



# The Bream Bay Anglican

The newsletter of the Anglican Church of Bream Bay (Te Ākau)

Issue 25

Website: [www.breambayanglicans.org.nz](http://www.breambayanglicans.org.nz)

April 2026 Aperira

Facebook: Bream Bay Anglicans

If you have news to share or feedback on the newsletter, please send it to Mark at [mhenrick158@gmail.com](mailto:mhenrick158@gmail.com)

### In this issue:

Knowledge corner: Worship as a sensory experience

From your Vestry

Worship at ACBB in April!

Music at St Peter's

April birthdays

### Knowledge corner

#### Worship as a sensory experience

Liturgical worship is one of the most human yet one of the most sacred things we do. When we gather for worship, we bring all our humanity, including all our senses, to that experience. We see the different colours and witness the consecration of bread and wine. We hear the music and the familiar words of scripture and prayer. We taste the bread and wine, and are fully engaged with the eating and drinking of Eucharist. We touch each other (or at least we used to, and we will again!) at the Peace, and when we receive the bread into our outstretched hands. One of the most memorable sermons I ever heard was when my bishop described his experience of seeing the thousands of hands in which he had placed bread—I recall that sermon every time I preside at eucharist. Worship engages all of our human senses.

But wait, we're missing a sense—*smell*. There is nothing to smell in church (unless the flowers are fresh and you are sitting very close). In response to requests from some members of the church, at the Easter Vigil service we will offer incense this year, and after consultation with the Vestry, we will be offering it from time to time on special occasions at St Peter's. (St Paul's Church is too small and has less ventilation.) The *thurible* (the 'censer') will be borrowed from a parishioner; genuine frankincense has been donated, so no parish resources have been used. At the Easter Vigil service the Paschal Candle, Gospel Book and altar will be censured at the appropriate times.

(continued, p. 2)

### From your Vestry

The Parish Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Sunday, 22 March at St Peter's Church. At that meeting the following people were elected to Vestry:

**Danny Bridge**, Elected Warden

Dr **John Hall**, Vestry Member

**Ian Hanna**, Vestry Member

**Peg Hills**, Vestry Member

The following two people are in the second year of their three-year term as Synod Representatives:

**Sally Haigh**

**James MacGee**

Dr **Sue Hancock** accepted an appointment as the Appointed Warden. Together with the Vicar, these people are your Vestry for the 2026-27 year. Members were reminded that it is not necessary to have a surname beginning with 'H' to provide parish leadership.

Reports were received from the Vicar, Wardens, Foodbank, Health and Safety, Privacy and Op Shop. A Treasurer's Report was received, and an indicative statement of accounts noted. The approval of the 2025 Statement of Accounts and the 2026 Budget was deferred for a Special General Meeting which will be held by 30 June.

Small group discussions were held to consider the various Vestry options for the relocation of the Op Shop. Written feedback was collected and were collated and presented to Vestry in their deliberations and decision (see p. 2).

The Rev **Annette Herbert**, and musicians **Jan Pirihi**, **Anne Connolly-Munt** and **Wendy and Ross Boyd** were recognised and thanked for their long and dedicated contributions to worship at ACBB. Annette has not renewed her Bishop's Permission to Officiate, and so will no longer conduct services. She had a major birthday celebration (one with a 'zero' on it) this year, and fulsome congratulations have been offered.

The Vestry meeting scheduled for 26 March was postponed because of the major storm affecting Northland. The rescheduled date is 9 April, 5 pm, at St Peter's.

*Vestry minutes and draft AGM minutes and reports are available in the folders on the sign-in trolley at St Peter's and in the credenza in the Pavillion at St Paul's.*

Summer Time Ends on Easter morning, 5 April



Set your clocks back one hour Saturday evening!



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 1 April.

### April Worship at ACBB

#### 02/04 Maundy Thursday

7:00p Foot washing and Eucharist, St Paul's

#### 03/04 Good Friday

10:00a Community service  
*begins at Waipū Presbyterian; arrive at St Peter's approx. 10:45a; Fr Richard will offer a reflection*

2:00p Service of the Word, St Paul's  
5:00p Stations of the Cross, St Peter's

#### 04/04 Easter Eve (Saturday)

7:00p Lighting of the new fire and First Eucharist of Easter, St Peter's  
*Incense will be offered*  
(Note: Sunset is at 7:14p)

