



THE WAIKATO CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST PETER

Te whare karakia matua o Pita Tapu ki Waikato

DECEMBER 2021

CATHEDRAL NEWS



Cathedral Diary - December

Sun 5 Dec, 8am & 10am

Second Sunday in Advent

Sun 12 Dec, 8am & 10am

Third Sunday in Advent

Sun 19 Dec, 8am & 10am

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Fri 24 Dec, 9pm

Carol Service

Fri 24 Dec, 11pm

Midnight Mass

Sat 25 Dec, 8am & 10am

Christmas Day

WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES

Monday - Friday, 9am

Morning Prayer

Wednesday, 10am

Holy Communion

Friday, 12:10pm

Eucharist in Te Reo Maori

Sunday, 8am

Said Eucharist

Sunday, 10am

Choral Eucharist

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

9am - 3pm

THE CATHEDRAL SHOP

Monday - Friday

10am - 2pm

Sunday

11am - 12pm

E: shop@stpeter.org.nz

ADDRESS

51 Victoria Street

Hamilton

New Zealand

P: 07 839 4683

E: admin@stpeter.org.nz

stpeter.org.nz

Christmas Message from Rev'd Mele

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:
and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful,
Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.*
- Isaiah 9:6 -

Advent is the perpetual reminder for us all to retreat. To simply wait on and prepare for God in remembrance that what we have been given, is the greatest gift we receive every Christmas. An encouraging resolution as we begin the new Church year.

2021 has been a big one at the Cathedral. I invite us all to pause for a moment and to still our minds and hearts to look around us, look at who and what is still present, what is no longer... and what still remains on Pukerangiora... the wairua/spirit of the past, our present and tomorrow, the faithful, the weary, the self-giving, the lost, and the loved...

I took a service at Linda Jones Retirement Village this past week and as I was leaving, I wished the Activities Coordinator a 'Merry Christmas' and her response to me was that it meant nothing to her. The glamour and customs of a worldly Christmas was an empty feeling for her. Though, she finished off our conversation in saying that God remains the same.

This is what Advent is about... draining the false hopes of the world, so that all we are carrying is the confidence of our story with God's Will. Clearing the gorse in our thoughts and hearts so that the peace that passes all worries, hurts, and expectations from others, wraps us up in God's definition and understanding of us. It is about breaking the chains of our vulnerabilities safely so that the sounds of joy that makes us hum or dance welcomes in a new dawn. And lastly, it's about reconciling the things that burden us so that love of God expressed through His Son binds our vulnerability and truth with His. Therefore, navigate home this Christmas with the faith that God is already moving and renewing a new sense of identity, purpose, and hope in you this day, and always.

Ke faitapuekina koe mo ho famili 'e he 'Eiki 'i he fa'ahi ta'u Kilisimasi ko'eni mo e ta'u fo'ou.

Blessings and love to you and your family this Christmas and New Year.

Let's do it all again, together, in 2022!

Peace and aroha,

Mele.



New guidelines for services at the Cathedral

All Cathedral services will be a 'My Vaccine Pass' Orange Event

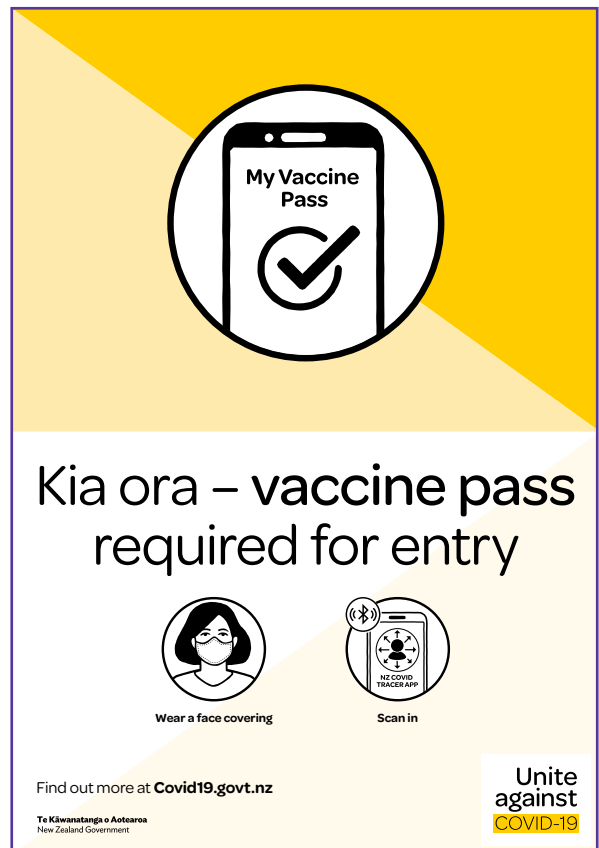
- You are required to scan in using the QR code or sign in
- Your My Vaccine Pass will be needed to be scanned or seen unless you have an exemption from your GP
- We ask that masks are worn during services
- Please do not remove your mask when singing
- When taking Communion, please come to the altar rail, receive the bread before returning to your seat to consume the bread.

