



The Bream Bay Anglican

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

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If you have news to share or feedback on the newsletter, please send it to Mark at mhenrick158@gmail.com

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Knowledge corner

Why do we pray?

The catechism (p. 934 of A NZ Prayer Book) tells us that Prayer is our response to God's love.

We can pray with or without words, by ourselves or with others. Forms of prayer include adoration, praise, thanksgiving, confession, intercession, and for ourselves. Listening to God is called meditation, or contemplative prayer: we do not use words in meditative prayer, but make ourselves still, and available to the Spirit.

Perhaps the most common form of prayer for most Christians is intercessory prayer, that is, praying for others. We do not pray to change God—who knows our needs before we do—but rather to change *us*, which means we must be open to change. Intercessory prayer makes us available and open to the needs of the person for whom we pray. Intercessory prayer makes us and the church aware of the needs of the individual, the community, the world, so that we can change our minds and hearts, and respond to those needs.

The Dutch priest, pastor, and academic Henri Nouwen wrote:

To pray for others means to make them part of ourselves. To pray for others means to allow their pains and sufferings, their anxieties and loneliness, their confusion and fears to resound in our innermost selves. To pray, therefore, is to become those for whom we pray, to become the sick child, the fearful mother, the distressed father, the nervous teenager, the angry student, and the frustrated striker.

(From *Compassion: A Reflection on the Christian Life*, 1982)

From your Vestry

Vestry did not meet formally in July, although it reviewed the financial reports. There was one unexplained expense in June which has since been refunded to the Parish. Much Vestry attention is now focussed on the Magnolia Project (the Op Shop relocation).

At this writing the Magnolia Project has received provisional approval from the Diocesan Faculties Committee and the General Trust Board (to use our investment funds) and the contract is in the hands of the lawyers. This is an unanticipated and unavoidable exercise, which will add to the costs of the project. However, we hope that the risks of the project are minimised. Full approval of the project will be taken after the final plans and design of the structure have been completed and submitted for review.

Minutes of Vestry meetings from January 2025 have been printed and the folders in each church have been updated. Both approved Vestry minutes and draft AGM/SGM minutes are available. (Remember that AGM and SGM minutes are in draft form only until the following AGM, since the entire membership votes on those minutes.)

Keeping your Parish membership active

Just a reminder that Paragraphs 21-24 of the Parish Statue 2024 set out the following requirements:

- Each parish shall maintain a roll of all baptised people who have: regularly participated in the worship and life of that parish over a six-month period; and expressed in writing their wish to be included in the roll.
- The roll will record for each such person: full name; contact details; and date of entry on, and (if applicable) deletion from, the roll.
- No person may be entered on more than one roll at the same time. If a person is entered on more than one roll at the same time, they shall be deemed entered only on the roll on which they were last entered.

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If you haven't seen us in a while, why not stop in this winter? At the end of July we had 46 voting members of the parish.

Heaters in winter

If you use the main heaters at St Peter's please turn them on/off at the main switch only (by the main entrance), not at the individual heaters.

The heaters in the St Paul's Hall have now been changed to a timer. To turn them on for two hours, simply press the new switch on the wall in the electrical cupboard. The heaters will switch off automatically. If you are there longer than two hours, press the same switch again. Please do not operate the individual heaters.

If you use the oil heaters in the Pavilion, remember to turn them off and unplug them when you leave.

Music at St Peter's

On Sunday 16 August, Vera Dirksen Pluijaar will present Chamber Music at St Peter's.

The Whangarei Youth Choir and All Tuned Up (a male vocal group) will also perform.



The Fellowship Group meets at 10:30a on the first Wednesday of each month in the Pavilion of St Paul's. The next meeting will be 5 August.



August Worship at ACBB

Sunday, 02/08, 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time (OT 18)

9:30a Eucharist, St Paul's

Transfiguration is 6 August

Sunday, 09/08 (OT 19)

9:30a Eucharist, St Peter's

Sunday, 16/08 (OT 20)

9:30a Eucharist, St Paul's

Sunday, 23/08 (OT 21)

9:30a Eucharist, St Peter's

Thurs. 27/08, Vestry meets at St Peter's

Sunday, 30/08 (OT 22)—a 5th Sunday

9:30 Eucharist, St Paul's



'Move On Orders' legislation attracts the Anglican Church's attention

Bishop Ross Bay and City Missioner Helen Robinson have responded to the proposed 'Move On Orders' legislation with a video. This legislation proposes to grant Police to require persons camped on streets in any community to move on to another site.

The conversation can be viewed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ilm6mZbLjFU> (click on the bottom right of the screen to remove the duplicate subtitles).

The proposed legislation has been opposed by social service agencies, faith communities and the Police.

The Bible is the only book you will NEVER finish. Everytime you read it you will get a new revelation. Literally a living word.

Villy Day Out 2026

Villy Day Out in Ruakākā is Saturday, 7 November at Te One Reserve (behind St Paul's). If you can help organise the ACBB presence at this event, please contact Mark as soon as you can. Right now we need creative ideas. In 2024 and 2025 we did seed planting for kids. Innovative ideas for 2026 are welcome!

Blessed August birthdays to...

Marama Ahomiro, 04/08
Richard Hancock, 14/08
Peg Hills, 27/08



New Ministry at Maunu and Onerahi

The Revd Catherine Anderson takes up a role this month as Ministry Enabler in the Parishes of Maunu and Onerahi, alongside a Selwyn Foundation role in Whangārei as Chaplain to older people.

The Commissioning Service took place on Tuesday 28 July at the Church of St Stephen's, Onerahi.

Ngā tukanga a Te Rūnanga Tohu o Te Hui Amorangi ki Te Manawa o Te Wheke

A process has been announced to elect a Pīhopa [Bishop] for te Amorangi ki Te Manawa o te Wheke. The Amorangi is one of five Māori dioceses in Aotearoa. It includes much of the central part of Te Ika o Maui (central North Island), from the Coromandel Peninsula through the Manawatū. Read more about this Amorangi here: <https://www.motw.org.nz/about-us>

Transfiguration

The 6th of August is the Feast of the Transfiguration. It is attested in the three synoptic gospels (Matthew 17, Mark 9, and Luke 9), and there is also an allusion to it in 2 Peter 1. The vision of Jesus appearing on a mountain top with Moses and Elijah is significant because it shows the relationship of Jewish Torah and the Prophets to the Sonship of Christ: the disciple-witnesses heard a voice saying 'This is my Son, my beloved (or in Luke, my chosen): listen to him'. While the disciples wanted to stay on the mountaintop, Jesus requires them to be silent about the event. He then instructs them about his coming death.

The Feast appears to have originated in the Eastern Church, where it was widely adopted before 1000 CE; it was not observed in the Western Church until 1456 when it was fixed on 6 August to commemorate a military victory over the Turks at Belgrade. It is not a moveable feast, so we do not observe it on a Sunday. In our time we also remember that 6 August is the anniversary of the first time an atomic bomb was used in war at Hiroshima, Japan.



Joint Pastoral Letter to the Anglican Communion

The Most Revd and Rt Hon Dame Dr Sarah Mullaly, Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Most Revd Hosam Naoum, Anglican Archbishop of Jerusalem and the Middle East, undertook a joint pilgrimage in the Holy Land, including Palestine, and have published a pastoral letter to Anglicans around the world about their experience in that troubled area of the world. You can find the full text of that letter [here](#).