



Diocese of
Dunedin

Ko Te Tonga kei te Karaka - The South Calling: 19 December 2024

Our final pānui for 2024 celebrates Christmas and looks forward to next year. Have a great break - the [Diocesan Office closes](#) from 20 December to 13 January. Check out the [Christmas Greetings](#) from the Anglican Archbishops and Primates of Aotearoa, NZ and Polynesia. Remember that Anglican Missions are still accepting donations for their [Holy Land Appeal](#). Finally, do you have photos from Advent and Christmas? We'd love to get them!

There are more articles than will appear in your email summary - follow the links to explore the full publication.

Our first edition for 2025 will be on Thursday 16 January 2025. Please forward any news and photographs to bishops.pa@calledsouth.org.nz by 9 am Monday 13 January 2025.

[Click here](#) for a printable PDF copy of this edition and see our [newsletter webpage](#) to view previous ones and for accessible viewing options. Have a look at our regular articles that may not be featured in this newsletter: [Vacancies](#), [Events and Calendar](#), [Nourishing Faith Resources](#), [Latest Public Health Advice](#).

The Diocesan Office and Resource Centre (Peter Mann House) will fully reopen again on Monday 13 January - [click here for more information](#).

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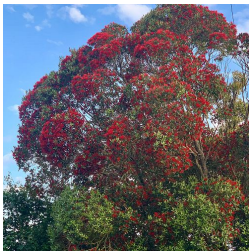
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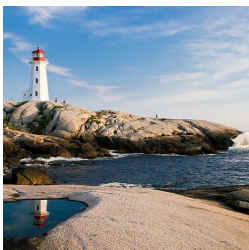
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Episcopal Ordination of the Venerable Dr Anne van Gend

by Bishop Ross Bay

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Diocesan Council and Dunedin Diocesan Trust Board Meetings November-December 2024 *by Andrew Metcalfe*

The Diocesan Council (Standing Committee), the Trusts Board and the Dunedin Diocesan Trust Board meet monthly. Read on for some highlights from November and December 2024.



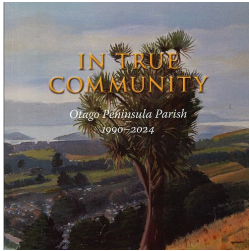
A 2024 Diocesan Advent Calendar for all! *by Anne van Gend*

Have you checked out the Diocesan Advent Calendar? There a few more days to go and this year individuals and faith communities from across the Diocese have come together to create an Advent Calendar to lead us up to Christmas



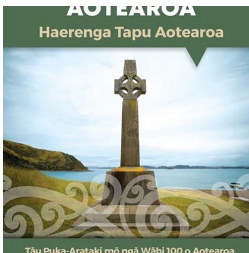
Advent and Christmas 2024 *by Andrew Metcalfe*

Greetings from the Diocesan Office as we move into Advent: check out our website for Advent and Christmas services this year.



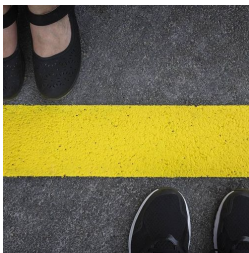
In True Community Book Now Available *by Andrew Metcalfe*

There are a limited number of an updated history of the Otago Peninsula Anglican Parish available for sale - perhaps a perfect gift or for your own bookshelf.



Pilgrimage Aotearoa - A New Resource *by Andrew Metcalfe*

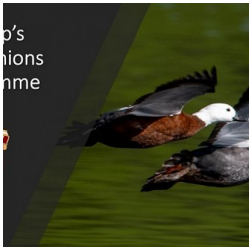
Ever wanted to go on a pilgrimage... but want to stay closer to home rather than go on a bigger adventure elsewhere in the world? This new resource has places of significance that you can visit within Aotearoa - New Zealand.



UPDATE: Boundaries Workshop Series for 2024/2025 *by*

Diocesan Ministry Educator - Ven Dr Anne van Gend

A change of leader, but workshops will be run as planned. Please register your attendance....



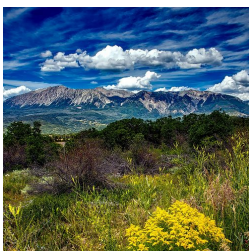
Pilgrims and Companions Journeying into 2025 *by Anne van Gend*

Over 70 people have taken part in the Bishop's Companions Programme since it began. Now we're taking on names for 2025, with a cut-off date of 30 November.



Expand your faith! Explore theology. *by Anne van Gend*

We have the only university-based theology programme in New Zealand right here in Dunedin. Have a look at the courses on offer in 2025.



Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) 2025 *by Mary Huie-Jolly*

Are you interested in exploring CPE in 2025? Read on for details regarding a course in Dunedin



Upcoming Events *by Various*

Have a look at a range of events throughout the Diocese and beyond...



I te Pāpaho - Media and Latest News *by Andrew Metcalfe*

Keeping up to date with recent news about our parishes, organisations and the wider church.



Nourishing Faith: Food for the Journey

The latest in "Gospel Conversations" as well as other resources to sustain you in your journey...



Refugees

Photo by
pixabay.com

Good News

Andrew Metcalfe — December 15th, 2024

As difficult and dangerous circumstances around the birth of Jesus Christ continue in our world, what is the Good News that continues to be proclaimed?

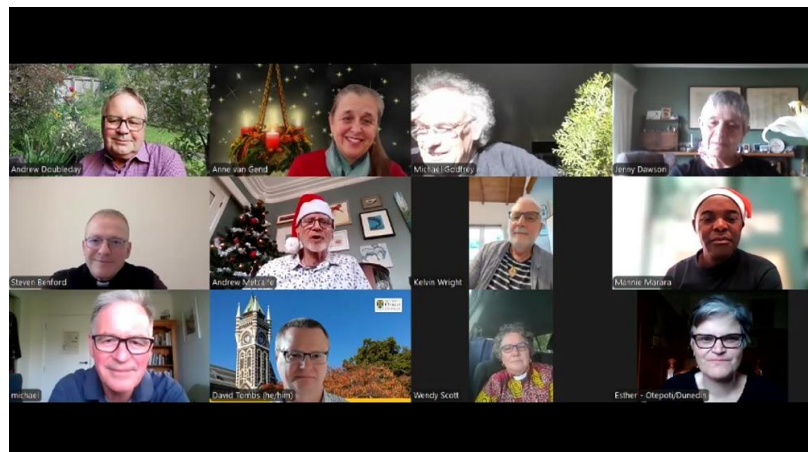
As is now a Gospel Conversation tradition, we've opened up Christmas Day's Conversation to any of our Conversationalists who were available at the recording time to join in. We asked them all, "What continues to surprise you with joy in the Gospel reading?" The result is a bundle of celebration and unfamiliar ways of thinking about this extremely familiar story.

As we reflect again on this very Good News, does it still have the power to speak into our troubled world where the nativity scene still gets repeated?

Enjoy this last conversation for the year: we are planning to send out a "special edition" after Christmas that will cover the weeks before we get going properly for 2025. Make sure you have "[Nourishing Faith](#)" as one of the publications you sign up for, or keep an eye on our [website](#) for the the mini-conversations for January.

All of us who have taken part this year wish all of you who have watched a wonderful, blessed, and merry Christmas.

[Link to Christmas 2024 Gospel Conversation](#)



Gospel Conversations 2024 Christmas Day Luke 2:1-14 Anne van Gend

[Special Holiday Edition of Gospel Conversations](#)

This will be available after Christmas and will be sent to all Nourishing Faith subscribers

The Birth of Jesus: Luke 2, 1-14

(1) In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (2) (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) (3) And everyone went to their own town to register.

(4) So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. (5) He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. (6) While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, (7) and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

(8) And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. (9) An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. (10) But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. (11) Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. (12) This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

(13) Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

(14) "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."



Otago Peninsula Parish Pilgrimage
2024

Video by Called South

Otago Peninsula Parish Pilgrimage

Michael Holdaway — December 18th, 2024

Advent has been a time of pilgrimage for one Dunedin parish on the epic setting of Otago Harbour...

Over three Saturdays from 30 November, participants walked from St Michael's Church to Macandrew Bay and on day two Macandrew Bay to Port Chalmers via Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua.



Otago Peninsula Parish Pilgrimage - Day 2 — Image by: Kelvin Wright

Day three (14 December) was described as “a Long Saunter with God”, which started at Holy Trinity Anglican church in Port Chalmers at and walked to the Cathedral, then onto the Rongo stone monument at Andersons Bay inlet. The pilgrimage ended where it began at St Michael's in Elliot Street. This last leg was around 18 km...and with a change in the weather, it had real challenges!

The video above captures some of day two. Vicar of the Parish, Rev'd Michael Holdaway, said of these three special days:

"We have so many sacred places that help us to pause and reflect on our own door step: what a privilege it was to be on this unique Advent journey with others. Through sunshine and rain we glimpsed a little of what those who went before us experienced coming to a new land, with all the joys, challenges and heartache that brought. Being on Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua we were surrounded by the presence of many for whom this was their first glimpse of a new land, without actually making it to shore. How special it was to visit sacred spaces, from a humble chapel to churches of brick and stone, proclaiming the good news of God with Us. It was important to remember at the Rongo stone that there are places in our city built by others who suffered extreme hardship and injustice where the Good News of Christmas still matters ."

As we remember our Lord who is the source and inspiration of such journeys... and who knew what it was like to be displaced in his own country, we remember all who long to find a place to lay their head and food to eat this Christmastide.

[Watch the Video...](#)

Prayer used each day of the pilgrimage:

Bless to us, O God

The earth beneath our feet.

Bless to us, O God, the path whereon we go.