This is to ensure that we are able to have unlimited numbers at our services, and that we can provide hospitality with no social distancing.

There are 3 ways to get your My Vaccine Pass

- Online through My Covid Record
- Over the phone
- In person at a pharmacy

Phone: 0800 222 478 or visit
<https://covid19.govt.nz/>



HOW TO CONNECT WITH US

Facebook: www.facebook.com/waikatocathedral

Website: www.stpeter.org.nz

Office

P: 07 839 4683 | E: admin@stpeter.org.nz

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

PROGRAMME

DECEMBER

5 th - Sunday	8am & 10am	Second Sunday in Advent
12 th - Sunday	8am & 10am	Third Sunday in Advent (Cathedral Singers)
19 th - Sunday	8am & 10am	Fourth Sunday in Advent
	6pm	Nine Lessons and Carols
20 th , 21 st , 22 nd	5.30pm	Carols After Work
24 th - Friday	4pm	Children's Service
	9pm	Carol Service
	11pm	Midnight Mass
25 th - Saturday	8am & 10am	Christmas Day
26 th - Sunday	8am & 10am	First Sunday of Christmas

Please note: These service times may change with short notice depending on COVID restrictions. Please check the Cathedral website for updates.

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

SUNDAY 19 DEC | 6PM

Carols AFTER WORK

Mon 20 | Tue 21 | Wed 22
December
5:30-6pm

The choir and clergy of St. Peter's Cathedral, welcome members of the local community and the local workforce to join us in a festive sing-along after work in the week before Christmas. Start the evening with your workmates or neighbours singing Christmas Carols at the Cathedral. All are welcome!

CAROL SERVICE CHRISTMAS EVE

FRIDAY 24 DEC | 9PM

MIDNIGHT MASS

FRIDAY 24 DEC | 11PM

CHRISTMAS DAY EUCCHARIST

SATURDAY 25 DEC
8AM & 10AM

Goodbye...

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

As our whanau says goodbye to Kirikiriroa I am filled with such mixed emotions. I want to say thank you for all the small acts of kindness I have experienced since my health issues have stopped me in my tracks. The cards, gifts, messages and company but most of all the prayers that have sustained not just me but our whanau. You will have no idea how much these acts of love and kindness means to us.

I give thanks to God for my time amongst you I am only sad that my plans and God's did not align at this time. I have to believe that my time although short was not wasted.

I have loved living in this city and being a part of the life of the cathedral and the diocese. I learned to love the musical tradition of the cathedral and I am much richer for this ancient tradition. How you contribute to the life of the wider city will continue to challenge the life of the cathedral parish in the years to come.

Who knew that Covid would continue to challenge all of us. I pray for safety especially for the vulnerable in our communities. Understanding and coming to terms that returning normal is no longer possible for all of us.

Thank you for the lovely gifts we received at my farewell, I will treasure them. We return to Pahiatua with warm memories and give thanks to God for all the blessings we have experienced while in your lovely city.

Arohanui Wendy Scott



Choir al fresco



RACHAEL GRIFFITHS-HUGHES

Being in lockdown has forced us to find new and creative ways of doing things that are usually done in person. Besides recording hymns one voice at a time over mobile phones, once we got to an alert level where gathering in small groups was permitted, the choir took to visiting parishioners in their gardens. Armed with a small booklet of hymns, groups of 4-5 choir members visited 4 different parishioners' homes each, singing hymns al fresco on a Sunday morning. Sometimes neighbours gathered, or people had arranged for friends to come over too. It is a lovely way of keeping in touch, and also of keeping the voices working. On November 7th, we ended our visiting with a larger group meeting at the Deanery and singing for Dean Wendy, Graeme and Carina.



