

E-ffervescence!

Friday 24 April 2020

E-ffervescence ... Week Four!

There are many times I have rejoiced in the wisdom of being unable to foretell the future and this is one of them! I wonder how we would have all reacted if we had been told in January that the majority of us would be either staying at/ or working from home for at least six weeks this year. I wonder how I would have reacted had I known that I would start a new leadership position which was reliant on relating to people from a position of solitude!



No matter how mid-boggling my or your reactions may have been in January, we are in the process of living through the reality as best we can. I am grateful for the amount of relationship building that can be done from home, via phone and computer. I am also mindful that when we all emerge from this experience, we will be different people, with perhaps different expectations and aspirations than we had before Covid 19 disrupted our status quos.

Myself, aged three

In a way, I am in an unenviable position because I had little experience of our Cathedral Community before our world changed. Therefore, I am not experiencing some of the very real concerns and griefs you may be experiencing now regarding your involvement with St Mary, and the precious relationships and activities you are missing. I pray that I can listen and respond prayerfully, and that you can find it in your hearts to understand if I don't seem to get it! Conversely, I hope you can also find it in your hearts to know that I have my own, unique concerns and griefs also. None of us are immune to that in times like these! Please keep praying and be kind to yourself and others. *Arohanui, Jacqui*



"I can't go out because of the virus" sounds weak, whiny and boring.

Try instead:

"I've sworn an oath of solitude until the pestilence is purged from the lands"

As a person carrying a fair share of Scandinavian in my DNA,

I Couldn't resist sharing this with you!

It made me smile...

Donations to the Food Bank are able to be made through on line banking-
account number 15 3942 0861123 00.

Moving to Alert Level Three

Alas, there is little change in what we can be and do as Cathedral Community as we prepare to move to Level Three Alert. The Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki requirements for all clergy, employees and buildings owned by the Diocesan Trust Boards are as follows:

⊙ **No Public Services**

⊙ **Pastoral Visiting:** All pastoral contact should be maintained through telephone or other means of virtual contact.

⊙ **Clergy and lay employees:** should continue to work from within their bubble.

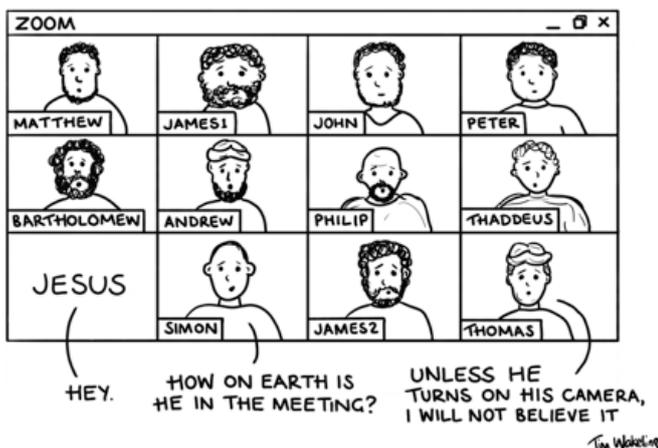
⊙ **Use of Churches and associated Plant:** Churches are to remain closed.

⊙ **Weddings and Funerals:** May only be conducted by clergy who are not in a high-risk category and these clergy must seek the Bishop's approval to preside at wedding and funeral services that meet the Government guidelines. This approval may be sought through your Archdeacon (Jacqui). Approval cannot be retrospective. You will also be asked to put this request in writing and the response will be provided in writing.

Hopefully this newsletter will be able to provide some news of greater freedoms for Cathedral attendees in the near future. In the meantime, keep praying, keep caring for each other, and be careful! This virus is a formidable, and deadly, adversary.



Notes of interest from Cathedral Chapter and Vestry meeting



- Archbishop Philip chaired the meeting, which was held on the 'Zoom' platform which many of us are becoming very familiar with.
- Bishop Wai, Jay, Jacqui and Mary Harker were welcomed warmly to their first meeting
 - Updates from Finance, The Cathedral Project, Jay, Jacqui, 'Stop Inn' were received
 - Our Archbishop and Bishop Wai updated us on work within their Diocese/ Amorangi

- An interesting conversation revolving around beard maintenance and skateboarding was appreciated by all!

