

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN AT THE 10AM : TELL OUT, MY SOUL

Priest I runga i te Ingoa o te Atua, te Matua, te Tama me te Wairua Tapu. **Amine.**
(In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.)

Liturgist Nau mai, haere mai - welcome as we light our fourth Advent candle - the pink candle of joy, to remind us of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle: to you be praise and glory for ever. Your light has shone in our darkened world through the child-bearing of blessed Mary; grant that we who have seen your glory may daily be renewed in your image and prepared like her for the coming of your Son, who is the Lord and Saviour of all.



All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Liturgist God our Father, the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary that she was to be the mother of your Son. Though Mary was afraid, she responded to your call with joy. Help us, whom you call to serve you, to share like her in your great work of bringing to our world your love and healing. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world. **Amen.**

All **Lord Jesus, Light of the world, blessed is Gabriel who brought good news; blessed is Mary your mother. Bless your Church preparing for Christmas; and bless us your children who long for your coming. Amen.**

Liturgist Let us sit or kneel and be quiet in confession to Almighty God.

All **Loving and all-seeing God, forgive us where we have failed to support one another and to be what we claim to be. Forgive us where we have failed to serve you; and where our thoughts and actions have been contrary to yours we ask your pardon.**

Priest God forgives you; be at peace. Rejoice and be glad, for Christ is resurrection, reconciliation for all the human race. People of God: prepare! God, above all, maker of all, is one with us in Christ. Maranatha!

All **Come, Lord Jesus!**

THE COLLECT: **God of all hope and joy, open our hearts in welcome, that your Son Jesus Christ at his coming may find in us a dwelling prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen**

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

SUNDAY, 18TH DECEMBER : 5pm Spectacular Christmas Musical for Families performed in the Peace Hall. (NO SERVICE IN CHURCH).

WEDNESDAY 21ST DECEMBER : 7.30pm Service of Nine Lessons & Carols by Candlelight

CHRISTMAS EVE: 11.30pm "Midnight Mass" – an atmospheric and beautiful service.

CHRISTMAS DAY: 8am Quiet Communion. 10am Christmas Family Service—bring a pressie you've just opened! No Evening Services on Christmas Day.

The Word: Sunday 18th December – 4th Sunday in Advent

2 SAMUEL 7:1-11,16

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

ROMANS 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! **Amen.**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

HEAR THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO LUKE 1:26-38

(This may be sung) – **All: Praise and Glory to God.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of our Lord. *(This may also be sung)* – **All: Praise to Christ, The Word.**

AT THE 10AM SERVICE, THE GOSPEL READING IS PART OF THE NATIVITY PRESENTATION

THE SERMON; AT THE 10AM SERVICE THIS TAKES THE FORM OF A NATIVITY PRESENTATION BY THE CHILDREN.

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(Please Stand)*

**You, O God, are supreme and holy. You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us.
You are God.**

You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure.

You came to us before we came to you.

**You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God.**

You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be your gospel in the world.

You reconcile and heal; you overcome death. You are our God. We worship you.

A TIME OF PRAYER. *(Ending with :)*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE PEACE *(Please Stand)*

Priest Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be
no end. Kia tau tonu te rangimarie o te Atua ki a koutou.
(The peace of God be always with you)

All **And also with you.**

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN AT 8AM: TELL OUT, MY SOUL
AT 10AM: THE ANGEL GABRIEL

FOR PRAYER :

Our Province:

Selwyn College, Dunedin.

Our Diocese:

Houchen House, Wilson
Carlile House: Tim Lloyd.
Tainui Rest Home: Sue
Pickering. University of
Waikato: Sue Burns. Wai-
kato Institute of Technolo-
gy: Ecumenical Chaplaincy,
Maori Chaplaincy. Western
Institute of Technology at
Taranaki: Cathy Gordon.

Our Community:

Industry - Management and
Labour.

Kuching, Our Partner

Diocese:

St Maria's, Abok.

