Christ the King Church
Mangawhai 9.00 am**

St Paul's, Kaiwaka 9.00

am



Animal Blessing Service at Christ the King Church



Service for Community groups meeting in Christ the King lounge



Kaiwaka-Mangawhai Garden Club



C + K Craft Group



**Marion Thomas
Yoga Group**