Bless to us, O God,

The people whom we meet.

Amen



St Andrew's 150th - a congregation assembled

150 Years of Worship and Service at St Andrew's Cromwell

Noeline Watson — December 15th, 2024

From Friday 29 November through to Sunday 1 December, people gathered to share memories and celebrate this significant milestone. Noeline Watson tells us more...

There was much good feeling over the two days of celebration, which extended into the first Sunday of Advent. The weather played the game for the Friday evening get together in church and garden ; the company turned up and the conversations about old and new were plenty.

With it's beginning heralded by the bagpipes music from Merv Gunn and Duncan Mathers out in the garden, the celebration service led by Damon Plimmer on Saturday afternoon was a "goosebump" one; the organ, played by Mark Wilson from Queenstown, was almost busting out all over and the singing was glorious.

During the service there was participation from people who have come from distances to be here with us for the weekend. The Beck family from Auckland, Rory Redmayne from Christchurch, Ngaire Bartley from Riverton, Bonnie Miller-Perry from Christchurch all played a part, and the chorus of St Andrew's ladies sang us a treat of harmony during the administration of Eucharist.



The Venerable Emeritis Bernard Wilkins (previous vicar 1968-76) and
The Venerable Damon Plimmer (current Vicar)

There will be more photos to come later ; in the meantime here are a few to make you wish you had been here!



St Andrew's celebration cake

Have a look at previous articles with more historic background...

- [Article 1: Beginnings](#)
- [Article 2: Copycats](#)
- [Article 3: Strengthening](#)
- [Article 4: Changes](#)

Gallery





Summer Rata

Photo by Andrew Metcalfe

The Scattered People of the Good Shepherd Service Details

Ven Anne van Gend — December 18th, 2024

Our next service takes place on Sunday 22 December at 10 am. Service sheets (revised for 2024), hymns and readings are attached at the end of this article.

[Click here for the Zoom Meeting Link for the 4th Sunday of each month](#) from 9.30 am for a 10 am start.

Meeting ID: 998 4865 4542

- We have an order of service that can be used every month (attached below).
- Hymns and readings for each service are also attached below (these are updated each month).



The Scattered People of the Good Shepherd 24 November 2024

Bishop Kelvin Wright
Revelation 1: 4b-8
John 18: 33-37

Scattered People of the Good Shepherd 24 November 2024 Called
South

Click on the image above for a recording of Bishop Kelvin's message from the November service.

Who can join us for any of our services?

Any group (or individual) who can gather around a screen!

- **In places where church services are only occasional**, maybe two or three of you could meet together in someone's home and join us from there.
- **Faith communities who don't "need" this but are open to trying something new** may like to join us to support smaller groups. (Alexandra is an example of this).
- **Ministry teams of small churches** may simply like a week off from finding a priest and filling a roster.
- **Individuals** who, for whatever reason, cannot attend a regular service are also welcome to join us and share in spiritual communion if we cannot get the reserved sacrament to you.

If you let us know in advance, we can ensure reserved sacrament gets to any small gathering. If you are wanting to meet in your own church, Anne van Gend can work with you to provide and set up whatever equipment and internet connection is needed.

Please contact Anne van Gend by [email](#) or phone 0272647245 (please do not leave a voice message).

This is not meant to be a plan to replace communal, in-person worship, but is offering an alternative to both assist some who can gather together but lack a preacher or priest, and for those unable to meet with others.

Why Do this?

This is part of our ongoing commitment to find ways to support and minister with all those across our Diocese, with services planned for the 4th Sunday of each month. We are all aware that there are communities and individuals across our Diocese for whom running or attending a Sunday service can be difficult. There are the regular issues of finding a priest, filling a roster, overcoming distances, being ill/needing to stay at home and so on.

Services are using Reserved Sacrament in various physical locations from Invercargill and Dunedin to Lumsden, Alexandra and Palmerston, with smaller groups and individuals being given an opportunity to take part in a moment of Spiritual Communion.



Eucharist — Image by: pixabay.com

Documents for 22 December 2024

- Scripture Readings, Hymns, YouTube links and the Order of Service are attached below.

Attachments

[Service Sheet Scattered People of the Good Shepherd - 2024](#)

[December Readings](#)

[December Song links](#)

[December Song words](#)



Flax Cross

Photo by ACANZP

Episcopal Ordination of the Venerable Dr Anne van Gend

Bishop Ross Bay — December 15th, 2024

We are pleased to advise that the Ven. Dr Anne van Gend will be ordained and installed as the 11th Bishop of Dunedin at St Paul's Cathedral, Dunedin on Saturday 29th March 2025 at 1 pm.

A formal Mandate document has been sent from the General Secretary of The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia confirming this date as well as inviting current and past bishops to attend.

Please mark Saturday 29th March 2025 in your diary and let others in your congregations know this.

We will be in touch again in the New Year with further details of arrangements and how you can indicate your attendance.

This is a time of change and looking forward to the future together. Please continue to pray for Anne and her whānau as they transition to this new phase of ministry within the Diocese of Dunedin as well as in the wider church.

Bishop Ross Bay (Diocese of Auckland)

Archbishops' Commissary for the Diocese of Dunedin



Safe directions

Photo by
pixabay.com

Diocesan Council and Dunedin Diocesan Trust Board Meetings November-December 2024

Andrew Metcalfe — December 11th, 2024

The Diocesan Council (Standing Committee), the Trusts Board and the Dunedin Diocesan Trust Board meet monthly. Read on for some highlights from November and December 2024.

Diocesan Trusts Board

- **Nikita Wilson** (Youth Synod Rep) was appointed to the Pensions Committee in November
- **Emma Hodgkin** and **Quentin Bair** were appointed to the Board of Anglican Family Care for two-year terms in December.
- **Katherine Shaw** was appointed for a further two-year term on Board of Anglican Family Care in December.

Diocesan Council and Dunedin Diocesan Trust Board

Joint Trust Board and Diocesan Council Meeting

Joint meetings take place between these two bodies twice a year, and this took place at the November meeting. This time the meeting was structured around exploring common challenges, opportunities, what was "top of mind" and how we could connect better and progress some actions previously identified. Common issues included property (being overwhelmed at local and Diocesan level on dealing with property matters, underutilised assets, getting a Property Person in place who could assist with all of this). Capacity to service Insurance premiums remains a concern. Impact investment is firmly on the DDTB agenda as well as how faith communities could be helped to ensure their assets are having maximum impact. Work is starting on developing a position description for a Property Person who can assist the Diocesan Office and Faith Communities around property matters.

New Bishop-Elect

Anne van Gend was acknowledged at the December meeting as Bishop-Elect, arrangements are still being finalised for an ordination service on 29 March 2025. Bishop Ross Bay (Archbishops' Commissary) expressed thanks for all the hard work that the Arrangements Committee, the Diocesan Office and the Electoral Synod made to achieve this nomination. At Diocesan Council in December congratulations were passed onto Anne and appreciation for all the candidates who made themselves available for this process.

Social Justice Committee Grants

A grant was approved by Diocesan Council in December for Leslie Groves to help pay for an emergency generator.

Faculties

A faculty was approved for the Milton Local Church for completing the cemetery improvements in Back Road. This included work from local community groups and the University of Otago to install seating, plaques, signage and fencing for this historic site.

South Centre

South Centre had its AGM in December, and minutes were ratified for this. The Diocesan Council continues to act as the Trust Board for South Centre; solutions to address this situation are being explored in 2025.

Minutes from the Third Day of Synod and the Electoral College

These were approved by Diocesan Council and will be published in the 2024 Yearbook (we are aiming to publish this in January 2025).

Diocesan Council Committees

The following membership was confirmed at the November and December meetings:

- **Ministry Committee:** The Ven Dr Anne van Gend, Rev'd John Graveston, Rev'd Natalie Milliken, Rev'd Jenny Tapsell (LSM), Ms Eirwen Mitchell, Mr Theodore Rose, Mrs Karen Hoffman, Rev'd Craig Smith.
- **Mission Committee:** Mr Keith Gover, Prof Stuart Young, Dr Caroline Oliver.
- **Social Justice Committee:** The Ven Jan Clark, Ms. Lisa Burton, Rev'd Canon Rose Scott, Mr Simon Courtney, Dr Carolyn Tregea, Rev'd Canon Dr Michael Wallace, Ms. Nikki Gordon-Smith.
- **Stewardship Committee:** Mr. Steve Mitchell, The Ven Liz Cheyne, The Very Rev'd Dr Tony Curtis, Rev'd John Graveston, and The Bishop. Ms. Fiona Gray (Diocesan Accountant) also attends.
- **Pension Committee:** The Ven Damon Plimmer (Interim Chair), Rev'd Vivienne Galletly, Mrs Nicola Wong, Mrs Sarah Kyte, Ms Nikita Wilson. The Bishop will also be part of this committee. The Ven Sue McCafferty (Bishop's Chaplain to Retired Clergy) and Andrew Metcalfe (Diocesan Registrar) also support this committee, attending with speaking rights only.

Regular Reporting

Diocesan Registrar: Andrew Metcalfe continues to keep various property matters in front of Diocesan Council and the Trusts Board, including progress on property sales (currently taking place in Lumsden and Arrowtown) as well as supporting some Dunedin Parishes who need to respond the Dunedin City Council requests for information about seismic ratings of their buildings.

Andrew also reported back on attendance at the Australia- NZ Diocesan Managers Conference in November. As this took place in Christchurch, there was significant reflection on what has taken place post the Earthquake, noting that their statutes did not have anything to give when it came to a disaster of this magnitude and empowering them to act in an emergency. There was also updating on the Royal Commission Enquiry process to date and the importance of ensuring our own safeguarding processes are up to date. There was also input on health and safety, Church Trusts and managing relationships with Church Schools.