Last Sunday, Advent Sunday, we continued the outdoor music theme, and embarked on another first for the Cathedral. The Advent Carol service was a lovely occasion held in the beautiful gardens of Willowbrook Park. We had the Advent wreath and candles, crucifer, clergy, readers, choir, and something we couldn't have had in the Cathedral in that day – a singing congregation!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

BIRTHDAYS - DECEMBER 2021

1ST SARAH ANDERSON
 2ND BARRY GILLING
 6TH MARTIN SCHUITMAKER
 7TH STEPHEN BURROUGHS
 7TH SHAUN HITCHENS
 7TH WARREN TURNWALD
 9TH KNOX BAMFIELD
 13TH HEATHER HITCHENS
 14TH JOHN CAMPBELL
 15TH MOLLY BRANT
 15TH DILIP KURIEN
 16TH KIM KING
 16TH TIM SAUNDERS
 17TH ANTOINETTE ANKERSMIT
 18TH KIRI JOHNSON
 18TH NIGEL KAPOOR
 18TH LINDSAY OVERINGTON-KNIGHT
 19TH ANNE LEAVER HOLM
 21ST WILLIAM LORD-COWELL
 22ND ELLEN MACLEOD
 22ND CHRIS NEILSON
 23RD MICHELE ELLERY
 23RD SUSAN SHEARER
 25TH DUNCAN BARNARD
 26TH JEAN BARNARD
 26TH CHRISTIE FE'PULEA'I
 26TH IAN SOMMERVILLE
 29TH DAVID WHEELER
 29TH ALAN RIDGE
 29TH RICHARD SWARBRICK
 30TH TUREITI MOXON
 31ST BRIAN QUEST



Young Church

CECILY SHAW

Although we haven't been able to have in-person Young Church sessions since Delta hit New Zealand, our children's ministry hasn't stopped! We have loads of activity packs at the back of the church, ready for your kids this Sunday. We have also started an exciting Advent programme called "Navigating Home This Christmas". If you would like to receive our special Advent packs, please email Cecily at socratena@gmail.com. Packs will be ready for pickup at the Cathedral office.

Updates

WARREN TURNWALD

Christmas must be coming, there are decorations appearing around the Cathedral.

Our new look open plan toilets, just joking, the partitions will go back in once the new floor is down.

There are no more workshops planned for this year so thank you to all those who have helped over this strange year, we are looking forward to a little more settled year in 2022.

If I get a chance I may add some more, it has been a very disrupted week with me being here every day to let contractors in and then helping move gear and furniture around.



SOUND SYSTEM IN CATHEDRAL

We have been looking at a system that will improve the quality and clarity of sound in the Cathedral and be more versatile than what we have at the moment. The quote is just under \$20,000 but is not in our budget for this year. If you would like to contribute to this project, we will progress the job once we have a good portion of the cost in kitty. If you are interested, please contact:

Warren (warren@stpeter.org.nz) or Bryan Bevege (bryanbevs@hotmail.com)

Blythe's Ordination - Making History!

THE REV'D MELE PRESCOTT

On Friday 3rd December 2021, we made history! We ordained our very own Pennsylvanian priest in Aotearoa New Zealand under the COVID Protection Framework in the Orange light' system. First of its kind and a heartfelt and moving ordination service conducted by our very own Archbishop Emeritus Sir David Moxon.

Blythe has a mild but fierce faith that spills out from all that she does. You can just tell that her relationship with God is real and speaks louder than words. In her Spiritual Autobiography, Blythe writes this:

"I cannot remember a time when I did not live with an awareness of God's love and His Kingdom; I feel like I was given the gift of being born into friendship with God." The five-year-old girl who desired to be a pastor did not know why she had that desire or even what it meant. It just was. The thirty-seven-year-old woman with that desire understood a bit more of the desire and why it is there. God has lovingly, gently, beautifully, just as he promised that he would, used hardship and trial and darkness and pain, joy and beauty, light and hope, to forge in me an understanding that His love is enough. And it is this love that compels me to teach others about this love...."

I spent some R&R with the soon-to-be priest a few days before her ordination. Through the banter, here is the conversation we had:

M: What are your hopes as you prepare to be a priest in the Anglican Church?

B: My motivation in life has always been about showing people God's love. I've spent a good portion of my life with a picture of God that was not a true one. God was

a partial picture... the older I get and the more I learn about God the more I see God as love! The more people I meet and the more discussions I have with people, the more I realise how common it is for people to fear God or to think that God does not like or disappointment with them, or has given up on them. My main goal as a priest is to give people a glimpse of God who is so in love with them, cherishes them and is not disappointed in them, has never turned away from them. And it is by showing them my own heart and how God has shown that love to me.

