

Kāpiti Anglicans

6 DECEMBER 2020

Prepare the way.

Welcome to you all as we gather to worship the Living God together.

In this second week of Advent we focus on John the Baptist and his message heralding the coming of the one who would bring the salvation of God to all people. John called the people to repent in order to receive the salvation God was bringing. The levelling of valleys and mountains and the making straight of crooked paths are poetic ways of speaking about the changes that need to be made in our lives in order to be ready for Jesus. What is crooked in our lives must be made straight- where we have deviated from the ways of God we must return to straight paths. Every high place in our lives, be it our lofty thoughts and pride or our idol worship (music, money, power, self etc) must be broken down, whilst the valleys in our lives must be raised up and supplied with what we need. This can only be done by turning to God in repentance. Let us allow the Holy Spirit to reveal our faults and failures and our need of a saviour as we prepare the way for Jesus this Advent. In humility let us be open to the redemption that Jesus brings.

Our theme today is peace.

Let us join in praying for peace for Palestine, Jerusalem and Syria. For peace for all who know violence and unrest and those who live in fear. For peace in our own society and in our hearts and minds. Come O Prince of Peace, Come.



Julie

A special welcome to all who are visiting with us today.

We are family, we are disciples, we care for the last, the lost and the least.

Readings	6 December	13 December
First Testament	Isaiah 40:1-11	Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11
Epistle	2 Peter 3:8-15a	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel	Mark 1:1-8	John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sentence and Collect for the Day

Sentence: "Prepare the way of the; make his paths straight; for the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together."

(Mark 1:3, Isaiah 40:5)

Collect: Gracious God, John the Baptist prepared the way, preaching baptism and repentance; help us to watch and pray, to listen for the wilderness voices still crying to be heard, and to respond through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Lectionary Readings for Sunday 6 December 2020

Second Sunday of Advent—Violet

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13 The Psalmist knows that God will listen to the faithful, and will bring a time of peace and plenty to the land.

Isaiah 40:1-11 Having previously warned of Israel's forthcoming subjugation to Babylon, Isaiah now comforts them with a vision of the Lord's mercy to come, of a voice 'calling for a way to be prepared in the wilderness', which will announce that coming. The glory of the Lord will be revealed to all nations, and He will tend His people like a shepherd with his flock.

2 Peter 3:8-15a Peter is writing around AD 66 to Christians dispersed throughout the Roman empire, and here focuses on their need to prepare themselves for the certainty of Jesus' eventual return. He emphasises the importance of living a holy and godly life.

Mark 1:1-8 Mark begins his Gospel by quoting from Isaiah's prophecy of 'the messenger sent ahead to prepare the way for the Lord'. John had come proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins; but whereas he baptized with water, Jesus baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Chris Durrant

Parish Daily Prayer Services are offered both morning and evening. You can join this prayer group by using the Zoom links below:

- **Morning Prayer:** 8am Mon to Fri

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/703543297?pwd=VlVVeEUvWHA0Qzc2KzJFaDhTYnZsdz09>

- or use meeting ID is 703 543 297. Password: 6NpsHP

Evening Prayer <https://movementonline.org.nz/evening-prayer>

Monday—Saturday at 9pm

Zoom Meeting ID: 211-936-7784 Password: *prayers*

Notices



Advent Retreat

This afternoon 1-3pm at St Paul's Church. Please come and let's share prayer space to prepare to welcome our Lord this Christmas. Lynda

New Wine 2021

New Wine 2021—21-25 January at Kapiti College. A great opportunity to meet people from other parishes, listen and worship together.

<https://newwine.org.nz/summer-festivals-2/kapiti/>

AAW Diocesan Advent Service

Thursday 10th December @ St Paul's, beginning at 12 noon

The afternoon begins in the Hall with a shared lunch, with time for fellowship before the service in the Church at 1.30pm. Ven Julie Rokotakala will preside at the service. Following the service, there will be a presentation of 50-year Service Bars for qualifying members from the greater Wellington area of the Diocese, including 4 ladies from Kapiti Parish. All ladies in the Parish are welcome to come along to support these long serving members.

Christian World Service

Kapiti Anglicans will have a special **Christmas appeal** collection on the **13 December**

CWS believe the provision and enjoyment of the basic necessities for living a decent, just and humane life is God's will for all humankind. All human beings have the right to a standard of living that ensures justice, human dignity and environmental integrity.

Cursillistas Mini-Ultreya

2pm—5pm St Paul's Church
13 December. **Please bring a plate**

Parish Library

Information for our Parish Library is online at
<https://www.libib.com/library/home>

Parish Prayer Chain:

- Confidential
 - All prayers accepted
 - Many pray for you (Prayer group)
 - Many answers to prayers
 - We receive God's love
- Contact—Marion Henderson 905 1171
or marionhenderson@xtra.co.nz



Big hearts-Connected World

The climate crisis and Coronavirus pandemic are unravelling decades of work to lift our global brothers and sisters out of poverty. Our politicians have promised to lift our game in terms of helping our Pacific neighbours respond to these global crises and more, but so far, they haven't delivered. This advent our movement is joining forces with major aid agencies to support the Big Hearts campaign, calling on the government to implement a Collective

Resilience Plan that will better enable our global brothers and sisters to thrive in the face of adversity. We will hear more about how we can help with this next week and we will be encouraging support of the Christian World Service advent appeal this year.

Advent Carol Service

St Mark's tonight at 5 pm,
Bible readings, Advent hymns
and anthems focussing on our
preparation for Jesus' birth at
Christmas, and his coming again.



For Your Diary

December 6	Advent Carol Service, 5 pm, St Mark's Church
6	Advent Retreat 1pm, St Paul's Church
13	Cursillo Advent Service 2pm, St Paul's Church
13	Community Christmas Carol Service 5pm St Peter's Church
20	Nine Lessons and Carols 7pm St Paul's Church
23	Office closed—Reopen 24 January
27	Morning Eucharist at QEII Park, more details to follow

PARISH PRAYER CHAIN: Contact **Marion Henderson** via email on:
marionhenderson@xtra.co.nz or phone 905 1171

Parish Directory

Vicar: Ven. Julie Rokotakala	021 118 3657	vicar@kapitianglican.org.nz
St Mark's: Rev. John & Barbara Bonifant	(04) 905 3301	bjbonifant@gmail.com
St Peter's: Rev. Lynda Wards	(04) 234 1170	lyndawardsnz@gmail.com
Children and Families: Rev Fiona Thomson	021 442 676	fee@xtra.co.nz
Parish Pastoral Care /Prayer/Rosters:	(04) 234 1170	lyndawardsnz@gmail.com
Home Groups: Kathleen Fleck	(04) 298 5630	kathleen.fleck@xtra.co.nz
Wardens: Sheridan David & Mary Cropp	(04) 904 7300	emjaycee59@gmail.com
Treasurer: Paul Bull	(04) 904 7300	treasurer@kapitianglican.org.nz
Parish Administration: Vickie Riceman	(04) 904 7300	office@kapitianglican.org.nz

www.kapitianglican.org.nz

Library—<https://kapitianglicans.libib.com/>

Parish Office open: 9am-12pm Tues to Fri Tel: 04 904 7300