A reminder of who is on Diocesan Council and the DDTB:

Diocesan Council:

Clergy: The Ven Jan Clark (Vicar General); The Ven Liz Cheyne [Southland]; The Very Rev'd Dr Tony Curtis SCP; Rev'd Natalie Milliken [Dunedin City]; The Ven Damon Plimmer (Archdeacon of Central Otago); Rev'd Canon Dr Michael Wallace [Dunedin City]

Laity: Mr Keith Gover [Southland]; Mr Steve Mitchell [Southland]; Mr Theodore Rose [Dunedin]; Ms Nikki Gordon-Smith [Dunedin]; Dr Gillian Townsley [St Hilda's Collegiate Chaplain].

In Attendance each meeting

Mr Andrew Metcalfe (Diocesan Registrar - Kaiwhakahaere), Rev'd John Graveston (Diocesan Child, Youth, Family Educator), The Ven Dr Anne Van Gend (Diocesan Ministry Educator), The Ven Barb Barb Walker (Archdeacon of the Rural South), The Ven Sue McCafferty (Archdeacon of North and East Otago)

Diocesan Council Committees:

- **Ministry Committee:** The Ven Dr Anne van Gend, Rev'd John Graveston, Rev'd Natalie Milliken, Rev'd Jenny Tapsell (LSM), Ms Eirwen Mitchell, Mr Theodore Rose, Mrs Karen Hoffman, Rev'd Craig Smith.
- **Mission Committee:** Mr Keith Gover, Prof Stuart Young, Dr Caroline Oliver.
- **Social Justice Committee:** The Ven Jan Clark, Ms. Lisa Burton, Rev'd Canon Rose Scott, Mr Simon Courtney, Dr Carolyn Tregoe, Rev'd Canon Dr Michael Wallace, Ms. Nikki Gordon-Smith.
- **Stewardship Committee:** Mr. Steve Mitchell, The Ven Liz Cheyne, The Very Rev'd Dr Tony Curtis, Rev'd John Graveston, and The Bishop. Ms. Fiona Gray (Diocesan Accountant) also attends.

Dunedin Diocesan Trust Board - DDTB

- Mr Stephen Grant (Chair)
- Mrs Janice Burton
- Rev'd Richard Johnson
- Ms Susie Johnstone
- Mr William Paterson
- Rev'd Eric Kyte
- Mr Brian Tegg
- One vacant seat - [click here](#) for information for potential Trustees.

In attendance: Ms Fiona Gray (Diocesan Accountant - Secretary), Mr Andrew Metcalfe (Diocesan Registrar - Kaiwhakahaere)

Other Information

The Diocesan Council is the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Dunedin Synod as regulated by [Statute 1: To regulate the composition and procedures of the Diocesan Synod and to establish a diocesan council.](#)

It has the authority to make decisions to develop, resource and support the Anglican Church to reveal and build the Kingdom of God in Otago & Southland: responding to God's Call in Otago and Southland: Faith Communities reading the Bible, praying, living out the life of Jesus Christ. It must ensure its objectives and strategies are grounded in the teachings of the Bible, and that its decisions uphold its core apostolic mission to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and make his disciples.

The Trusts Board considers applications for vacancies on various Boards, Trusts and other Committees for Diocese of Dunedin organisations. It consists of voting Diocesan Council members.

The DDTB manages two investment funds (the Income Fund and the Growth Fund) as trustee for diocesan institutions. It also has legal ownership of all Diocesan properties i.e. it acts a trustee for all Diocesan institutions including local churches and parishes, who are the beneficial owners, who make use of these resources for their mission and ministry.

For any correspondence to the Diocesan Council or Trusts Board, contact Andrew Metcalfe: registrar@calledsouth.org.nz, Telephone (03) 488 0821. Any matters for these committees need to be received 7 days before scheduled meetings so that members have time to read all the material required. Diocesan Council usually meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

For DDTB related matters, contact Andrew Metcalfe or DDTB Secretary Fiona Gray accountant@calledsouth.org.nz. The DDTB usually meet on the first Tuesday of each month.

Diocesan Council and (joint) DDTB Meeting Schedule

Diocesan Council has changed its schedule for 2025, now (mostly) meeting on the third Tuesday of each month.

Please continue to hold the Diocesan Council, Trusts Board and the DDTB in your prayers.

Attachments

[Governance Structure - Diocesan Council and Committees April 2020](#)

[Good-Governance-Code-Waehere-Whakahaere-Tika](#)

[Code-of-conduct-for-trustees-DDTB-Dio Council](#)



Called South Advent

A 2024 Diocesan Advent Calendar for all!

Anne van Gend — December 15th, 2024

Have you checked out the Diocesan Advent Calendar? There a few more days to go and this year individuals and faith communities from across the Diocese have come together to create an Advent Calendar to lead us up to Christmas

Click [HERE](#) to open our on-line Advent calendar

Each day you'll find a message, photo, video link or other creative offering from a different part of the Diocese. Together we will contemplate the hope, peace, joy and love that Christ brings, and learn a little more about each other along the way.

For any who have not seen one of these before, the numbers on the calendar to click onto correspond with the days of December. These become available on the actual day for you to view - and appreciate - a brief message.

Enjoy!

[HERE'S THE LINK AGAIN](#)

P.S. We didn't quite get to *all* the faith communities in the Diocese, but any who missed out this year will be first on the list for next!

Love Came Down at Christmas

**This year, experience in person some
of the Love that continues to enter
our world:**

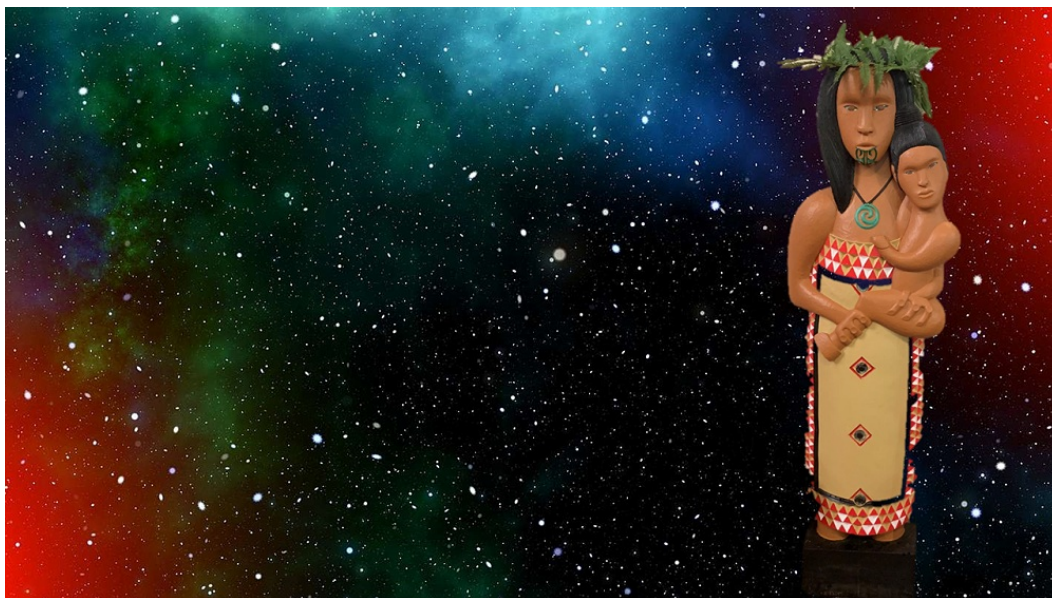
[https://www.calledsouth.org.nz/
christmas/](https://www.calledsouth.org.nz/christmas/)



Anglican
Diocese of Dunedin



Advent - Christmas 2024



Advent and Christmas
2024

Advent and Christmas 2024

Andrew Metcalfe — December 8th, 2024

Greetings from the Diocesan Office as we move into Advent: check out our website for Advent and Christmas services this year.

[Click here](#) to view services over Advent-Christmas

Have a look at other notices about up and coming events over this time...

Dunedin:

Extra service information attached below:

- **St John's Roslyn**
- **All Saints' Dunedin North**

Saturday, 21 December 2024:

Advent 4, St Martha's Kid's Band Carol Service 11am: St Martin's upstairs in the main church, 194 North Rd, NEV.

Back by popular demand – the Christmas story and carols led by our rangatahi on their instruments with a Christmassy shared kai to follow. Candles, Advent wreath, lots of fun interactive bits - this would be a great service to bring any children or young people to, with whom you'd like to share the story of Christmas, and some beautiful traditional carols (but with electric guitars!)

Southland:

All Saints', Gladstone are once again having a traditional Nine Lessons and Carols service this Christmas.

*It will be held on **Sunday 22 December** starting at **7pm**, in the All Saints' Church, cnr Dee and Hollywood Terrace, Invercargill.*

The service will feature the traditional readings, well known carols for the congregation, and carols performed by the 30-strong choir.

All very welcome.

Services in Southland during December:

Waikaia Anglican Church

Christmas service 19 December @ 6 pm.

St. Mary's Church, Riverton

Community carols (and a bedtime story) after the Lion's Club annual Street parade -Christmas Eve 7.45pm (ish). If you're in the vicinity , please come along.

St Andrew's Anglican Rakiura Church (Stewart Island)

Christmas Day service @ 10.30 am



Advent and Christmas Peter Mann House Greetings

***Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas;
star and angels gave the sign.***

(Verse 1 of the poem by Christina Rossetti , published 1885)

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ this Christmas, we reflect this Advent that our world continues to be one of pain, uncertainty and anxiety. It is more important than ever to remember that Jesus Christ is God With Us (Emmanual), and this is always a message of Love, Peace and Reconciliation.