Thanks to all those who gave their precious time to participate in our meeting.

A Pastoral Hello



Next week as we move from lockdown Level 4 to Level 3, for many of us life will not change all that much. Stay at home, stay safe will still be our default setting. With this in mind, it's a good time to refresh another familiar message STAY CONNECTED and to remember that our connections are essential, not optional for our wellbeing. As we change alert levels, you might like to take a check on how you have been making contact and responding to contact with others, then to check how that's working for you.

I recently read these words from Pope Francis "living in this time of great uncertainty, it's time for inventing and creativity."

We can probably all identify ways in which we have been busy inventing new solutions to life's routine tasks from buying our groceries, doing our banking, keeping in touch with friends and family, to nourishing our spirit and connecting with our church community. Creative acts can bear witness to the love and life which sustains us and become an expression and reminder of the hope God has planted in each one of us. So all those alternative birthday celebrations and breadmaking attempts are important to our wellbeing. Keep them up and keep sharing them!

Finally, a contradiction to consider. Lots of us can recognise that having a daily routine is useful to steady and anchor ourselves during lockdown. Well so is the opposite. The expression "lower the bar" refers to giving ourselves a break from rigid routines and high expectations once in a while. It's healthy and lifegiving to show some kindness and gentleness towards ourselves from time to time. Sometimes, as I discovered, this happens quite inadvertently.

One evening last week, I was irritated and puzzled when I couldn't find my pyjamas in their usual place. After searching everywhere for some time, the penny finally dropped.... I had been wearing them all day!

Stay safe, stay connected and show yourself some kindness. *Mary Harker*

THINKING THEOLOGICALLY THROUGH COVID-19

From our Diocesan Web Site

When we experience challenge, tragedy, and disaster we are invited to put our theology into action. This is exactly the time to work through what it is God might be communicating. Over the last few weeks/months you may have heard wide-ranging theological responses to the impact of Covid-19. Some believe this is God's judgment, others God's invitation. Some propose God has no place in this medical issue whatsoever. As you wrestle with God, we invite you to test these responses in search of clarity. Indeed, theology is "faith seeking understanding". Some of us are

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We will not go back to normal. **Normal** never was. Our pre-corona existence was not normal other than we normalized greed, inequity, exhaustion, depletion, extraction, disconnection, confusion, rage, hoarding, hate and lack. We should not long to return, my friends. We are being given the opportunity to stitch a new garment. One that fits all of humanity and nature.

SONYA RENEE TAYLOR

looking for answers and some of us are looking to blame. Let's set these things aside and begin our process by listening and prayer.

In your prayer might like to consider a few of these concepts:

- In terms of Christian history, are we in unprecedented times? How has the church responded to such challenges in the past?
- What might the biblical narratives around famine and pestilence have to say

to us today?

- What is the antidote to feeling out of control? What might traditional spiritual disciplines offer us at a time of anxiety, disorder, and disruption?
- In a developed world where we are accustomed to curing ills, aches and pains, how is the covid-19 experience enabling us to confront our finitude?
 - Do extreme times require extreme answers?

Worship and other Resources for the Week:

Diocesan Website <https://www.wtanglican.nz/> is a wonderful go-to place for up-to-date information as well as a feast of resources.

Taranaki Cathedral Website: www.taranakicathedral.org.nz

On the left of the menu bar is a tab "Worshipping during Lockdown"

The menu items are 'Resources for Lockdown Period' which is a page containing some explanation and various links. Notably directly to folders in the Home Worship Library, our Face Book page and Easter Alive.

The second menu item is "Home Worship Library" which directs you to a document library with a number of areas containing resources. These include service sheets and readings, there are also a selection of recordings of choral work. Particularly a folder for Holy Week.

Scrolling down the home page you will see the latest blogs loaded to the website. These are being added to daily and this week included the seven words from the cross meditations, a link to the video of the commissioning service and the *E-ffervescence* newsletter.

A bit further down again there is a list of upcoming events.

At the top of the page there are other menus which link to content that is not specific to the current Lockdown.