M: Is there anything you may be fearful of in becoming a priest?

B: That I would get in the way of people's seeing God's love! God's love is vast and amazing than I could ever imagine or describe. My ability to display this is so limited by my selfishness and pride, that can get in the way of seeing God's goodness.



M: Sacrifice. What do think you might need to give up when you become a priest?

B: Time and the possibility of any kind of big successful career, prestige ... you have to let go of those. It's a funny sacrifice but one of the things I have to continually sacrifice is the picture of myself that I am always building, it is a false picture and God is continually asking me to let it go. It's the expectations of people and my own of what God expects of me I don't always want to let go because it feels safe, safer to have a clean and tidy version of what God thinks I should be. It's a lot more dangerous to have the freedom that God gives to be myself and that is a BIG sacrifice.

M: Transition from a Deacon to Priest, how would you describe the differences of these two orders?

B: The clothes are better (haha!) Get to wear fancy 'clothes' (aka vestments) as a priest. In my experience, I think of it as an assistant chef to being a head chef in a café – the title sounds better but the job is way worse. An assistant chef does a lot of the same things, but the head chef sets the menu and has to always be there, and responsible for the whole kitchen. In a lot of ways, I think this is similar to a deacon and a priest. You are doing a lot of the same things; a priest is a deacon but the responsibilities are greater. As a priest you are asked to carry more.

M: What do you look forward to as you prepare to become a priest?

B: I feel like I would be stepping into the space that God has been holding for me. I look forward to figuring it out where that takes me.

*"Priests in the Church
are called to build up Christ's congregation,
to strengthen the baptised,
and to lead them as witnesses to Christ in the world.*

*To do this they are called to be pastors.
They are to share people's joys and sorrows,
encourage the faithful, recall those who fall away,
heal and help the sick.*

*Above all they are to proclaim God's word
and take their part in Christ's prophetic work,
to declare forgiveness through Jesus Christ,
to baptise, to preside at the Eucharist,
to administer Christ's holy sacraments."*

ANZPB: The Ordination of Priests Liturgy, p. 901.

On Sunday 19th December 2021, Rev'd Blythe will preside for the very first time as a priest. Would you join me and the ministry team in supporting and celebrating with her and family that Sunday.



Our nearest Saint

The Tarore story as shared on Sunday the 17th of October in the cathedral liturgy.

ARCHBISHOP SIR DAVID MOXON



For All the Saints records the tragic story of what happened next:

“Ngākuku and the CMS missionary John Flatt led a party of children over the Kaimai Range. The journey took them to the Wairere Falls where they made camp.

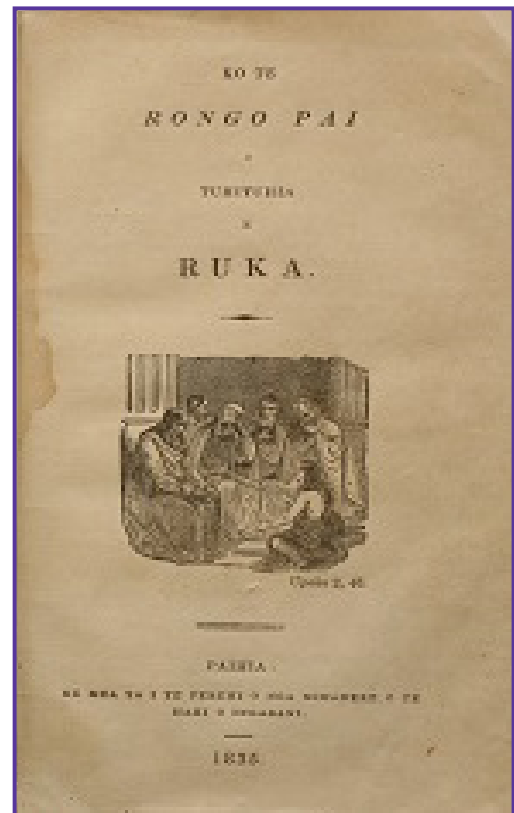
The camp fire attracted a raiding party from Rotorua, led by Uita. Those in the camp responded quickly, and after some fighting the raiding party withdrew. In the confusion Tārore had been left where she had fallen asleep. When Ngākuku and the others returned to the camp they found Tārore had been killed, still on her sleeping mat.

