

Welcome! Haere mai!

St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai



Sunday 22 March 2026 Lent 5 *Liturgy: p404 Psalm 130*

Greetings:

Grace and peace to you all. My name is John Heberton and a week ago Bishop Andrew invited me to be your priest in charge over the next while.

Some of you might know me. I have lived in Tauranga for over 30 years and worked for the Diocese of Waiapu for much of that time. I am married to Bonnie, and we have three adult children who all describe themselves as Mounties. Bonnie and I were the Regional Youth Facilitators and had a lot to do with leaders and young people from here. I had a national role for 9 years until 2012, when I was installed as the vicar of Gate Pā. And for about three years I was the archdeacon for Tauranga City and Coast. In 2024 I retired and have spent the last couple of years sorting some health issues. I am also an Anglican Franciscan – which is what the “tssf” at the end of my name is all about.

It is a privilege to be asked to take on this role. I am looking forward to getting to know you and this parish better. Sadly, I already had several commitments booked when asked, which means I am not here for many Sundays over the next 5 weeks. The roster Tony organised will stand until April 26. I am here and will be around during holy week and, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. It is my intention to generally be in the office all day Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings (but not this Tuesday). I will take the mid-week Eucharist most weeks.

I look forward with joy to what the next months hold for us all.

John Heberton tssf.

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 22 March 2026

Sentence:

'I am the light of the world,' says the Lord; 'those who follow Me will have the light of life.'

John 1: 25-26

Collect:

God in Trinity, Creator, Saviour, Giver of life and truth, reveal the possibilities within us, that we may attain to the fullness of our humanity. Hear this prayer for Your love's sake. Amen.

OT Reading *Ezekiel 37: 1-14*

NT Reading *Romans 8: 6-11*

Gospel *John 11: 1-45*

Prayers of the People

Today we pray for the coordinators and volunteers of the refugee settlement programme in New Zealand, and for the people of the West Rotorua Parish and their Ministry Support Team

We pray also for those in need, especially those who have asked for our prayers: Craig, Viv, Lynda, Lawrence, Kathy, Reg, Jon.

Tony and Christine Farewell Gift

Thank you to everyone who contributed toward Tony and Christine's farewell gifts. A total of \$610 was raised, which enabled us to give them a boat cruise to Tiritiri Matangi Island and a boat cruise to Man O' War Vineyards on Waiheke Island, including a tasting voucher, along with a store voucher for their new home.

St George's Taizé Service - Sunday 29 March 7pm

Join the people of St George's for a contemplative service based on the music of the Taizé Community.

Parish AGM – Sunday 19 April

Our AGM will be held in church on Sunday 19 April. We will celebrate our life together as a parish in 2025 and look forward to the future. ***In preparation for the AGM nominations for Vestry are sought – nomination forms are available in the foyer.*** Ideally, we would like more Vestry members than we had in 2025 so that we can ensure we have a quorum for all meetings.

This Week Beginning: 23 March

Wednesday 10.00 am Mid-week Communion
11.00 am Lenten Study
2.00 pm SAYGO in the hall
7.00 pm Vestry Meeting

Friday 9.30 am Senior Chef

Op Shop 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday to Thursday
10:00 am – 1:00 pm Friday and Saturday

Playgroup 9:30 – 11:30 am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Toy Library 9:30 – 11:30 am Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Service for Sunday 29 March -

9:30am Holy Communion

Contact Us

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