As you connect with friends, strangers, your own family-whanau, join with the whole company of Saints and Angels in heaven proclaiming "Glory to God in the highest, and Peace to all people on earth..." (Luke 2: 14).

Have a wonderful Christmas and a love-filled 2025

The Venerable Jan Clark, Vicar General

**Greetings from the Diocese of Dunedin
and Peter Mann House at the beginning of
Advent 2024**

Andrew Metcalfe
Jan Clark
Nicola Wong
Jon. Gray

Greetings from the Diocesan Office Team: Andrew Metcalfe, Jan Clark, Nicola Wong, Anne van Gend, John Graveston, Dominique Aitcheson, Fiona Gray.

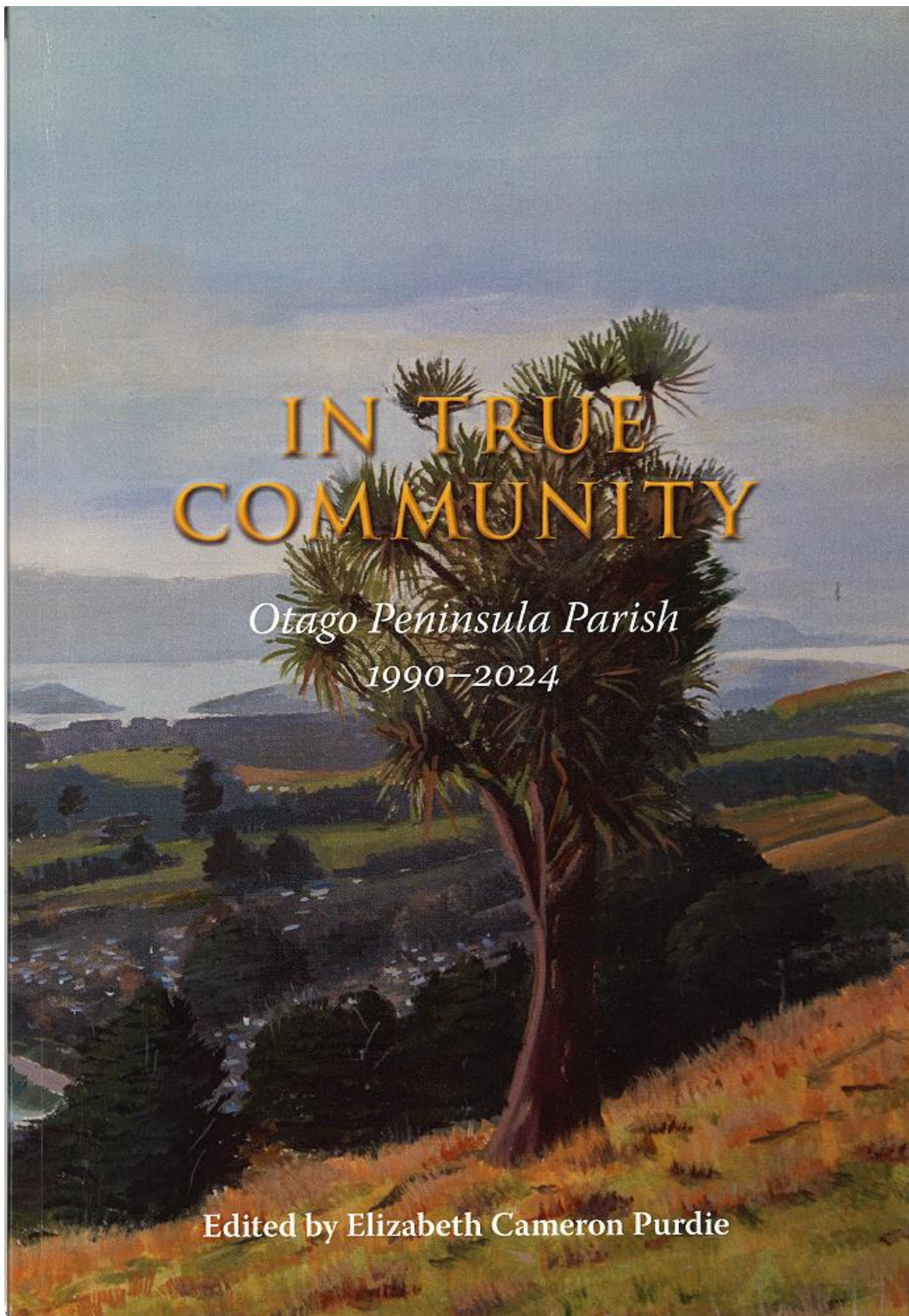
Gallery



Attachments

[Dunedin North Advent & Christmas 2024](#)

[St Johns Roslyn Church Christmas 2024](#)



Otago Peninsula Parish
History

In True Community Book Now Available

Andrew Metcalfe — December 10th, 2024

There are a limited number of an updated history of the Otago Peninsula Anglican Parish available for sale - perhaps a perfect gift or for your own bookshelf.

On 2nd and 3rd November this year, the Otago Peninsula Parish celebrated the 100th anniversary of the opening of the current St Michael and All Angels Church in Andersons Bay, and launched the updated history of the parish, "In True Community".

It recounts the story of the parish from 1990 (the point at which the first parish history concluded) until the present day, focusing in particular on the people of the parish. The updated history would be of particular interest to anyone with an interest in or association with the Otago Peninsula Parish.

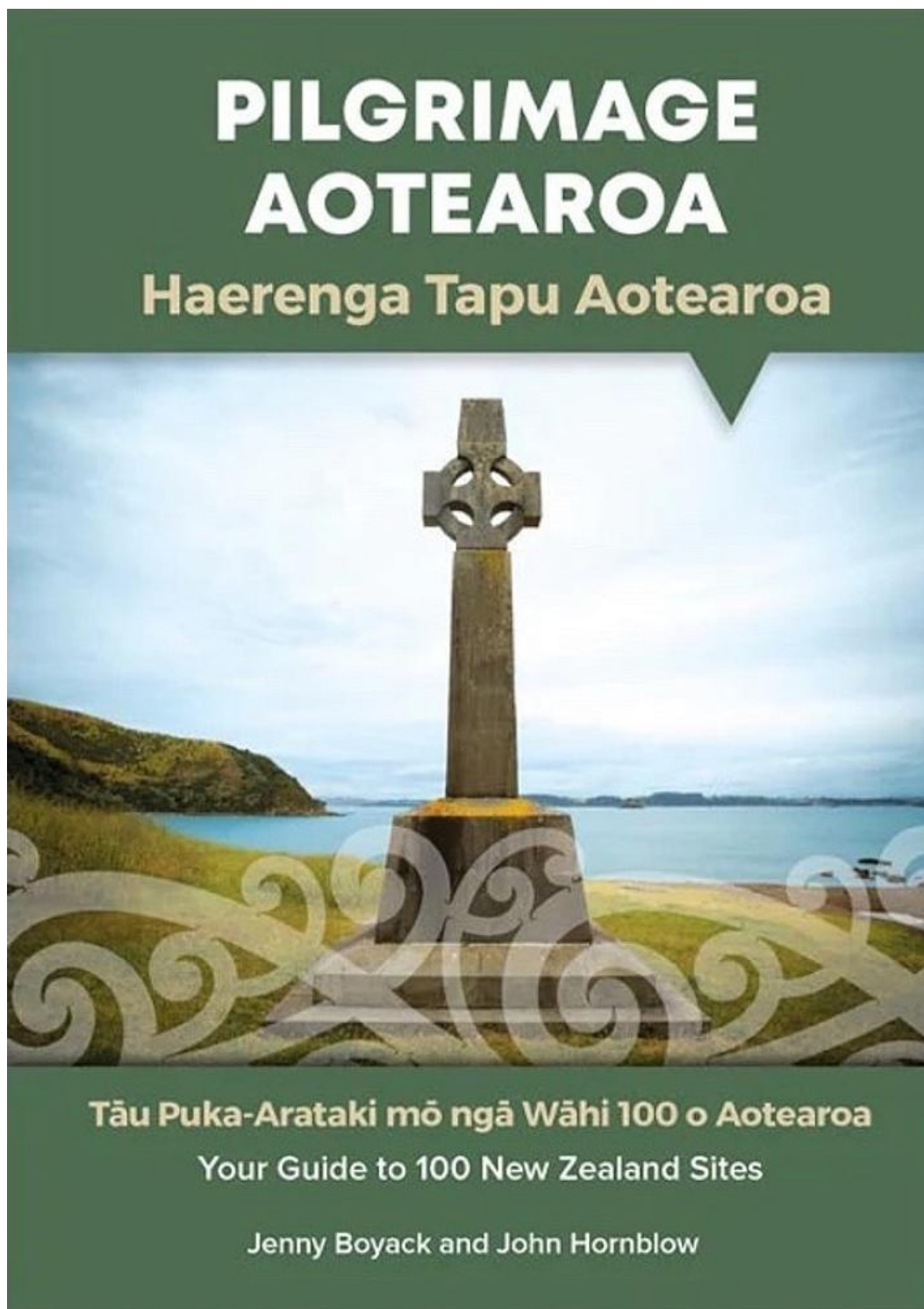
Kay Cooke, Dunedin author and former parishioner, writes

"A real treasure. It isn't a stuffy tome (as sometimes a church history can be) but a sparkling, vibrant, enjoyable and accessible read."

The book is \$20.00 per copy, and can be ordered from the Otago Peninsula Anglican Parish Office (454 4724 or opanglican@xtra.co.nz).



