

Quest



Easter 2026

Anglican Parish
of
Mount Maunganui



ANGLICAN PARISH OF
MT MAUNGANUI

Priestly ponderings

Easter in the church is not a day, it's a season - it's the great 50 days of Eastertide. The rest of the world has been scoffing chocolate Easter eggs all through lent and on Easter Sunday the disappear from the shops. I have friends who stock up on their Easter eggs, and beginning on Easter Sunday have one easter egg per day for the next 50 days.

Lent is a time for fasting and repentance, Easter a time for feasting and celebration. The final Sunday in Easter is the Feast of Pentecost.

The great feasts and festivals and seasons of the church are a way we continually relive our history and retell our story. These times remind us of what kind of God we worship and who we are.

From the book A Good Year:

The story is told of a little boy who, on coming home from Sunday School, told his mum that the vicar had said that God was everywhere. 'That is true,' his mother responded. 'Is he in the oven when it's hot?' the boy asked. 'Yes,' replied the mother. 'How about in the cupboard?' 'Yes,' said the mother. 'How about the fridge when the door is closed and the light is off?' 'Oh, yes,' retorted the mother. 'How about the cake tin?' asked the boy, as he took the lid off the tin. 'Well, I suppose he is,' answered the mother. The boy slammed the tin shut and announced triumphantly, 'Got him!' Of course, the mother had a lot more explaining to do!

At the festival of Pentecost the Church is marking the first outpouring of the Spirit, described by Luke in Acts 2; on that day God could not be contained. The disciples, who had been hiding behind locked doors in fear following the resurrection and then waiting after the ascension as Christ

commanded them to do, were driven out and, as people watched and listened to them, the word of God was propelled from their lips in languages all could understand. The Holy Spirit came upon them and they ventured forth into the world, God among them and among us, within, for ever. The Church that day was born and that same dynamism, the creative activity of God which was there at the beginning of time and which empowered Jesus, was now present in the Church.

The liturgical colour of the day is red, people are invited to attend dressed in flame colours - red, orange, yellow. There is a festive atmosphere to the celebration, and often this is a day when we share a birthday cake - for the birthday of the church - it's party time!!!

What does this celebration tell us about God? - the emphasis is on God's presence in us and in the world, we are reminded that God is not a distant uninterested God. It's a day of joy and celebration reflecting the joy in God's own nature. Sometimes as Christians we think we must be serious to be spiritual, but we are created in the image of a joyful God. There is also a great generosity and abundance and inclusiveness contained in this story. It reminds us of our identity as church together - it was as they were gathered together that the Spirit was poured out on all - it was a communal experience. Church isn't something we can "do" at home - just me and God. As God is a God of love, so the Spirit we receive is a Spirit of love and demonstrated in relationships. The story of Pentecost reminds us of the importance of gathering together, sharing our lives with each other and not just containing it to us but letting it spill out into the world around us.

Sue+

St Mary's Op Shop is more than just a shop

Easter is a time that reminds us of kindness, hope and looking out for one another and I think our op shop shows a bit of every day.

Over Christmas holidays we decided to do some renovations in the shop. It turned into a bigger job than I first thought and ended up taking a little longer than expected. But in the end, it was really worth it, and the shop looks great and the customers are loving it.

A big thank you to the volunteers who came in and helped during the renovations. It meant a lot and it was really nice to see people giving up their time and pitching in to support the shop.

St Mary's op shop is more than just a place to find affordable clothes books and the old treasure; it's also a place where people come for a chat make new friends and feel welcome. Some people pop in for a bargain other just for a friendly hello and that's something I really love about it

Our volunteers are such an important part of the shop, they give their time sorting donations, pricing items and helping customers and the shop simply wouldn't run without them.

In a small way the op shop is about helping the community reusing what we can and just being kind to one another.

Thank you to everyone who supports the shop the shop by donating shopping or volunteering it really does mean a lot.

If anyone ever has a few spare hours and would like to help out, I would always love to welcome new volunteers

Lana Cole-Pearson

Op Shop Manager

For me easter is about being kind helping out and making people feel welcome.



Easter at St Mary's Family Centre

At St Mary's Family Centre, Easter is a special time where we celebrate and explore the spirit of giving, love, and hope with our tamariki.

Through our Christian curriculum, children learn about the Easter story and the message of Jesus' love for others. In ways that are meaningful for young children, we talk about kindness, caring for others, and the joy of sharing — all in the spirit of Easter.

A very special part of this time is when members of our parish community visit the centre to read stories with the children. Tamariki love gathering together to listen, share ideas, and connect with our church whānau. These visits are a beautiful example of giving — sharing time, attention, and aroha.

