



# The Herald

**December 2018**

Christmas is coming fast again this year, where the time goes I have no idea but I always seem to be on a count to the Christmas season. Christmas time is always a special time for a lot of families, where tradition is passed down from previous generations, as in my family nothing but a good old traditional roast like my Mum and Dad did, will do for our kids, and we do just that, as it brings them joy and happy memories of their time with their Grandparents, as I'm sure it will with our Grandchildren.

But we can never forget the reason it is on our calendar. The arrival of the promised Messiah has changed our world forever and it is also sad that so much commercialism has taken over, and the Christmas story and the birth of a King is being pushed aside.

I pray that we all take the opportunity to spread Gods love and wherever possible the Christmas story of hope, as there are so many people out there today who don't know the true origin of Christmas, and as disciples of Christ and with the help of the Holy Spirit we, us, are all capable of spreading the message.

If we think about the wise men who followed the star for hundreds of miles and jumped for joy, who came to Mary and Joseph bringing gifts which provided them with a miracle, our gift of the Christmas story can be someone else's miracle. So let us step out in faith and be obedient to Gods vision this Christmas. We can still celebrate while giving what we know and have, to God and others.

I take this opportunity to say a huge thank you from my heart to you all for the tireless way in which the life and work of our Parish goes on and the unselfish way everyone pitches in. I am so proud of our little Parish and just love calling you all my family. I wish you and your families a very blessed and story sharing Christmas.

*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6*

Lyn

## Bishops' News November 2018

*So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

*Ephesians 4:11-13 [NIV]*

This month's Bishops' News comes to you from one of the fullest periods of the year in our diocesan calendar. Through this week, we have been reminded again of the staggering breadth of Christ's church in the actions of individual men and women and children of faith, past and present, in Aotearoa and across the globe, in ways too many to name.

We began the week remembering in our church calendar the occupation of Parihaka by British forces, on 5 November 1881, and the prophetic insight of Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kākahi as they led their people in peaceful resistance.

Last Tuesday at our Anglican Centre staff meeting, we were blessed to hear of Reverend Jenny Dawson who with friends had, in remembrance of the actions of the Parihaka women who baked bread to share with the British soldiers, baked their own loaves to share with neighbours and friends, and re-tell the narrative of Christ's peace as seen at Parihaka.

Last Wednesday, we were back with our friends at Rātana, joining with them in celebration of the centenary of the birth of the Rātana movement through the receiving of T W Rātana's visions and the beginning of that great ministry of healing in our land.

Across this period, we have been blessed by the presence among us of Cath Livesey from the UK, leading workshops on prophetic discipleship, Rich Robinson and the team from 3DM UK and Australia, and by Oscar and Bea Muriu from Kenya leading discussions on missions, church growth and leadership development.

It has truly felt that this week has been a glimpse of the lived reality of Christ's church – no Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male or female.

And as we move into this weekend, we are looking forward to joining with as many of you as possible in our Diocesan Thanksgiving and Ordination celebration on Saturday 17 November. We will come together humbly in thanksgiving knowing that it is God who gives us the new life and growth we long for. Please continue to pray for our ordinands as they move through their week; their entering into a covenantal relationship and laying down of their lives for Christ's church.

Throughout this period, can we encourage you to reflect on the Ephesians passage above – knowing that a movement is made of individuals making intentional decisions to be like Jesus.

He calls us to be the most authentic versions of ourselves; developing mature servant hearts that lead to a unified body of Christ.

In Christ

*+Justin and +Eleanor*

Environment—by Russell Lyon

### **In-Sink Waste Disposals**

Recently there has been debate in our local City Council chambers as to the value of waste disposals and the implementation of an organic waste collection. There are councils considering such collections as a way to reduce the volume of solids coming into their treatment stations.

Over my lifetime we have never had a waste disposal in any of the houses we have lived in. When we lived in the country, we were able to dispose of organic waste either to chooks, or compost it in the garden. This was getting a second use as the alternative was to pay tip fees as there was no rubbish collection at the gate. When we moved to town, Janice developed a good compost heap or latterly a good worm farm (now dying out through my neglect). Also being aware of the organic waste we were creating made us more aware of what we purchased, so that we were not tempted by the offer of “buy one lettuce and get one for half price”. Normally the second one goes off and is then more organic waste.

When we lived at Momona (Dunedin) our neighbour was in charge of the local village sewerage system. His pet hate was garbage disposals with crushed up bones, mangled cutlery etc clogging up the filters at the plant. Nothing has changed over the forty years since we lived there, as the local council officer in charge of the city’s sewerage plant was quoted in the local paper as having the same problems.

With all this unnecessary organic waste coming into the treatment plant it requires more effort to treat, and the treated water is then discharged into the river. But this waste water is high in nutrients encouraging the growth of algae in the river with the public then complaining about all this growth affecting recreational activities, like swimming and fishing. A problem that they helped create.

If you lived in the country and relied on a septic tank to treat your waste, you would soon know the hidden cost of a waste disposal. You would have to have your septic tank cleaned out at least three times more often as well as the danger of having your soak field becoming overloaded and in need of replacement.

Do you really need that in-sink waste disposal?

