

Otago Peninsula Anglican Parish

Priest's Warden:
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Tuesday 1 - 5 pm Thursday 1 - 5 pm



Sunday 18th December 2022 4th Sunday of Advent Te Rātapu Tuawhā o te Haerenga Mai

Readings

Isaiah 7: 10-16
Psalm 80: 1-7,17-19
Romans 1: 1-7
Matthew 1: 18-25

Sentence

A virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and his name shall be called
Emmanuel: God with us.
Matthew 1: 23

Collect

Living God, you called your
People out of Egypt
and gave them the covenant;
prepare our hearts to hear
your call, so that we may
receive with joy the
gospel of your Son and be your
faithful people, now and
for ever. Amen.

DIARY THIS WEEK: Monday 19th December – Sunday 25th December

Tuesday: 10.00am – Macandrew Bay house-group

Wednesday: 10.00am - Midweek Eucharist at St Michael's

Sunday: 10.00am - Holy Communion at St Michael's

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Begin with 3 candles lit.

"We have already lit the first three candles of the Advent wreath. For HOPE, PEACE and JOY. Today we light the fourth candle for LOVE."

Another candle is lit (4)

Scripture:– Jesus said to them, I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

"John 13:34

Prayer: Loving God, your mercy and compassion endure forever. Open our hearts, that we may receive your love; and following the example of your Son, spread that love to a love-starved world. Through Jesus Christ, who loved us to the end. Amen.

Song

He came singing love and He lived singing love.

He died singing love. He arose in silence.

For the love to go on we must make it our song:

You and I be the singers.

Notices

Covid Precautions

With a recent upsurge in daily Covid cases, although masks are no longer required in church you are strongly encouraged to continue to wear them. Please continue to use the sanitiser on entering and leaving. Spaced seating is now not required, but please be considerate of others' need to have space around them. Likewise in greeting one another at the Peace, please take a cue from others and respect their wishes. We can now have Communion in both

kinds, the wine and the wafers. However parishioners may still prefer not to share the common cup and to take Communion in one kind only. As Bishop Steven has reassured us, you still receive Communion in full if you take only one kind. Most important, don't come to church if you are at all unwell. By taking careful steps forward, we protect ourselves, our families, and those around us who are especially vulnerable.

Parish Office hours for holiday period

The office will close at 5pm on Tuesday 20th December 2022 and re-open on Thursday 19th January 2023.

December/January hours for the Diocesan Office

The Diocesan Office will be closed from midday on Thursday 22 December 2022 and re-open on Monday 9 January 2023.

Online Services

A reminder of the monthly on-line Service. There is no online Service in December. The next one is 22nd January 2023.

To find Sunday church services that are held online, go to the Diocesan website at <https://www.calledsouth.org.nz/on-line-worship/>

Christian World Service Christmas Appeal

The Christian World service Christmas Appeal (and gifts) this year are focusing on an essential need and basic human right - access to water. There are envelopes available in the Harding Lounge, and some will be distributed with the Parish Magazine, or click on the link below to make a donation: <https://cws.org.nz/get-involved/give/christmas-appeal/>

Covid Reminders

Consider masking up in crowds; using a mask on public transport; get a booster shot, if you are eligible; isolate for at least 7 days if you have covid (and longer if you still have symptoms).

Prayers

The Wider Church

Today we pray for mission agencies around the world and give thanks for the amazing work they do.

In the Diocese

Today we pray for the Parish of Oamaru and Maheno – St Luke, Oamaru; St Andrew, Maheno and the Vicar – Rev'd Dr Andrea McDougall. We also pray for the Anglican Youth Network and the work by STRANDZ; Diocesan Children, Youth & Families Educator – John Graveston.

From the Parish Roll

This Sunday we pray for Marie-Louise and Les Neilsen, Edith and Tyrone Paulsen, Cody, Jesse, Sophie and Katie

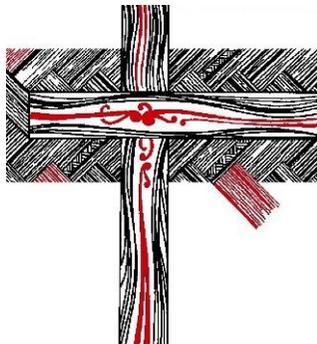
Those who have asked for prayer

Peter Stapleton's sister Dorothy
David Horne
Barbara Gillies

In the Community

In our community we pray for those whose lives are diminished by sickness, loneliness, and isolation from loved ones. We pray also for emergency services and medical personnel who work over the holidays to keep our community safe and well. And we pray for travellers at this busy time, that they may reach their destinations safely, restored to loved family and friends.

**St Michael and All
Angels:** Elliot Street,
Andersons Bay



Next week's readings:

To be confirmed

Isaiah 62: 6-12

Psalm 97

Titus 3: 4-7

Luke 2: (1-7),8-20