These moments support our curriculum by strengthening children's language, relationships, and sense of belonging. They also help children experience the values we talk about each day — **aroha (love), rongo (peace), and hari (joy)** — through real connections with others.

In this way, Easter becomes more than just a story for our children. It becomes something they experience through kindness, sharing, and the warmth of community.

Ngā mihi

Ani de Koster
Centre Manager



Kauri Centre at St Mary's

Great success! Our clients are so excited to come to St. Mary's now 4 days a week.

Amazing feedback from our clients families how beneficial the program is. Families enjoy their time off while the spouses are with us in a friendly and safe environment.

Linda Neethling
Programme Manager



What Easter Means to My Non-Religious Family

For my family, Easter is not a religious celebration, but it is still a time that we look forward to each year.

For us, Easter is about slowing down and spending time together. Life can be busy with work, school, and everyday routines, so having a long weekend where we can gather as a family feels special. It's a chance to put the usual rush aside and enjoy simple moments with the people we love.

Having my two girls, Amyra and Kleo, makes Easter feel especially magical. Seeing the excitement through their eyes reminds me how special the simple traditions can be. They love waking up on Easter morning to search for hidden eggs around the house or garden, and the laughter and excitement that comes with it fills the whole day with joy.

Easter in our home is often filled with these little traditions. We spend time together, share food, and enjoy being outdoors if the weather allows. It's less about big plans and more about being present with each other and making memories as a family.

Even though we are not a religious family, the themes that surround Easter still resonate with us. Ideas like kindness, hope, renewal, and new beginnings are things that everyone can relate to, regardless of belief. Easter arrives at a time of year that naturally feels like a pause — a moment to reflect, reset, and appreciate what we have.

I also recognise that for many people in our community, Easter carries deep spiritual meaning and is an important part of their faith. I think there is something special about living in a community where people can celebrate the same holiday in different ways while still sharing the same sense of togetherness and goodwill.

For our family, Easter is really about connection. It's about creating memories with our children, enjoying the company of family and friends, and taking a moment to be grateful for the life we share together.

As a parent, I feel grateful that Amyra and Kleo are growing up in a community where kindness, generosity, and caring for others are valued. Being connected to a church community reminds us that even when our beliefs may differ, we can still come together with respect, support, and a shared sense of belonging.

In our own way, Easter reminds us to appreciate the small things — laughter around the table, children's excitement, time spent together, and the feeling that each season brings a chance for a fresh start.

Lana Cole-Pearson



Pentecost

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings
Today the hidden fountain flows and plays
Today the church draws breath at last and sings
As every flame becomes a Tongue of praise.
This is the feast of fire, air, and water
Poured out and breathed and kindled into earth.
The earth herself awakens to her maker
And is translated out of death to birth.
The right words come today in their right order
And every word spells freedom and release
Today the gospel crosses every border
All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace
Today the lost are found in His translation.
Whose mother-tongue is Love, in every nation.

From Malcolm Guite, *Sounding the Seasons: Seventy Sonnets for the Christian Year*

Malcolm Guite is a UK priest and poet – much of his poetry is available online



Pentecost

The Stations of the Cross

The practice of commemorating the events of Jesus' Passion through a series of stations began as early Christians sought to deepen their connection to the events of Christ's life, death, and resurrection. Pilgrims journeyed to Jerusalem to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, visiting the sites associated with his suffering and death. Over time, as pilgrimage to the Holy Land became increasingly difficult, the faithful sought ways to replicate this sacred journey closer to home.

By the Middle Ages, the tradition of the Stations of the Cross had taken root in Europe. Pilgrimage sites, such as Jerusalem, became inaccessible due to political unrest and the Crusades. To accommodate the desire for spiritual pilgrimage, churches began to create replicas of the Via Dolorosa, the traditional route in Jerusalem believed to be the path Jesus walked on his way to Calvary. These replicas, known as the Stations of the Cross, allowed believers to embark on a symbolic journey with Christ without leaving their own towns.

The current form of the Stations of the Cross, consisting of fourteen stations, emerged in the 16th century. It was standardized by Franciscan friars, who sought to provide a structured devotional practice for the faithful. The Franciscans played a significant role in promoting the devotion, spreading it throughout Europe and beyond. The fourteen stations correspond to key events in Jesus' Passion, from his condemnation to death to his burial in the tomb.

The Stations of the Cross offer believers a powerful opportunity for prayer, reflection, and meditation on the mysteries of Christ's suffering and death. Each station invites participants to enter into the drama of Jesus' Passion, contemplating the physical and spiritual agony he endured for the sake of humanity's redemption. Through this journey, believers deepen their appreciation for the depth of God's love and mercy revealed in Christ's sacrifice.

For us this Good Friday, we will take this journey together, all are invited.