Hoopers Inlet and Allans Beach, Otago Peninsula, Dunedin — Image by:
Wynston Cooper



Pilgrimage Aotearoa

Pilgrimage Aotearoa - A New Resource

Andrew Metcalfe — December 5th, 2024

Ever wanted to go on a pilgrimage... but want to stay closer to home rather than go on a bigger adventure elsewhere in the world? This new resource has places of significance that you can visit within Aotearoa - New Zealand.

Pilgrimage Aotearoa - Haerenga Tapu Aotearoa, is a guide authored by Jenny Boyack and John Hornblow to 100 New Zealand significant sites. Blending history, culture and spirituality, it invites you on a journey to discover and uncover rich stories that make these places significant.

This book makes a perfect Christmas or holiday present. It is now available for \$49.50 plus postage and packaging. You can purchase it directly from www.pilgrimage.nz

Have a look at the attached flyer - and pass it on!

Attachments

[Pilgrimage Aotearoa General flyer](#)



UPDATE: Boundaries Workshop Series for 2024/2025

Diocesan Ministry Educator - Ven Dr Anne van Gend — November 18th, 2024

A change of leader, but workshops will be run as planned. Please register your attendance....

As mentioned in a previous article, the Boundaries teacher we had lined up for our workshops this year is unable to join us due to family reasons. Fortunately, Jemma Allen from the Diocese of Auckland, who runs their Boundaries programme, and has also run programmes for other churches around the country, has made herself available to come and work with us on the dates we originally planned.

It's great for us that Jemma is able to do this! The programme she offers is thorough, professional, and the feedback she receives is that it is also surprisingly enjoyable!

If you haven't yet RSVP'd, please let Nicola know that you plan to come
bishops.pa@calledsouth.org.nz

Attendance at a Boundaries workshop every three years is an essential requirement for those wishing to hold, or holding, a Licence (as Lay or Clergy) or Permission to Officiate from the Bishop. Others are also welcome to attend, subject to spaces being available. Please see the attached Diocesan 'Expectations in Ministry'.

Please note the dates and venues:

**Saturday 15th February 2025 @ St Andrew's Cromwell [10.30am start]
Saturday 15 March 2025 @ Dunedin [10.30am start - Venue TBA]**

BYO lunch. Tea and coffee provided.

The course has 4 hours of content, plus a half hour lunch break, means finishing time will be approximately 3pm.

To register for any of these workshops:

Please contact Nicola Wong bishops.pa@calledsouth.org.nz or 03 488 0826.

Lay Ministers:

It is an essential requirement to ensure that you have attended a Boundaries Workshop within the last three years if you wish to be re-licensed or are being Licensed for the first time with a Lay Licence. Current Lay Minister Licences expire at Pentecost 2025 and attendance at one of the sessions before Pentecost is necessary if you wish to be licensed.

Clergy:

All Clergy undertaking ministry, whether full time, part time, or on occasion, have an obligation to protect all who we minister to and amongst.

It is a requirement that all Clergy with a PTO or Licence attend a Boundaries Workshop every three years, as a minimum. ***If you haven't attended a course in the last three years, you will need to ensure you attend one of these sessions so that your Licence or PTO is able to remain current or be renewed.***

If you are not sure when you last attended a Boundaries workshop, please contact Nicola Wong, Executive Assistant to the Bishop's Office, for information bishops.pa@calledsouth.org.nz or 03 488 0826.

Nga mihi

Anne.

Attachments

[Expectations on clergy and licensed lay people FINAL](#)



Bishop's Companion Programme

Photo by Kelvin Wright

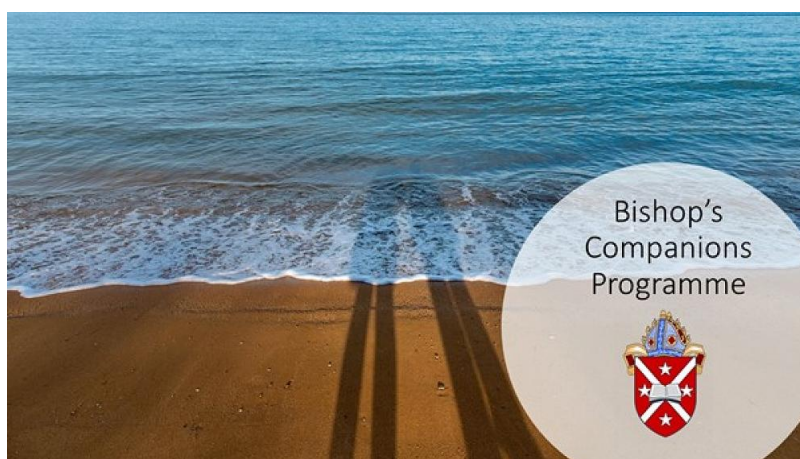
Pilgrims and Companions Journeying into 2025

Anne van Gend — October 23rd, 2024

Over 70 people have taken part in the Bishop's Companions Programme since it began. Now we're taking on names for 2025, with a cut-off date of 30 November.

The experience has been different for every participant, as it was meant to be. It has also been one of deepening faith and deepening companionship, as we hoped it would be. It is wonderful to see God working through the simplicity of this programme.

The best way of finding out what the BCP involves and can offer is to talk with one of the Pilgrims or Companions who have been part of it over the past 3 years. They would be delighted to tell you about it, and I think, without exception, would urge you to think and pray about taking part.



Side by Side... — Image by: Kelvin Wright

Pilgrims come to this Programme needing nothing but themselves, just as they are, and wherever they are in their faith-life. There are no expectations in terms of knowledge or spirituality or experience. There isn't even any prior reading assigned! God is drawing each of us on a faith-journey already, but sometimes it can be helpful to have an extra incentive to keep stepping forward; sometimes it can be good to have someone beside you as you choose directions; sometimes it can be helpful to pore over a map with a fellow-walker. The BCP is designed for all those things. As a Pilgrim, you will have a Companion come alongside you and match their steps and speed to yours, keeping you company as you walk deeper into the Light.

For Companions – those asked to walk alongside the Pilgrims – there's a bit more preparation needed. For some, there are practicalities such as the whole world of planning and running Zoom conversations to get our heads around! For others, preparation involves finding 20 minutes to half an hour that can be committed and dedicated to their Pilgrim every week. For all of us there is always more to learn about walking alongside people in their journey of faith.



Image by: Anne van Gend

This is a significant thing to be happening across our Diocese. It is not flashy or complicated; it is not a quick-fix for anything. What it is, is a recognition that everything of worth and depth and beauty in our lives is from God. It is a recognition that if we are to see ourselves and our world transformed, it can only happen when our lives are rooted deeply in prayer, the Scriptures, and the imitation of Christ.

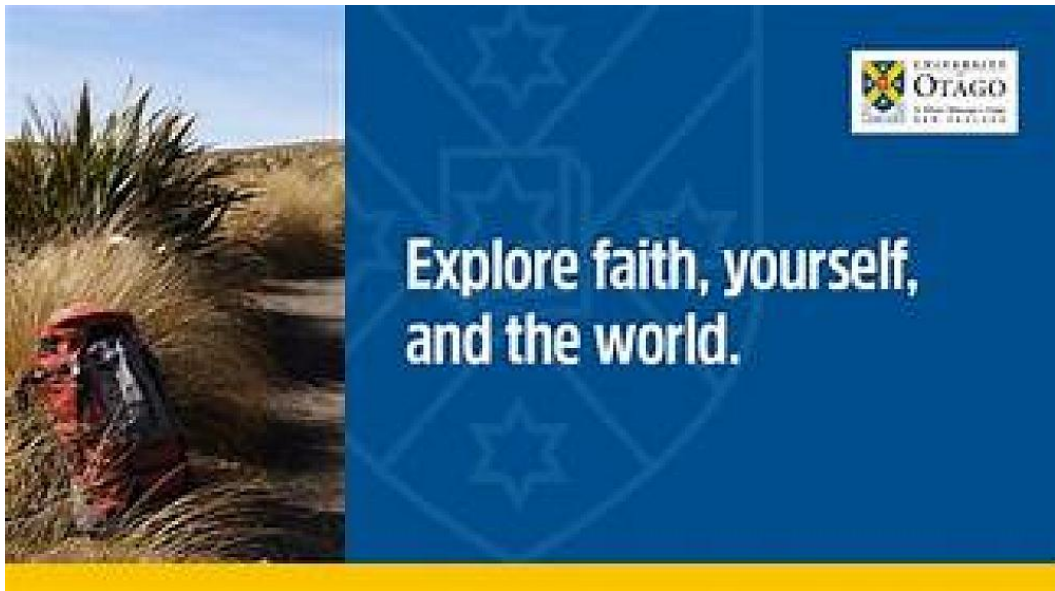
And it is an act of faith. Here we are, God. Take us, shape us, make us into Your Kingdom people.

Please contact Anne van Gend on enabler@calledsouth.org.nz if you would like to find out more or to be part of the programme next year. We need names in by 30 NOVEMBER so that we know how many Companions we will need, and can begin to contact them.

[Have a look at our webpage...](#)

Attachments

[Pilgrims and Companions Brochure 2025](#)



Expand your faith! Explore theology.

Anne van Gend — October 24th, 2024

We have the only university-based theology programme in New Zealand right here in Dunedin. Have a look at the courses on offer in 2025.

The Programme offers a huge range of papers, but Paul Treblico, who heads up the Theology Programme, writes:

"I wanted to draw your attention to some papers in particular. We are offering a paper on *Trauma-Informed Ministry* (PAST 307/MINS 405), to be taught by Dr Karen McClintock. This is a Semester 1 paper with a block course from 27-31 January in Dunedin (a flyer is attached). All the teaching is during the block course/ intensive, with assessment to follow during the Semester.