Taranaki Cathedral:

The Emergency Shelter
and the Foodbank.

(NZCMS) Associates:

Dr Steve & Wendy Tripp,
Cambodia.

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

To you, Lord, belongs the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty;
all that is in the heavens and the earth is yours, and of your own we give you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING / TE WHAKAWHETAI NUI.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SIT OR STAND FOR THIS PRAYER.

Priest The Lord is here. **God's Spirit is with us.**

 Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

It is right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, through Christ your only Son. You are the source of all life and goodness; through your eternal Word you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image; male and female you created us. When we sinned and turned away you called us back to yourself and gave your Son to share our human nature. By his death on the cross, he made the one perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world and freed us from the bondage of sin. You raised him to life triumphant over death; you exalted him in glory. In him you have made us a holy people by sending upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit. And now we give you thanks because in choosing the blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son you have exalted the humble and meek. Your angel hailed her as most highly favoured; with all generations we call her blessed, and with her we rejoice and magnify your holy name. Therefore with the faithful who rest in him, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying : **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father; on the night before he died your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given thanks he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: 'Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me'. After supper he took the cup; when he had given you thanks he gave it to them and said: 'Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me'.

May be sung : **Glory to you, Lord Christ; your death we show forth; your resurrection we proclaim; your coming we await; Amen! Come Lord Jesus.**

Therefore loving God, recalling your great goodness to us in Christ, his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life and this cup of salvation. Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving which we offer through Jesus Christ our great high priest. Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive may be to us the body and blood of Christ, and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power, may be renewed for the service of your kingdom. United in Christ with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

Blessing, honour and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and forever. Amen.



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many, are one body, for we all share the one bread.

THE AGNUS DEI (*Which may be Sung*)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us your peace.

Priest Draw near and receive the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ in remembrance that he died for us. Let us feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving. Haere mai e te kahui a te Atua, tangohia enei kai rangatira a te Karaiti.

OUR SIDESPEOPLE WILL SHOW YOU TO ONE OF THE DISTRIBUTION POINTS FOR COMMUNION.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All **Almighty God, you sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare the way for the coming of your Son; grant that those who proclaim your word may so guide our feet into the way of peace, that we may stand with confidence before him when he comes in his glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer. Amen.**

Priest Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. **Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name. Amen.**

Priest May Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will; and the blessing...

AFTER THE NOTICES, THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

AT 8AM: THE ANGEL GABRIEL

AT 10AM: FOR MARY MOTHER OF OUR LORD

THE DISMISSAL OF THE COMMUNITY

Deacon Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

All **Amen. We go in the name of Christ.**



Your Dean writes : Warmest Greetings to you !

A vision for a votive candle stand at Taranaki Cathedral has finally come to its realisation. As you know, I have a deep appreciation of the significance of lighting a candle in prayer. It can help to focus our prayer into action; and there many layers of symbolism implicit, not least the simple reminder that Jesus is the Light of the World.

Gifted to the Cathedral in Thanksgiving to God for the establishment of the Bishopric of Taranaki, this sacred object has been uniquely designed and crafted for us by Jones & Sandford of New Plymouth.

It currently stands in the South Aisle. It was blessed on the evening of Sunday 11th December by Bishop Philip. It will be formally received by us as congregations today. Its permanent place has yet to be decided, and is something we will be carefully discussing as we begin to use it during different services and events.

Please do use it as a focus for your prayers as you wish to - and invite others to do the same.

At night, the central candle (which is a temporary fixture; the glass bowl and candle will soon be replaced by an oil-filled candle), is blown out - but any votive candles which have been lit are left to run their course - symbolic as they are of a prayer which has been offered and continues in the heart of God.

Thanks be to God for this wonderful gift.

Lovingly, Jamie

How to contact the Cathedral : By email : admin@taranakicathedral.org.nz

We are open all day, every day. Our Welcome Desk is staffed 9am to 4pm every weekday.

