



The Bream Bay Anglican

The newsletter of the Bream Bay Anglican Mission District

Issue 7

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Facebook: Bream Bay Anglicans

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Knowledge corner

Does the Anglican Church have confession?

Yes, and no. We have a rite called **Reconciliation of a Penitent**, which the catechism (yes, we have one, see p. 934, paragraph 52 of the NZ Prayer Book) calls a *sacramental act* since through it we experience God's grace. A form of private confession is found on pp. 750-753; the emphasis in this rite is on *individual* repentance of specific sins, and reconciliation with God, the Church, and with other people. The rubrics (directions) make it clear that confidentiality of a private confession is absolute: 'under no circumstances will [the priest] ever repeat to any other person what has been divulged'. The efficacy of absolution depends on the intention and true repentance of the penitent (see [Pusey, 1846](#)). If, for instance, a crime is confessed, then absolution may depend on the penitent reporting themselves to the appropriate authority, with a willingness to undergo any consequences.

The **General Confession** first appeared in the Anglican Church in 1548 and has endured in our prayer books. It is a time for us as individuals and a church to become aware of our need for God's grace. The idea of *general* has been construed in several different ways over the church's history. Since we do not confess our private sins, the confession and absolution are general. I like to think of it as a time when the gathered church becomes aware of its corporate need for God's grace because of the ways we have fallen short of our divine commission, and word and sacrament as ways that God's grace restores us.

From your Parish Council

The Parish Council's 27 June meeting attended mostly to financial business; The good news from People's Warden Christine Anderson is that the water problems in the **west window at St Peter's** appear to be the result of blocked weep holes. Inspection found no rot, but there is a recommendation to clear out the weep holes twice a year. This is a tremendous savings to the church.

Your Parish Council held its **annual planning retreat** at St Peter's on Saturday, 6 July from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Your Council decided to retain the two major goals of 2023-24, that is (1) to increase the church roll, and (2) to engage with the community. The 18-month workplan is now being developed and will be presented first to the Council then to the entire parish membership in late August or early September.

Key outcomes of the 26 July meeting are that **Liz Rawhiti** has accepted an invitation to fill one of the two vacancies on the Council. **The Anglican Church Foodbank phone number has changed: the new number is 022 582 5734.** Please disseminate this new number throughout the community.

The application for a **Diocesan Faculty** for a new Johannes Opus 377 organ has been approved, with the stipulation about the return of the organ and disposition of funds in the event the required funds cannot be raised. Assurances were received that a letter of agreement is in process between the funding group and Keyboard Systems that attends to this stipulation. The Council is very mindful of the discussions strong feelings about the proposed organ project. The following motion was passed unanimously by the Council: 'The Parish Council acknowledge with thanks the work of the members of the group called FotO, wish them every success in their work, and look forward to receiving the Johannes Opus 377 organ in due course. We acknowledge that this project has been the subject of considerable debate and discussion in the congregation, and we are confident that all members will be able to move beyond their process concerns and see the possibilities of this project. We note the assurance of FotO that they have complied with the stipulations specified in the relevant Diocesan Faculty.' Minutes for both meetings will be available at the rear of each church once approved.

Thank you!

To everyone who helped to make the first celebration of our patronal feast so memorable, Especial thanks go to Fr Richard who led evensong at St Peter's, and presided and preached at St Paul's.

Charitable donation receipts

Most of us have not yet received our donation receipts for the last tax year. Trust Management Ltd., the Diocesan accounting firm, says that they did not receive all the required documentation from BBAMD until Friday, 12 July. The receipts should now be in process, and you may have received yours by the time you read this.

While this is certainly not optimal, the good news is that you have until 30 March 2025 to claim your tax credit. It is not clear where the ball was dropped, but your Parish Council will investigate to prevent this in the future.



🕒 The **Fellowship Group** meets at 11:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month in the Pavilion of St Paul's. The next meeting will be **7 August**.

If this changes a parish notice will be sent out by email.

This month at BBAMD

Sunday, 04/08, 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (OT)

9:30a Eucharist, St Paul's (We will anticipate the Transfiguration)

Sunday, 11/08, 19th Sunday in OT

9:30a Eucharist, St Peter's

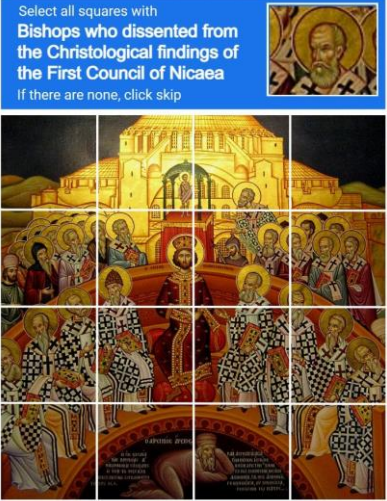
Sunday, 18/08, 20th Sunday in OT

9:30a Eucharist, St Paul's

Sunday, 25/08, 21th Sunday in OT

9:30a Eucharist, St Peter's

Select all squares with Bishops who dissented from the Christological findings of the First Council of Nicaea
If there are none, click skip



For all of us who are tired of having to prove to a computer that we are human!

SKIP

Tabernacle and Ciborium blessed by Archd'n Gale

On Sunday, 14 July, on his scheduled visit to St Peter's, Archdeacon Jonathan Gale blessed the new tabernacle, made by Norm Cave, and ciborium, gifted by Christine Julian. Clergy of the parish were invited to gather around the new tabernacle, which was made of timber salvaged from the renovations at St Peter's.



(Photo courtesy of Suniti Fry)

Where was Mark?

As you may remember Mark was invited to present a keynote address and a workshop at a conference hosted by Lanzhou University titled 'Multiculturalism and Social Work: Dialogue and Exchange in the Age of Globalization'. Lanzhou is located on the banks of the Yellow River (Huang He) in northwestern China, and was a major stop on the old Silk Road. It is now a bustling modern Chinese city of 3.8 million, located in the high desert (1700 m). The invitation came about as the result of Mark's work as an academic with a focus on international social work and was entirely underwritten by Lanzhou University. Academics came from all over Asia.

No major event in Asia happens without a group photo, so here's the official conference photo:



Lanzhou sits nestled among hills rising to 2500m, and on the first night our host took us to a former Buddhist monastery on the top of a hill (photo below, left) to look at the lights of the city. Prior to the conference Mark and a couple of other colleagues were generously hosted by students to visit some regional sites several hours away, including a Muslim enclave at Lanxia, and a Tibetan Buddhist monastery, home to some 1300 monks, in Xiahe. The centre photo below is a Chinese interpretation of a minaret at a mosque.



In addition to these visits, Mark discovered the Catholic Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Lanzhou (no easy thing). While these religions are practiced in China, there is no question that they are very carefully controlled and monitored by Chinese political authorities. Patriotic plaques lined the walls of the church.

The Yellow River is considered the 'Mother of China', and the sculpture above right, installed in 1984, is a rendering of the Mother, with the Chinese people depicted as a child in her lap.

Hall Hires

While Suniti Fry is away overseas until the end of September, **hall and building rentals will be managed by James MacGee**. Thank you, James, for taking on this important community ministry! Please spread the word in the community: you can reach James on

021 0819 9606 or email james.macgee@outlook.co.nz