We're also offering three other papers by block courses/intensives (with assessment during the Semester):

- In Semester 1: *Moana Pasifika Theology* (CHTH 237/337) with a block course in Mangere, 9-13 Feb, taught by Dr Terry Pouono.
- In Semester 2: *Māori Theology and Religion* (CHTH 226/336) with a block course in Ohope, 23-27 June, taught by Prof Murray Rae and Guest presenters.
- In Semester 2: *Christian Theology & the Arts: Theology and Architecture* (PAST 322/ MINS 414) with a block course in Dunedin, 7-11 July, taught by Prof Murray Rae."

To explore the range of other papers on offer during each Semester, see the attached material.

For more information, go to:

www.otago.ac.nz/theology

www.facebook.com/theologyotago

Or email theology@otago.ac.nz; Ph 03 479 8639

Attachments

[Theology@Otago Postgraduate Brochure 2025](#)

[Theology@Otago Course on Trauma-Informed Ministry\[3\]](#)

[Theology@Otago Poster of 2025 Papers](#)



Pastoral scene

Photo by
pixabay.com

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) 2025

Mary Huie-Jolly — December 18th, 2024

Are you interested in exploring CPE in 2025? Read on for details regarding a course in Dunedin

Kia ora

A Clinical Pastoral Education course will be fortnightly offered in Dunedin 4 February- 11 June, 2025. A flyer with more details and an application form are attached. Please do not hesitate to share this information with others in your network.

CPE is experienced based theological education that is grounded in learning from reflection on chaplaincy and/or ministry experience. It strengthens competence in pastoral/spiritual care, increases self-awareness in areas of strength and of weakness, and nourishes spiritual formation through pastoral reflection within a community of peers

Applications are being received now.

You are welcome to approach me with questions about the course.

Nga mihi

Mary

Revd. Mary R. Huie-Jolly, PhD (Otago), MDiv (Columbia Theological Seminary), BA (Honors)NZACPE Supervisor, ACPE Certified Educator. Email maryrhj@gmail.com

Attachments

[Flyer 2025 Clinical Pastoral Education \(CPE\) Dunedin Feb-June](#)
[Application form CPE Dunedin 2025](#)



Never Stop
Learning

Photo by
pixabay.com

Upcoming Events

Various — December 17th, 2024

Have a look at a range of events throughout the Diocese and beyond...

Let us know anything that your Parish, community service or other organisation is doing and we will place it here. Make sure you visit this page regularly and keep all that is going on in your prayers.

[Link to Diocesan Calendar](#)

Regular meetings and events at/organised by the Diocesan office in a monthly calendar format, and other events are also noted [here](#).

[Save the dates...Upcoming Diocesan Events](#)

There are some significant events coming up over the next few months which we invite you to mark in your calendars now....

- **Boundaries Courses - Registrations now open**

15 February 2025 - (Cromwell) or 15 March 2025 (Dunedin) - [Details here](#)

See [More events and dates in this article link](#)



Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

Other Links

- [Latest Anglican Family Care Newsletter](#) (Autumn 2023)
- **Latest South Centre Newsletter (November 2024) attached below**
- [Link to Christian Calendar](#): Dates for feast days and other Christian observations



Spacer - North and Central Otago — Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

HONOURING THE SACRED RHYTHM OF OUR DAYS

A four-day guided residential Women's Retreat at Bethesda Lodge,

En Hakkore Christian Retreat Centre, Waipiata, near Ranfurly

Thursday 20th February at 4pm to Monday 24th February at 2pm 2025

Dr Hilary Oxford Smith and Anneloes de Groot invite you on a guided retreat in Central Otago, a beautiful land of vast skies, rugged mountains and green valleys. Bethesda Lodge offers breathtaking panoramic views of the landscape.

See attached flyer



Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

6 Day Silent Retreat 9 - 14 March 2025

Venue: En Hakkore, Orangapai Sanatorium, Ranfurly

Retreat Leaders: Kelvin Wright, Alumine Andrews, Eddie O'Connor

For all details - please see flyer attached below.



Spacer - Dunedin — Image by: Wynston Cooper

The Dunedin City Council has a weekly newsletter with news and events-training opportunities. Have a look at the [latest edition](#) (16 December 2024).



Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

Mocktails after Christmas

Grab a friend and put your thinking caps on for an evening of fun, laughter, and a little friendly competition! We're hosting a **Quiz Night** like no other – with exciting prizes, delicious mocktails, and an opportunity to make a meaningful difference.

Whether you're a trivia buff or just coming for the fun, it's a night not to be missed! Bring a friend, meet new people, and enjoy an evening with purpose.

- **Location:** Mornington Presbyterian Church, 16 Maryhill Tce, Mornington - parking on site and on the street
- **Date and Time:** 7-9pm, Friday 24 January

You can be with your friends on a team or we will add you to a team on the night! Please RSVP by emailing Miki at miki@cba.org.nz by Wednesday 22 January.

Miki Brooks, Christian Broadcasting Association



Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

St Paul's Cathedral has a variety of events that you can access [here](#).

St Paul's Cathedral presents:

Anatomy of an Organ

Come along every Saturday 10am -12 pm this Summer to St Paul's Cathedral on Octagon for a free 15 minutes 1-on-1 session with our friendly local organist Teresa

- **Book your session or simply walk-in on the day (no guarantee)**
- **No experience required, all age groups are welcomed**
- **Minimal height requirement for playing the organ is 1.4m**
- **Longer sessions available for group bookings**
- **Currently available dates:**

December 21st

January 11th, 18th

Bookings and queries: organonoctagon@gmail.com

Kia Ora, I'm Teresa, a fourth year university student who plays the organ for fun. I started learning the piano when I was 5, and moved onto the organ 11 years later. I have been learning the organ for 6 years now. I think learning the organ is one of the best decisions I've made. I'm happy to answer all your questions about the organ.

Please see the attached flyer.



Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

St Margaret's Anglican Church and Retreat Centre Brighton, 4 Seaview Road Dunedin

Programme for 2024

Time for some space to reflect, to think, to pray, time for God and you in the company of fellow pilgrims

Fridays 10am to 3pm, unless otherwise stipulated

2025 programme (first 6 months) attached below

For information on Retreats or to register to attend, contact Maureen 021 107 1401



Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

Meditative/contemplative prayer

Every Wednesday a time of meditative/contemplative prayer is offered in **the small meeting room at Holy Cross Church** – (access 5 Bellona St St Kilda.) We gather at 5.30 pm and move quickly into some stilling music and then 30 mins silent prayer. All are welcome to join us. If you would like to know more about this please phone Maureen Harley 456 0573 (021 1071401)



Spacer - Southland — Image by: Wynston Cooper

[Click here for the Southland Archdeaconry Newsletter page.](#)

Archdeaconry Meetings

Venue - Holy Trinity, North Invercargill, with Zoom link available

- **Restarting in February 2025**



Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

Wider News and Resources

- ***Church Army Training offer - attached below***
- ***For the latest news from Anglican Women's Studies Centre [click here](#)***
- ***For the latest news from Arocha Aotearoa Eco Church [click here](#)***
- ***Latest EFM Newsletter (September 2024) attached.***
- ***[Included in our Church](#) - latest newsletter from the national Disability Ministry Educators (Spring 2024)***

**SPECIAL
ANNOUNCEMENT**

UCANZ FORUM 2025

Theme: Our Future Together

Date: 31 May - 2 June 2025

Venue: Onehunga Co-operating Parish, Auckland

More information will be available soon

Contact Person: Rev Andrew Doubleday - office@ucanz.org.nz

UCANZ Forum 2025 — Image by: UCANZ



Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

Shared Worship Opportunities

Daily Morning Prayers: Tuesday to Saturday at 9 am via Zoom.

Meeting ID: 959 771 603 66

No computer or smart phone? Telephone **03 659 0603** (it may be a toll call depending on your plan), then key in the meeting ID: **959 771 603 66**

Daily Evening Prayer: Tuesday to Friday at 5 pm.

Meeting ID: 934 8425 0283.

No computer or smart phone? Telephone **03 659 0603** (it may be a toll call depending on your plan), then key in the meeting ID: **934 8425 0283**

Monthly "Scattered People of the Good Shepherd" Zoom Service 4th Sunday of the month 10 am **at this link**.



Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

For all news to pass on please contact Nicola Wong at the [Diocesan Office](#)

Attachments

[Four Day Residential Retreat En Hakkore February 2025](#)

[Organ Program](#)

[Brighton Retreat Centre Programme poster 2025](#)

[Silent Retreat 25 Registration Form](#)

[EFM News September 2024](#)

[2024 CANZ Training info - reviews](#)
[South Centre Christmas 2024 Newsletter](#)



Advent
2024

I te Pāpaho - Media and Latest News

Andrew Metcalfe — December 18th, 2024

Keeping up to date with recent news about our parishes, organisations and the wider church.

Local & Wider News

[Long-standing chairman hands over reins:](#) After decades at the heart of the Green Island community, retired Green Island School principal Steve Hayward has stepped down as chairman of the Greater Green Island Community Network (GGICN) (The Star, 19 December 2024... The Ven Jan Clark is part of this group).

[Christmas greetings from Anglican Missions:](#) We're hopeful for the future, and there's nowhere else we'd rather be planted than in the heart of the church, helping to put the mission of Christ into action alongside you. Thank you for being part of our story!