#### 05/04 Easter Day

9:30a Festive Eucharist, St Paul's

#### Sunday, 12/04, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

9:30a Eucharist, St Peter's

#### Sunday, 19/04, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

9:30a Eucharist, St Paul's

#### Thursday, 09/04 (rescheduled date)

5:00p Vestry meets, St Peter's

#### Sunday, 26/04, Feast of St Mark

9:30a Eucharist, St Paul's

Saturday, 25/04, 11:00, ANZAC Day event, Waipū Centre

Monday, 27/04, ANZAC Day holiday

### Friends of the Organ

#### Winter Performances at St Peter's

Friends of the Organ have set their upcoming winter performances at St Peter's Church. These afternoon performances will include:

Sunday, 18 May, John Carter, Organ

Sunday, 19 July, John Wells, Organ

Sunday, 16 August, Vera Lispe

Sunday, 20 September, Whangārei Choral Society

Further details of these performances will be forthcoming. Make a note of these dates in your diaries now and plan to support music in Waipū!

#### Blessed April birthdays to...

Daniel Garton, 05/04

Ani Ahomiro, 10/04



#### Op Shop Parish Consultation Feedback

During the AGM, parish members were invited to submit feedback from small group discussions on Vestry-proposed options for the Op Shop relocation.

Eight separate groups reported back. Disappointingly, some members seemed unaware of the extensive research that has taken place since last June. Two groups said they needed more information; two restated the problem [that we need to relocate the Op Shop]. One group expressed support for renovating the existing building. This is not a viable option; the Diocese Trust Board will not authorise the parish to spend parish money on a rental building. The WDC report notes that building may be declared unsafe and require urgent evacuation at any time. Two groups opposed renting, and supported relocating to a permanent building on parish-owned land on Nova Scotia Dr. All agreed that the Op Shop was important to the community. All feedback is available both 'raw' (scanned feedback) and in a two-page verbatim summary.

Vestry will consider the feedback at the rescheduled Vestry meeting on 9 April. Members are encouraged to make themselves aware of the information available (talk with **Sally Haigh**, Op Shop manager, or **Sue Hancock**, Warden). Watch for further opportunities to engage with information from your elected Vestry about this initiative.

#### Worship as a sensory experience

*(cont'd from p. 1)*

Incense has had a place in liturgical worship for thousands of years. Exodus 30 commands the Israelites to build an altar so that incense can be burned every morning and evening (Exodus 30:34-38 even has a recipe for an incense blend), and Leviticus 16 has instructions on its use. Psalm 141 asks that God count prayers 'as incense'; Malachi prophesies that incense will be offered before God by all nations, signalling the dominance of the God of Israel. Zechariah is in the Temple burning incense when he encounters the Angel Gabriel (Luke 1:8-12). Perhaps best-known is the book of Revelation (5:8 and 8:3-4) where incense is described as the 'prayers of the saints' (that is, Christian believers).

Incense has been used in Christian worship (particularly during the offices, Morning and Evening Prayer) since the 4<sup>th</sup> century. It is used as a symbol of prayers rising to God. Although, like many of our contemporary practices (organ music, vestments, altar candles, the presider facing the people, even Christmas), the use of incense was suppressed during the Protestant Reformation, it is now quite common in Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Anglican and even Lutheran liturgies.

The use of incense in Anglican liturgy is limited to the central aisle and altar, so if you think you may be genuinely uncomfortable with the aroma, you may wish to sit towards the back or outer edges of the nave when incense is offered. Our limited use is a way of welcoming and including all of what makes us human and including the variety of worship traditions dear to our members. Enjoy the full sensory experience of worship.

#### Rack 'n Roll at St Paul's

It doesn't seem like headline news, but being able to store the dossal curtains at St Paul's on a rack (rather than folding them up and storing them on a shelf for months at a time) is a blessing! Thanks to **Norm Cave's** craftsmanship (again!) and guided by the experienced wisdom of sacristan (and wife) **Linda Cave**, the sacristans at St Paul's will no longer need to spend hours ironing and maintaining them. This simple fix will keep the curtains draped and tidy in the vestry and frees up shelf space. Norm is also the cabinetmaker who crafted the tabernacles for reserve sacrament at both churches and repaired the cracked baptismal font at St Peter's this year. Thank you very much Norm and Linda!!



#### Proposal to close a structure on hold

No further action will occur on the Vestry proposal to close one of the parish structures until the Vestry have approved the 2026 Budget to present to an upcoming SGM. Vestry criteria for assessing closure were noted in the Vicar's Report to the AGM, but until we know our actual financial position, this initiative will not be progressed.

#### Easter Home Communion

Mark is now scheduling Easter home communions for the week after Easter. If you or someone you know is unwell or physically unable to attend church at either Easter service (Saturday evening or Sunday morning) and would like to receive Easter communion, please let him know by email, text or phone. If you have received communion at home previously, you are already on the list, and he will be in touch with you.