There are 14 images – one for each station. At each station there is scripture and prayer and time for silent meditation, during the walking between each station the people sing or chant.

Stations of the Cross.

St Peter's Church, 2 pm, Good Friday.

This time is known as the Last Hour. According to the Gospel of Mark, Jesus was crucified at 9 am, the world went dark at noon and at 3 pm he died.

April 3, 2026

Good Friday

Christ has not only spoken to us by his life but has also spoken
for us by his death.



The Stations of the Cross



HOLY WEEK

ANGLICAN PARISH OF MOUNT MAUNGANUI

Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist @ St Peter's 9:30 am

Holy Monday

Midday prayer at St Peter's

Holy Tuesday

Midday Prayer at St Peters

Holy Wednesday

10:00 am Midweek Eucharist at St Peter's

Maundy Thursday

Midday Prayer at St Peter's

7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Eucharist with Foot-washing @St Peter's

Good Friday

2:00 pm Walk the Stations of the Cross at St Peter's

7:30 pm Stabat Mater concert @ St Peter's

Holy Saturday

Midday prayer at St Peter's

Easter Sunday

9:30 St Peter's Holy Eucharist

with Service of Light & renewal of Baptismal vows





St. Peter's Music presents



Logroscino's

Stabat Mater

Good Friday 3 April 7:30pm
St. Peter's Anglican Church
15 Victoria Rd, Mt Maunganui

Admission FREE

The Anglican Parish of Mt Maunganui supports Tauranga Food Bank. Please bring a non-perishable item for those most in need.

The Annual Good Friday Stabat Mater Concert

The *Stabat Mater* is a 13th-century Christian hymn to the Virgin Mary that portrays her maternal sufferings during the crucifixion of her son Jesus Christ. Its author may be either the Franciscan friar Jacopone da Todi or Pope Innocent III. The title comes from its first line, "Stabat Mater dolorosa", which means "the sorrowful mother was standing".

The hymn is traditionally sung in the Catholic tradition at the liturgy on the memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows. The *Stabat Mater* has been set to music by many Western composers. Over the years, St. Peter's chamber musicians have performed several of these settings in concert, including those of Vivaldi, D'Astorga, Scarlatti, Bononcini, Vanhal, and Pergolesi, and Boccherini to name a few. The *Stabat Mater* by Nicola Logroscino (1698-1765) was composed in 1760.

Very little is known about the life of Nicola Logroscino, but his story is quite similar to that of many Italian musicians of his time. They were born in small towns in the south of Italy and studied music in the conservatories of Naples. While they may not have been destined for widespread fame, they took up musical positions in the fields of opera and church music, where their professionalism led them to achieve artistic results which are today appreciated well beyond the provincial sphere in which they were produced at the time. Logroscino became one of the most popular composers of comic opera, so much so that during his own lifetime he was known as the “Lord of the Opera Buffa”. His operas dominated the stages of Florence and Milan.

The *Stabat Mater* is one of the very few of his compositions that survived intact. The remarkable craftsmanship found in this *Stabat Mater* cannot be denied. This devotional composition, influenced by similar compositions by Scarlatti and Pergolesi, does not follow subserviently in their footsteps, but rather takes on a spirit of intense drama which is somehow controlled by the masterly handling of the voices in both solo and duet passages.

It is scored for soprano and alto soloists, violin I and II, and basso continuo. Our 2026 performance will feature soprano, Friederike André, and alto, Tracy Dixon Shum, both choristers of St. Peter’s Chancel Choir and also the Scholars Baroque Aotearoa Chamber Choir. The orchestra will consist of Anneli Ahlers (violin I), Ephriam Tie (violin II) and Therese Ahlers (cello), and will be led from the harpsichord by Musical Director, Chalium Poppy

Easy Vegetable Pot Pie with Cobbler Topping

A scone dough made with applesauce instead of fats and oils and frozen veges cooked in a savoury sauce for the filling. Quick, easy, delicious, warm and comforting as the cold weather approaches. If you don't want to make the scones I'm sure mashed potatoes would also work well for a topping.

Prep Time: 15 mins. Cook Time: 20 mins. Total Time: 35 minutes Yield: 6-8 servings 1x

Category:

The Cobbler topping

Ingredients

1/2 cup of unsweetened almond milk or other plant milk of choice.

2 tbsp of apple cider vinegar

4 cup of unbleached flour

2 tbsp baking powder

1 tsp. baking soda

1 1/2 tsp. salt

2 cup of unsweetened applesauce

Instructions

Mix the almond milk with the apple cider vinegar and set aside. Add all the dry ingredients to a large mixing bowl and whisk together until everything is well combined. Gently cut the applesauce into the flour mixture with a whisk or fork. You're going for a crumbly mixture that has little lumpy bits.