[If you are on Facebook,](#) check out this joyous eccumenical occasion at All Saints Dunedin North. (18 December 2024)

[Cathedral hosts music for first time since quake:](#) MUSICAL instruments rang out in the Christ Church Cathedral on Monday night for the first time since the Canterbury earthquakes. Christchurch band Woolston Brass performed a private concert in the quake-damaged building, before moving outside to play for the public in Cathedral Square. The event raised money for the Christchurch City Mission. (Christchurch Star, 17 December 2024)

[Bishop Ross \(Auckland... and our Commissary\) recently attended a meeting of the Anglican Science Commission,](#) the first in-person meeting of the Lead Science Bishops from around the Anglican Communion, where they discussed the work that they might undertake in their Provinces (Diocese of Auckland, 13 December 2024)



Video News from the Anglican Diocese of Auckland Anglican Diocese
Auckland

New bishop-elect appointed: The Archbishops and Primates of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia have confirmed that Dunedin-based archdeacon the Ven Dr Anne van Gend is to be installed as the 11th Bishop of Dunedin. Describing the appointment as both "exciting and a little daunting", bishop-elect Dr van Gend sees the role as an opportunity to listen and learn, and "help people in their lives of faithfulness". (The Star, 12 December 2024)

Have a look at the latest Community Connect newsletter from Anglican Family Care.

The history and reintroduction of The Witness: The Diocese of Nelson has re-launched "The Witness", it's regular magazine. Have a look at the first new edition [here](#).

The Makery: The art of encounter - Last Sunday was the official opening and blessing of The Makery. The Makery is a special multi-use space at All Saints (Nelson City) that has been newly renovated with a vision for it to be a creative space where we *make* – make art, make connections, make meaning, make memories – and it's all about the Maker (Koero - Diocese of Nelson, 5 December 2024)

Book a 'love letter' to historic church: The fascinating past of a local Anglican church is brought to life in a recently published chronicle. *Unto us a Church is Given*, written by Rev Roger Barker with Stuart Strachan, tells the 150-year history of St Barnabas Anglican Church in Warrington. (The Star, 5 December 2024)

Latest E-news from Anglican Missions: Advent - the hope that leads us home...

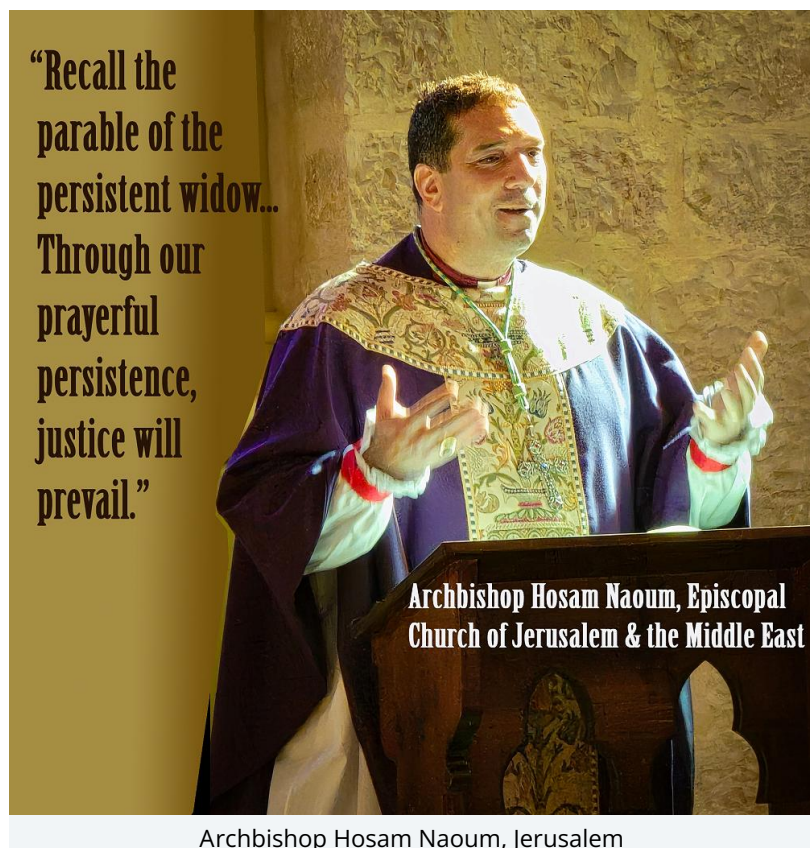
Other World and NZ news

- [Interview with Shaphan Roberts](#)—Church Times
- [Notre Dame reopens with Yo-Yo Ma performing](#)—Classic FM
- [Cathedral Construction Pause](#) is weather tight—The Press
- [School overwhelmed by community gifts](#) after CS order error—RNZ
- [Advent: Lessons & Carols](#), a beloved Anglican tradition—ENS
- [Interview: John Hendrix draws inspiration from faith](#) and storytelling—Church Times

National Anglican News at Taonga

Holy Land Appeal offers hope

Anglican Missions has released an update on its Hope for the Holy Land Appeal to report it still provides essential support to the work of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East.



[CWS pivots to Pacific & climate](#)

Christian World Service is shifting its attention onto development projects and partners in Pacific nations grappling with the impact of climate change.

- [Donate to the CWS 2024 Christmas Appeal here.](#)

[Lectionary offers labour of love](#)

For Rev. Lawrence Kimberley, compiling the annual schedule of readings for Anglican worship in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia is a spiritual endeavour and an act of service.

[1 comment](#)

[Dunedin elects Anne van Gend](#)

The Diocese of Dunedin electoral synod has elected the Ven Dr Anne van Gend to lead the people of Otago and Southland as the 11th Bishop of Dunedin.

- [Archbishops' official announcement letter](#)
- [Diocese of Dunedin announcement](#)

The Wider Church and World

- [City Mission backs female homelessness research](#)
- [Presbyterian Church releases Abuse in Care response](#)
- [Episcopal Church joins UN religious council on refugees](#)
- [Experiencing God: great mystery, great intimacy](#)
- [US Bishop suspended on family violence charges](#)
- [Churches swaddle baby Jesus in a keffiyeh](#)
- [Christchurch Cathedral to host first concert since EQs](#)
- [We don't tolerate prejudice at work, so why in church?](#)
- [Christians say COP29 climate finance falls far short](#)

- [CofE clergy afraid of safety culture of guilt & blame](#)
- [Study reconsiders leaders' roles in Anglican Communion](#)
- [Perth Anglicans change clergy chastity rules](#)
- [Palestinian Christians hold back Israeli land grabs](#)
- [Christian town destroyed in Israel-Hezbollah conflict](#)
- [Bishop Denise Ferguson becomes formation director](#)
- [Pacific Churches back historic Kanak win](#)
- [Why women are blamed for clergy abuse](#)
- [CofE & racism: 'Microaggressions all the time'](#)
- [Waitara foodbank shifts to cooking skills](#)
- [+Rickson Maomaoru to head new S.Malaita Diocese](#)
- [Israel's Arab Christians suffer war loss on top of Covid](#)
- [+Helen-Ann Hartley says "careerism" silences Bishops](#)
- [Destiny youth leader charged with sexual assaults](#)
- [Churches remain open as Aleppo reels from attack](#)
- [Cathedral choirs raise the roof in Wellington](#)
- [San Francisco Cathedral embraces community via arts](#)
- [Archbishop Julio sharpens WCC climate advocacy](#)
- [Catholics call to wipe Pacific climate disaster debts](#)
- [Wellington diocese mends rift to oppose Treaty Bill](#)
- [Two further clergy removed re: Smyth cover-up](#)
- [Lebanese Christian women call for end to war](#)
- [CofE Gen Secretary faces resignation calls](#)
- [Saints are strange. Martin Scorsese gets it.](#)



Nourishing Faith - Food for the Journey

Nourishing Faith: Food for the Journey

The latest in "Gospel Conversations" as well as other resources to sustain you in your journey...

[Nourishing Faith Web portal... to access all of our resources](#)

To sign up to receive Nourishing Faith in your email inbox, click on the "Sign Up" option at the top of the page.

For those who have lost the link to our Advent Calendar, here it is:

[DIOCESAN ADVENT CALENDAR](#)

[Special Holiday Edition of Gospel Conversations](#)

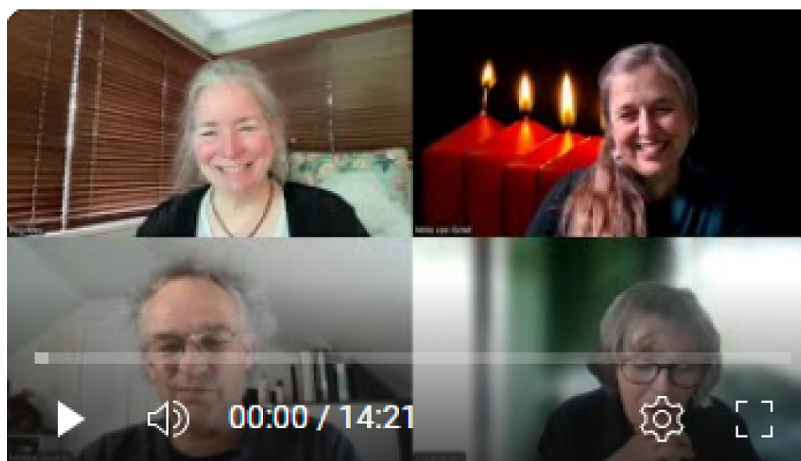
This will be available after Christmas and will be sent to all Nourishing Faith subscribers

[Gospel Conversations](#)

This week's Gospel Conversation: Dec 22nd, Advent 4. Luke 1:39-45

Advent 4! So close to what we've been waiting for, and today we join in imagination with two women who are also waiting expectantly, actively, and faithfully. This is a rare story in the Bible in that it would fulfil the Bechdel test (google it!) - and is aptly discussed by a panel of three women: Lisa Emerson, Peg Riley, and Anne van Gend, with Michael as usual holding it all together! Join us as we celebrate this beautiful and meaning-packed story of our faith.

