

*Welcome! Haere mai!*

## **St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai**



**Sunday 31 May 2026**

*Liturgy: p476*

*Trinity Sunday*

*Psalm 8*

*Hi everyone:*

I am really looking forward to being with you all on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May. I came by last Sunday to get a feel for the place and people, so that (hopefully) it goes okay this coming Sunday.

A little background for you ... I moved out of Auckland in January 2023 and I currently live 'nearby' in Katikati. I work in Katikati as an Accountant. I was the Priest in Charge of Albany / Greenhithe, Auckland before my move. I did not grow up 'in the faith' 'in the church'. I basically knew nothing of the Christian faith until 2005, when I was nearly 32 years old. I think 'that' background has shaped me tremendously as I studied towards my theology degree and as I attempt to live into 'The Way'. Somehow trying to blend the 'old' with the 'new', perhaps. I am a member of The Order of the Holy Cross, so I am also looking forward to connecting with other members this week (and next) too.

This Sunday is Trinity Sunday ... and I will not be attempting to unpack and explain 'that'. I am currently drawn to readings that include mentions of doubt, as we all have it at some time or another, to some degree or another ... and that is okay. It is possibly even necessary for growth and development. So the Matthew reading appealed to me with its mention of doubt.

I will sign off this newsletter using some of the words from the 2 Corinthians reading (MSG) ...

“And that’s about it, friends. Be cheerful. Keep things in good repair. Keep your spirits up. Think in harmony. Be agreeable. Do all that, and the God of love and peace will be with you for sure.”



See you Sunday,

*Gendi*, OHC

## **WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 31st May 2026**

### **Sentence:**

Proclaim the Name: ‘The Lord, the Lord, a God who is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.’

*Exodus 34:6*

### **Collect:**

Father, you sent your Son to bring us truth and your Holy Spirit to make us holy; open our hearts to exalt you, open our lives to reveal you, our one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

**OT Reading**    *Genesis 1:1-2a*

**NT Reading**    *2 Corinthians 13:11-13*

**Gospel**        *Matthew 28: 16-20*

### **Prayers of the People**

Today we pray for the wisdom of the Holy Spirit to guide our clergy and people in sharing the Good News of Jesus that families, friends and communities may come to know and love the Lord, and we pray for Ngati Porou - Tokomaru Pariha: Rev. Ngaio Keelan.

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

### **Mid-Week Communion - The Venerable Christopher Tweddell**

The Venerable Christopher Tweddell is now the Archdeacon for Tauranga Cities and Coast as well as co-Ministry Educator. He will be joining us for our mid-week communion on **Wednesday, 3 June**. All are warmly invited to come along and meet him.

### **Services while John is on Sick Leave**

**Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup>** - Rev Gendi Burwell will be presiding and preaching

**Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup>** - Rev Gendi Burwell will be presiding and Angela Stensness will be preaching.

**Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup>** - Tim Cross will be leading a Service of the Word and will also be preaching.

### **Choral Evensong**

All Parishioners are invited to attend the liturgy of Choral Evensong at St. Peter's Anglican Church in Mount Maunganui on the first Sunday of every month at 4.00pm. **June:** Music of the Tudor Church: Works by Byrd, Tallis & others

### **Senior Chef**

A reminder that our Senior Chef cooking and nutrition course for over-60s starts again on June 12th. All are welcome — it's as much about friendship and fun as it is about cooking!

### **Playgroup – Volunteer Needed**

Do you have a few hours a fortnight? Playgroup need a volunteer to help in the kitchen between 9am & 11am, once a fortnight on a Wednesday, as one of our long-term helpers is moving away. Please let Erica know if you can help.

### **Henry Williams - Trader, Peacemaker, Missionary**

On Thursday 25 June in Tauranga Moana, bicentenary commemorations for Henry Williams (Karuwihā) will take place. For tickets go to: <https://www.waiapuanglicans.org.nz/post/bicentenary-celebrations-for-henry-williams-arrival>

## **This Week Beginning: 1<sup>st</sup> June**

**Wednesday** 10:00 am Mid-week Communion  
2:00 pm SAYGo in the hall  
**Thursday** 12:30 pm Books & Friends at Kunul Cafe  
**Sunday** 9:30 am Holy Communion

Op Shop 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Tuesday to Friday  
10:00 am – 1:00 pm Saturday  
Playgroup 9:30am – 11:30 am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
Toy Library 9:30am – 11:30 am Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

### **Contact Us**

**Priest in charge:** The Reverend John Hebenton tssf  
**Email:** john.hebenton@waiapu.com  
**Ph:** 07 576 9923 or 021 679 202

**Parish Office:** Erica Orrick Ph: 07 576 9923  
**Hours:** 8:30am – 1:30pm Tuesday - Friday  
**Email:** admin.otumoetai@waiapu.com  
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