Our Telephone number is : 06 7583111. Our Dean, The Very Revd Jamie Allen : 027 5577257

Our Canon Pastor : The Revd Canon Bill Marsh : 027 3064567. Our website : www.taranakicathedral.org.nz

Our Family Worker : Katy Bassett : 021 137 8070

NOTICES FOR THIS WEEK :

Advent Group : Advent is a time of preparation, a time of waiting. How do we prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ, and this season? A series of studies, focusing on Advent is planned for four consecutive Thursday nights, commencing 1 December, meeting in the Hatherly Hall Quiet Room at 7.30 pm led by Anne Knox.

WEEK AWAY Camp for Seniors : is an enjoyable seven day camp designed for people around fifty-five years plus and the organisers would like to invite anyone from your church to attend this camp. It is very relaxed so that people get to know one another through sharing, discussions, informal worship and attendance at a local church on the Sunday, recreational activities, trips to places of interest [eg Hot Pools], and in doing chores together. There is also plenty of time to enjoy the beach environment nearby. People can bring a friend(s) and there are caravan points and tent sites available if this is their preference. Contact Rodney Franzoi, Camp Manager, Te Rau Aroha Camp, 66 Seaforth Road, Waihi Beach 3611, email: rodney@wai-kato.anglican.org.nz The contact phone is 07 863 5834.

Operation Coverup Calendars for Sale : at the Welcome Desk. All profits earned by Mission Without Borders from the sale of calendars will be used for work among the poor and orphans in Eastern Europe.

Sidespeople Needed : Could sidespeople who are available please put your names down for duty for the extra Christmas services on the sheet at the back of the church. We also need sidepeople on the 21st for the Carol Service.

Musical notes : Happy Festive Season, All. In the middle of preparations for the Carol Service (Wednesday, 21 December at 7.30pm), the Midnight Service and our own personal Christmas preparations, the choir wish to thank you all for your support this year. It has been a joy to contribute to the services in this lovely Cathedral. If you are unsure what to do on the evenings of the 17th and 18th of December, do please visit the Peace Hall and watch the Young Ones as they present their musical. Children carry with them the spirit of Christmas, even without trying!! God bless us all as we move towards 2012.

DIARY AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK. HYMNS FOR SUNDAY EVENING.

<p>Sunday 18th December. 4th Sunday in Advent. [Ps 89:1-4,19-26; 2 Sam 7:1-11,16; Rom 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38] 8am Holy Communion ~ 10am Choral Eucharist ~ 11:30am Faith Crew & Nativity Christmas Party ~ 5pm Nativity Musical Performance</p>
<p>Monday 19th December. [Ps 71:3-8; Jdg 13:2-7,24-end; Luke 1:5-25] Daily Prayer (and every day this week) 8:30am Morning Prayer ~ 12pm Midday Prayer ~ 3.30pm Bellringers Practice ~ 5:30pm Evening Prayer ~ 7pm Baptism Preparation.</p>
<p>Tuesday 20th December. [Ps 24:1-6; Isa7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38] 7am Bishop's Eucharist ~ 9:30am Tea on Tuesday ~ 10:30am Stewardship Team Meeting ~ 12pm National Council of Women ~ 12:30pm Communications Team Meeting ~ 7pm Overeaters Anonymous</p>
<p>Wednesday 21st December. [Ps 33:1-4,11-12,19-end; Zeph 3:14-18; Luke 1:39-45] 10am Mother's Union Corporate Communion ~ 10am BCP Eucharist ~ 12pm Team Christmas Shared Lunch ~ 7:30pm Carols by Candlelight Service</p>
<p>Thursday 22nd December. [Ps 113; 1 Sam 1:24-end; Luke 1:46-56] 8:30am Cathedral Staff Meeting ~ 7:30pm Advent Group</p>
<p>Friday 23rd December. [Ps 25:3-9; Malachi 3:1-3 & 4:5-6; Luke 1:57-66] 1pm OA</p>
<p>Saturday 24th December. [Ps 89:2,21-27; 2 Sam 7:1-5,8-11,16; Acts 13:16-26; Luke 1:67-79] 11:30pm Service of Communion and thanksgiving for Christmas - "Midnight Mass"</p>
<p>Sunday 25th December. Christmas Day. [Ps 96; Isa 9:2-7; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14] 8am Quiet Communion ~ 10am Christmas Family Service</p>

THE "BIBLICAL CHALLENGE" - OUR PUZZLE OF THE WEEK!