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE CONVERSATION](#)



Last week's Gospel Conversation: Dec 15th Luke 3:7-18

How many of you have started a sermon with the line, "You brood of vipers"? It's an unusual way of attracting people to the Good News, but it seemed to work for John! Andrew Doubleday from UCANZ joins Michael today, along with Gillian and Esther, to discover what such unusual preaching has to say to us in this time and place.

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE CONVERSATION](#)



[See all the videos in this Gospel Conversation series on our website](#)

For last year's Conversations, [click here](#).

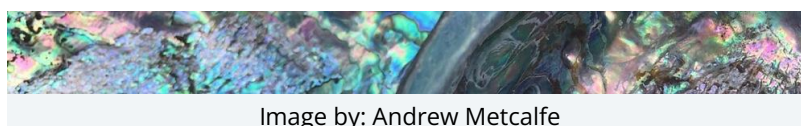


Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

[Faith Communities Videos](#)

See our [website](#) for the latest videos

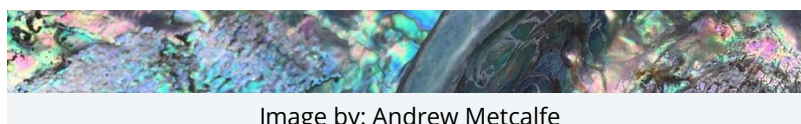


Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

[Crafting the Lectionary for the Church](#)

For Rev. Lawrence Kimberley, the lectionary is far more than a mere schedule of readings—it is a spiritual endeavour and an act of service. As one of the key creators of the annual lectionary for the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia we asked Lawrence to share with us about his work (Anglican Movement, Diocese of Wellington, 3 December 2024)

An Advent Gift!

Faith communities and individuals across the Diocese have pooled ideas to form an online Advent Calendar for anyone who would like to mark our journey to Christmas together. Each day you click on a new door, and find a message, video, photo or idea to connect us with each other, and help us think about hope, peace, joy and love.

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE CALENDAR](#)

Another Advent Resource

The Diocese of Waiapu has created an Advent resource which is free for all to use. They write: "This study has been designed to be undertaken in two different contexts: by groups meeting in parishes or other ministry units (for example, schools or workplaces), or by people on their own to do at home. You might want to do it as a family. It's happened in response to a request for an Advent study, a way of helping people reflect on this season and what it means to prepare for the coming of Christ."

Access the study [HERE](#) or contact Anne on enabler@calledsouth.org.nz

(See further down the article for further Advent ideas or visit our [DEEPENING FAITH PAGE](#) where seasonal resources are regularly refreshed!).



[The Weary World Rejoices](#)

"[The Weary World Rejoices](#)" is a rich and varied resource suited for individual, family or faith community use.

It is brought together by Kate Bowler, whom some of you may know of. She has a podcast called "Everything Happens" which explores the experiences of people of faith as they work through times of suffering. The hope which shines through these stories is never "cheap" hope, but hope which faces the reality of darkness with unquenchable glimmers of light.

This resource gives reflections, prayers, and responses for every day of Advent, together with ideas for weekly gatherings/prayer times/study times around the lighting of each Advent candle. There is also a playlist of music to accompany many of the reflections.

The study can be downloaded [HERE](#) or you can choose to use her website [HERE](#).



Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

Looking to 2025

Look to the [Deepening Faith](#) page for updates on conferences and courses available in 2025 - for example, a Trauma-informed ministry course from Knox College, and the HOPE 2025 Conference in March!



HOPE 2025

<https://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/events/hope-conference/>

In a world where the toxicity of the contemporary Western church is regularly, and often justifiably highlighted, explore with us how contemporary churches can and should be places of transformation and healing.

Join us for Hope 2025 - an academic conference where theologians and practitioners can gather together to explore how contemporary churches are and can become flourishing communities. We will look at how God's specific design for churches is that they are places of hope and restoration; both as overarching communities, and for individuals within these communities. The conference will undertake a multidisciplinary and practical exploration of how, guided by the Spirit of God, we can positively create and sustain flourishing communities that heal and empower individuals within them.

Gathering the voices of practitioners, biblical scholars, systematic theologians, practical theologians, counsellors, and sociologists, the conference will discuss, explore, and draw some conclusions about how contemporary Western churches are and can become flourishing communities, which provide health and healing both to the overarching church body and to the individual bodies of which they are comprised.

Resources from Elsewhere

Te Tiriti?

As the hikoi has now taken place, what does that, or the Treaty Bill itself, mean for us down in the south of the country? What does it mean for Pākehā as well as Māori? Sometimes we do not realise ourselves why we and others should have such an emotional response to issues like this, but historian Dr Alistair Reese can perhaps help us understand that a little better. Check out his article [HERE](#) on Pākehā identity and the Treaty.

[Pray the News with Anglican Missions](#)

In a world filled with constant news, it's easy to feel overwhelmed by the overwhelming negativity, conflict and need around us. Within those headlines is a powerful place to pray.

[Pray the News](#) is a weekly blog published by Anglican Missions to enrich the intercessory prayer life of the church as we pray into the biggest social, cultural and geopolitical headlines facing the world.

We believe that prayer makes a difference and is an active engagement with the heart of God. Sign up to receive updates every Thursday on issues that we can pray into - together.

[The Bible Project](#)

Are you familiar with [The Bible Project](#)? The Bible Project help people experience the Bible in a way that is approachable and transformative, primarily through animated video bible studies. They combine beautiful illustration and robust theology into a wonderful resource that connects across generations.

Our lectionary is taking us through the Gospel of Mark right now. The Bible Project has a great video that gives an overview of the structure and purpose of Mark. Check it out [here](#).



Using our hearts, minds and strength to dig deeper into faith.

Deepening Faith — Image by: Anne van Gend



If you've been looking for something to use which isn't Alpha but is aimed at the same sort of audience as Alpha, have a look at 321. It's a new study series, made by an Australian Anglican priest in London who is making quite a splash as a speaker at the moment: Glen Scrivener. The course takes us through a basic introduction to Christianity in a way that encourages us to question and think, and always come back to Jesus. Best of all, it's free! [Click HERE to go to the website.](#)

[Deepening Faith: Children's Spirituality](#)

There is another new course up in the brilliant resource, ["Discipleship Pathways."](#) This new, short, free, online course looks at the spirituality of children, and would be helpful for many of us! Whether you are wanting help in understanding your own children or grandchildren, or being ready for when children pop into church, or running a children's programme, it would be worth having a look at [this](#).

1	Warthogs & Dragons: Phases of a Child's Life	+	2	The Only Way is Up!... Or is it: Stage Theory	+
3	Spirituality & the Child	+	4	Defining Spirituality	+
5	Guiding & Nurturing Children's Spirituality: The Big Picture	+	6	Spirituality & Play	+
7	Spirituality & Scripture	+	8	Spirituality & Safety	+
9	Nurturing & Guiding: Some Final Reflections	+	10	Congratulations	+

There are also courses available on Intergenerational Communities, Preaching on Purpose, Baptism Unpacked, Children and Family Theology and many others. Check them out [HERE](#).

The [Deepening Faith webpage](#) has a whole range of resources. Note that **Anne Gover** has recently gifted her huge range of study notes to anyone who will find them useful. These are simple-to-use, informative and engaging studies which cover biblical characters, books, baptism and a host of other topics. If you are part of a small group (or would like to start one) these will make your preparation easy! Find them in a dropbox folder [HERE](#).

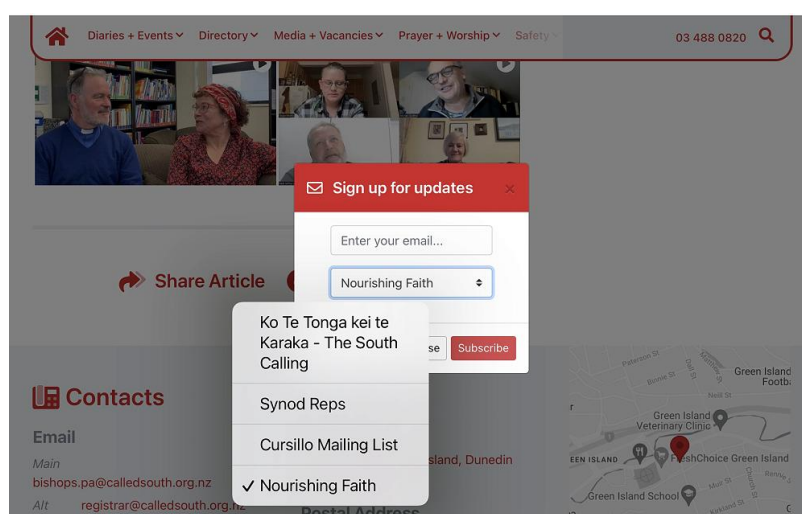


Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

About Nourishing Faith Videos and Podcasts

[We have a webpage for our video and other resources](#) but we will also keep this article updated each fortnight with the latest resources that we would like to share with you. We also have a **Nourishing Faith mailing list** that sends an update of this article to you every week.

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Click onto the right hand side of the box under your email to choose Nourishing Faith — Image by: Andrew Metcalfe

If you know someone new who would like to subscribe to Nourishing Faith, forward this email to them - anyone can sign up to receive these by clicking on the sign up button and choosing Nourishing Faith from the options.

If you have any resource you think is worth sharing more widely, contact [Anne van Gend](#), [John Graveston](#) or [Andrew Metcalfe](#) so we can share them in this space.

Gallery