Our nearest saint

She was twelve years old. Her death immediately created a desire for utu, but at her funeral the next day at Matamata, Ngākuku preached against revenge, saying there had been too much bloodshed already and that the people should trust in the justice of God.

Tārore's copy of the Gospel of Luke had a continuing history. Uita had taken Tārore's Gospel during the attack, thinking it might be of value. However, he was unable to read, and it lay unused in his pā. Sometime later a slave who could read, named Ripahau, was brought to the pā. He read to the people from the Gospel. This led to the eventual reconciliation of Uita and Ngākuku (The war between Ngāti Hāuā and Te Arawa also came to an end due largely to Ngākuku's forgiveness and Uita's repentance. It is said that the justice of God was the conversion of Tarore's killer and the arrival of peace). Later, the slave Ripahau left Uita's pā and returned to Ōtaki, coming into contact with Tāmihana Te Rauparaha from Kāpiti Island, the son of Wiremu Te Rauparaha, the great Ngāti Toa chief.

Ripahau again was invited to read from the Scripture to Tāmihana and his cousin Hēnare Mātene Te Whiwhi. In this way the two learned to read. However, Ripahau had only a few pages at his disposal, and in time a messenger was sent back to Rotorua for more books. The book that was returned to them, now somewhat worn, was the Gospel that Tārore had used, still with Ngākuku's name on it.



In time Tāmihana and Mātene became Christians, and Ripahau himself was converted. It is said that Tāmihana and Mātene took Tārore's book with them when they travelled to the South Island, preaching the gospel of peace and reconciliation."



Our nearest saint



Archdeacon Alfred Nesbit Brown's record of Tārore's funeral on 20 October 1836, is deeply moving.

"I buried poor Tarore, at the Pa. Those who escaped a like death, followed the corpse to the grave; around which were arranged the various groups, from the different native residences. After singing a hymn, and addressing the assembled party, Ngakuku asked me if might also say a few words; and on my assenting, he said, with deep solemnity of feeling – "There lies my child: she has been murdered, as a payment for your bad conduct. But do not you rise to seek a payment for her: God

will do that. Let this be the finishing of the war with Rotorua. Now, let peace be made ..."

"Can I doubt who it is that has given calmness, resignation, and peace ... at a time when we could expect little else than the wild tumult of unsubdued grief? Let those who treat the operations of the Holy Spirit upon the heart as an idle fable, account on natural principles for the scene which I have this day been privileged to witness. It was not insensibility on the part of Ngakuku for his feelings are naturally keen: it was not indifference towards his family, for he was fondly attached to his child. No! It was the manifestation of His power, who, amidst the loudest howling's of the wildest storm, distinctly whispers to His children, It is I, be not afraid; peace, be still!"

It is for these reasons that the words on the white cross above Tārore's grave record:

**"Aged 12 years whose Māori Gospel of St Luke brought
peace to the tribes of Aotearoa.**

The daughter of Ngākuku of Okauia and great niece of Te Waharoa of Matamata.

She died at Wairere falls on 19th October 1836."

This cross was placed at the grave in the presence of 'Te Arikinui, o Te Iwi Māori' in 1977. On the reverse side it reads: "The blood of this child became the seed of the church." And from the gospel according to Saint Luke Chapter 18 verse 16: "... **nō ngā pēnei hoki te rangatiratanga o te Atua.** ... For it to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."

There is a commemorative book as well, Tārore's Story, Remembering Tārore, including Ko te Rongopai ki te Ritenga a Ruka, the Book of Luke, published by the Bible Society in 2016. The booklet includes her story in Māori and English with vintage water colour paintings, and the text of the Gospel According to Saint Luke is written in full in both Māori and English.

Our nearest saint

This most poignant and powerful story of transformation challenges us all to never underestimate the grace and healing powers of the gospel, even in the most tragic, complex and fraught of circumstances. People of faith are reminded again of the truth of the Psalm 77 verse 19 which remembered the liberating power of the grace of God when Moses and the children of Israel were faced again with oppression and death at the Red Sea:

**"I te moana tōu ara,
i ngā wai nui tōu huarahi,
e kore anō e kitea ōu takahanga.**

**Your path led through the sea,
your way through the mighty waters,
a pathway no one knew was there."**

Tārore's story is now shared in many parts of the Christian world, and remains one of the taonga, treasures, of the church in these islands. In the book of the prophet Isaiah, chapter 11 verse 6 there is a phrase which has continues to move faith communities to their core:

**"Ka noho tahi anō te wuruhi rāua ko
te reme, ka takoto tahi te repara rāua**

ko te kūao koati;

ko te kūao kau,

ko te kūao raiona,

ko te mea mōmona,

kotahi anō rōpū; ā,

mā te tamaiti iti rātou e ārahi.