THE BIRTH OF JESUS FORETOLD WORDSEARCH

LOOK FOR THE WORDS VERSE BELOW THAT ARE IN BOLD. TAKEN FROM LUKE 1:26-33

In the **sixth month** of Elizabeth's **pregnancy**, God sent the **angel Gabriel** to **Nazareth**, a town in **Galilee**, to a **virgin pledged** to be **married** to a man named **Joseph**, a **descendant** of **David**. The virgin's name was **Mary**. The angel went to her and said, "**Greetings**, you who are **highly favoured!** The **Lord** is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his **words** and **wondered** what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be **afraid**, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will **conceive** and **give birth** to a **son**, and you are to call him **Jesus**. He will be **great** and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord **God** will give him the **throne** of his **father David**, and he will **reign** over Jacob's descendants **forever**; his **kingdom** will **never end**."

W	S	D	O	G	R	E	E	T	I	N	G	S	S	L
O	D	I	V	A	D	E	G	D	E	L	P	G	U	O
N	R	A	T	B	H	V	S	O	N	E	R	I	S	R
D	O	R	Y	R	A	M	I	F	O	E	E	V	E	D
E	W	F	U	I	R	T	X	R	A	R	G	E	J	E
R	H	A	S	E	U	N	T	T	G	E	N	B	D	S
E	D	T	A	L	Y	O	H	F	A	I	A	I	E	C
D	D	H	Y	V	E	E	M	J	N	G	N	R	R	E
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H	R	L	G	L	E	I	T	A	N	G	H	T	V	A
R	R	T	I	P	H	E	H	T	E	R	A	Z	A	N
O	I	L	H	C	A	N	R	E	V	E	R	O	F	T
N	E	V	I	E	C	N	O	C	E	N	D	D	L	E
E	D	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	R	O	F	J	O	Y

WHAT MESSAGE DOES IT SAY WITH THE LEFT-OVER LETTERS?



1. Tell out, my soul,
the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of his word;
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

2. Tell out, my soul,
the greatness of his name!
Make known his might,
the deeds his arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy name – the Lord, the mighty one.

3. Tell out, my soul,
the greatness of his might!
Pow'rs and dominions lay their glory by
Proud hearts and stubborn wills
are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4. Tell out, my soul,
the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and for evermore!

1. The angel Gabriel from Heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

2. "For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel,
by seers foretold,
Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

3. Then gentle Mary meekly
bowed her head,
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify
His holy Name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

4. Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world
will ever say—
"Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

1. For Mary, Mother of our Lord,
God's holy name be praised,
who first the Son of God adored,
as on her child she gazed.

2. Brave, holy Virgin, she believed,
though hard the task assigned,
and by the Holy Ghost conceived
the Saviour of mankind.

3. God's handmaid, she at once obeyed,
by her 'Thy will be done';
the second Eve love's answer made
which our redemption won.

4. The busy world had got no space
or time for God on earth;
a cattle manger was the place
where Mary gave him birth.

5. Hail, Mary, you are full of grace, above all women blest;
and blest your Son, whom your embrace in birth and death confessed.

Faith Crew

Faith Crew (our children's church group) continues to meet during the holidays.

Do feel free to bring your children or grandchildren along to join us any time.

We meet during the church service every Sunday, except Family Services, play games,
do craft activities, act out stories and chat about different topics.

Faith Crew is for 4yrs and older.

You are welcome to come with your children if they are shy!

Deacon Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.