# PARISH FAIR



Saturday December 8<sup>th</sup>—doors open at 9am

Planning is now well underway for the church fair.

This year we are not asking for large amounts of goods to be donated however if you have plants, preserves, or pre-loved good quality labelled clothing to donate we would appreciate your contribution.

Baking is also a big seller and is always appreciated.

Items can be brought to the church hall any time  
Friday or on the Saturday morning before 8.30am

If you have any questions about items to donate you can phone  
Neil O'Fee 355-1139  
or Demelza Davidson 021 299-1543 / 326-7207

We will need help in setting up the stalls, most of this is done  
on the Friday prior between 9am - 5pm, thank you in  
advance.

We also need volunteers to help on the day of the fair—you  
will need to be there 8am Saturday morning

Remember to highlight December 7<sup>th</sup> (setup) & 8<sup>th</sup> (fair)  
in your diaries and come along with family and friends to  
support our yearly fund raiser, and also watch the always  
amazing Ashhurst Christmas parade.



# CHRISTMAS EVENTS

## **Sunday 23rd December:**

The combined churches of Ashhurst are holding a family Christmas Celebration Service, from 7.15pm in the Triangle outside the Ashhurst Library. If wet this will be moved to the VVC. Grab your picnic blankets and join us for some free family fun.

There will be... Face Painting, Animal Petting, Puppeteering, Carol Singing Choir, Coffee, Sweets, Bouncy Castle, Christmas Story Book and Sausage sizzle.

The night will finish with the Christmas Story, Carols and Glow Sticks.

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**Christmas Eve offers opportunities** to worship together.

- ◆ St Mary Magdalene Church, Ashhurst, is having an evening service starting at 11pm, Monday 24th December.
  - ◆ St Bartholomew's Church at Komako, is having a family friendly service at 7pm, Monday 24th December.
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## **Christmas Day -**

10am service at St. Mary Magdalene, Ashhurst - this is a service for all ages which includes communion and provides an opportunity for the children to participate.

# Little Kiwis / Loved 4 Life Christmas Party

**Saturday 15th December**  
**10.00am to 11.30am**  
**St Mary Magdalene hall**

**Volunteers/helpers** are needed on  
Saturday 15th December  
to help with preparation of food prior,  
and/or clean up after, the party.

If you are able to help please contact  
Demelza ph: 021 299-1543 / 326-7207

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## Starlight

**Volunteers needed:**  
**Monday 3rd December.**

Starlight need volunteers to help pack the  
Christmas Gift Packs

9.00am start

St Mary Magdalene hall

**If you can help please just turn up at 9.00am**



## Summary of Vestry Meeting 21st November 2018

The following is a brief summary of the topics that were discussed at the last Vestry Meeting:-

- Annual tithing—we have a total of \$2,650.00 for distribution this year to the various charities that we support.
- \$3,225 has been tithed during the year to the Anglican Mission Board for use in the Pacific.
- The Diocese have taken over the vicarage in Ohakune and are turning this into a retreat “for hire” to be available to Youth and other Diocesan groups, for spiritual retreats etc. They are asking for donations to assist in the setting up, whether that be donations of time, expertise in “trades” etc. It was agreed that we would tithe a portion from our Annual tithing towards this.
- Little Kiwi’s party—Demelza asked for help with this on Saturday 15th December—she needs volunteers to help with preparation, set up, clean up.
- Helen M will be working full time at her other job from 19 November to end of January—so will be doing church admin in the evenings from home and some Saturdays
- Helen A advised ChemDry are cleaning her carpets and would it be ok if they cleaned the carpets at Komako while they were there. Agreed we would pay for the carpets to be cleaned at Komako.

Finances for September:  
Offerings banked \$5,079  
Expenses paid: \$3,879

Finances for October:  
Offerings banked \$6,758  
Expenses paid: \$4,075

## **Services for December 2018**

2nd	8.00 am Ashhurst, 10.00 am Ashhurst
9th	10.00 am Ashhurst, 10.00 am Komako
16th	10.00 am Ashhurst
23rd	10.00 am Ashhurst, no service at Komako
24th	11.00 PM Ashhurst, 7.00 PM Komako
25th	10.00 am Ashhurst
30th	10.00 am Ashhurst

## **Services for January 2019**

Ashhurst: No 8am service during January  
10am services as usual

Komako: No services during January.

## **Prayer Breakfasts 2018—8am start**

December 1st: Barbara & Michael  
February 2nd 2019: Penny & Ric

## **Dates for your Diary**

Monday 3rd December—Starlight Christmas packing—front hall 9.00am  
Saturday 8th December—Church Fair, 9am  
Saturday 15th December—Little Kiwi's Christmas Party 10.00am  
Sunday 23rd December—Christmas in the Triangle, 7.15pm  
Monday 24th December—11pm service, Ashhurst.  
Monday 24th December—7pm service, Komako  
Tuesday 25th December—10am service, Ashhurst

## **House Groups**

Monday evenings 7.45pm - 9.45pm

At either Ric and Penny Foxley's 100 Worcester Street, 3268887

Or Mike and Barbara Russell's 144 Winchester Street 3268547