From anywhere on the website if you click the Cathedral Logo should get back to the top of the Home Page.

In our Home Worship Library you will find the following :

- Readings
- Solo Organ works
- Hymns
- Choral Evensong: each Sunday and Wednesday during the lockdown. We are suggesting you light a candle at 5.00pm and play this recording.

Taranaki Cathedral Facebook Page:

- **Easter Three Worship:** email, website and Facebook- Live at 10 am
- **Faith Crew**

Zoom

- **Coffee Hang with Dan – 10-11.30 am Every Tuesday:** *Instructions to join Zoom coffee: 1) Download the Zoom app (Zoom cloud meetings) 2) At Tuesday at 10am click on the below link or copy and paste it into your web browser and it will take you straight to the meeting (if you don't have Zoom installed, you will be given the option at this point) 3) Zoom link to join coffee group - <https://zoom.us/j/553014152> 4) We will use this same link until further notice (so keep it at the ready on Tuesdays!)*

Anzac Day

Another major day in the life New Zealanders and Australians comes upon us tomorrow, and we are once again forced to commemorate the lives of those lost for the sake of our freedom, in a different way.



I'm sure many of you will be joining in the "Stand at Dawn" service at 6.00am tomorrow morning in your drive ways, but please do find below a link to a short liturgy for ANZAC Day which includes readings, prayers, choral music, Bugle calls, The Ode, a minute silence, and the National Anthems. There is an Order of Service for you to follow should you wish. The liturgy lasts for 30 minutes and you are welcome to listen to it at any time during the day tomorrow.

Lest we forget. *Best wishes, Christopher*

https://stmarynp.sharepoint.com/:f/s/CathedralLibrary/Egh-5Qxi6_RMka8S-VmwQcBa03TApzNZIbeasYjMXezwA?e=pFOkdB

Meditation of the Week!

A Prayer for ANZAC Day

Lord of Peace,
Let us remember.

Let us remember the human cost of war.

Let us remember the sacrifice of those who fight because their country calls them to.



Let us remember the death and destruction that results when
people take up arms against one another.

Let us remember those who have lost their life as a result of
hostilities, both soldiers and civilians.

Let us remember the wounds and scarring that so many carry
having been involved or caught up in conflict, whether they
be physical, emotional or psychological.

Let us remember the lasting impact upon people, families, regions, countries and cultures in the
aftermath of war.

Let us remember the reasons that have led to war.

Let us remember the peace-makers who have worked, and still work, to prevent war and conflict.

Let us remember the joy of peace and the power of reconciliation.

Let us remember the way of the Christ which leads to peace.

Let us remember all these things, that we might yet learn

And that we, as humanity, may yet find a way to end conflict that leads to fighting and war.

Let us remember.

Lest we forget. Amen.

(Jon Humphries)

**You may wish to prepare for worship on April 26, 2020,
by reading and reflecting on the scripture in advance.**

ACTS 2:14A, 36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

PSALM 116:1-3, 10-17

I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication,

because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me;

I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the name of the Lord:

"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."

How shall I repay the Lord

for all the good things he has done for me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation

and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will fulfill my vows to the Lord

in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord

is the death of his servants.

O Lord, I am your servant;

I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;

you have freed me from my bonds.

I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving

and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will fulfill my vows to the Lord

in the presence of all his people.

In the courts of the Lord's house,

in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Hallelujah!

1 PETER 1:17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

LUKE 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing

him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Contacts

Jay Ruka	Co-Leader Taranaki Cathedral	jay@wtanglican.nz
Jacqui Paterson	Co-Leader Taranaki Cathedral	jacqui.paterson@taranakicathedral.org.nz
Dan Lander	Assistant Priest	dan@taranakicathedral.org.nz
Cath McVey	Pioneer Minister	cath@taranakicathedral.org.nz
Christopher Luke	Director of Music	music@taranakicathedral.org.nz
Sarah Foy	Dean's Warden	sarahmargie@gmail.com
Julie Otene	People's Warden	julieotene@gmail.com
Mary Harker	Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator	angelamaryharker@gmail.com
Jennifer Smart	Office Manager	jennifer@taranakicathedral.org.nz