Using a large wooden spoon, slowly fold in the milk and apple cider mixture until the dough is sticky. Be gentle! The less the dough is "handled" the better. Use a jar, small drinking glass, or biscuit cutter of desired size to cut scones.

The Filling

1 onion, chopped
3 cloves of garlic, minced
1 cup of chopped mushrooms
2 celery stalks, chopped
3/4 teaspoon of dried thyme
1/2 teaspoon dried sage
1/3 cup stoneground flour
2 cups low-sodium vegetable broth
3/4 cup unsweetened almond milk (or plant milk of your choice)
2 tablespoons low-sodium soy sauce
3 cups frozen mixed vegetables (carrots, corn, green beans, peas)
Pinch of salt and black pepper or to taste

Instructions

Prepare topping according to instructions but do not bake. Set your oven to 220°C and preheat a large skillet or dutch oven, or casserole dish over medium heat. Or you can cook in a pot and pour into the oven dish for final stage.

Once the skillet or dutch oven is ready add the onion, garlic, mushrooms, celery, thyme, and sage. Stir to combine and cook until the mushrooms release their liquid and the onions are soft. Usually about 4-5 minutes.

Whisk in the flour, vegetable broth, and milk until smooth. Then, add in the frozen veggies and soy sauce. Stir everything together, bring to a low boil, then reduce the heat and simmer for 10 minutes or so allowing the mixture to thicken.

Pour the mixture into a casserole dish or baking dish, line the top with the cobbler/scones, and bake for 15-20 minutes until the filling is hot and bubbly and the cobbler is cooked through. Serve hot and enjoy.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!



JUNE 20 - PARISH POT-LUCK DINNER & TALENT SHOW - 6:00PM DINNER AND A 7:30PM SHOW

To each person, God has given some talent, such as comedy, just to name one, or the ability to suffer, and to some people God has given musical

talent (though not as many as think so).

Garrison Keillor,
Young Lutheran's Guide to the Orchestra

An evening to celebrate US!!! Whether you sing, dance, play an instrument, read a poem, recite a monologue, tell a joke, knit, yodel, spread gossip, calculate taxes, or bake the best pies, everyone has talent!!! This is your opportunity to let your light shine!!!!

A sign up sheet will be left at the back of the church for the pot-luck dinner and talent show. All are welcome! Bring a friend.

If you're not a performer, join us anyway for dinner and stay for the show—we'll need an appreciative and supportive audience!!!!



JULY 25 - MIDWINTER CHRISTMAS CONCERT - 7:00PM

“I will live in the past, the present, and the future”, Scrooge repeated. Scrooge was better than his word. He did it all and infinitely more; and it was always said of him that he knew how to keep Christmas well. May that be truly said of us, and all of us.

Charles Dickens,
A Christmas Carol

Exactly five months to Christmas!!!

St Peter's will shimmer in the warm, glow of lights, to raise our wintery spirits and remind us of our hope in the cold and darkness of the season. Enjoy an evening in the same beautiful tradition as Nine Lessons and Carols — complete with readings, carols, and plenty of opportunities for a good hearty singalong.

Entry by koha will go directly to supporting those in our community who are homeless and in need; a small act of kindness making a world of difference.

Come along, bring your friends, bring your voice, and share in this magical night of carols, community, and compassion.



AUGUST 22 - TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN\ (FROM THOSE CONCERNED) - 7:30PM

Dear Mum,

Last week, a friend of mine in the embassy called Paul Scott Rankin went on leave and asked for me to take care of his enormous brown bulldog called Winston. I said I didn't mind. He looked alright, but Winston is no ordinary old dog. He's stupid, lecherous, and cantankerous and all the time he grunts and snores and slobbers.....

Roald Dahl

Letter to his mother about dog-sitting

A community event celebrating the enduring power of correspondence; a live event whereby remarkable letters are read by a diverse array of talented and outstanding readers.

With nothing more than the power of words, and the beauty of the human voice, TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN aims to blow the mind and touch the soul - bringing to life the intimacy, passion, humour, and raw emotion found in the written word. Real letters, written by real people!

A delicious Wine and Cheese reception to follow. Admission is free for this community event, but attendees are encouraged to bring an item to donate to the Tauranga Food Bank.





VOLUNTEERS WANTED

St Mary's Op Shop Needs You!

**Are you friendly, kind, and enjoy helping
your community?**

- ✓ **Sorting donations**
- ✓ **Pricing items**
- ✓ **Customer service**

Even a few hours a week would make a big difference.
It's a great way to **meet new friends**
and **support** the community.

♥ **We would love to have you join our team!**

Come see **Lana** in store
or message us through our **Facebook page**.

St Mary's Op Shop

Parish Contacts

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Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9am – 2pm



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