This text can apply to any peoples who are at war, where the animals represent conflicted and longstanding enemies. The message includes the meaning that one born to bring peace, even as a child, has by the grace of God the potential to make a pathway into reconciliation and peace through the sharing and outpouring of their own life. This is what came into the world with the Messiah after his birth; it is what came through Ngāti Hauā in the message, the martyrdom and the ongoing commemoration of Tārore of Waharoa. She, being dead, yet speaks. The Collect for her feast day on 19 October, the day of her martyrdom, is found in the guide to the Hāhi Mihinare Anglican Prayer Book lectionary, *For All the Saints*:

In 1838 after the death of the paramount chief Te Waharoa, and Tārore his relation, Tarapipipi became the chief of Ngāti Hauā. He set up a Christian pa named Tāpiri near Waharoa, where services could be held undisturbed and where the inhabitants could live a Christian life. His life and mission from there is another story.

"The wolf shall live with the lamb,

the leopard shall lie down with the

kid, the calf and the lion

and the fatling

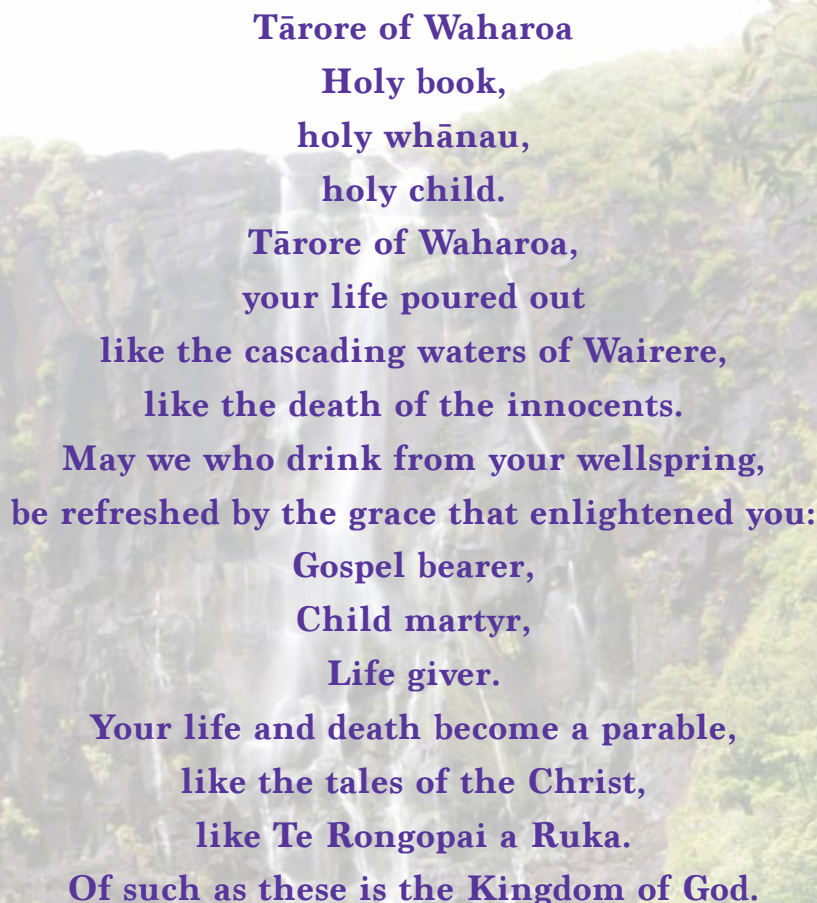
together, and a little child

shall lead them."

Our nearest saint

**E te Matua i te rangi
i karangatia mātou kia rite ki te tamariki nohinohi
i te mea nō te pēnei te rangatiratanga o te Rangi.
Ka whakawhetai mātou mō Tārore
i kawē nei i te Rongopai a Ruka.
Hanga ki roto ki a mātou i tāu whānau hoki
he aroha kia pono kia hōhonu kia noho tahi ai mātou
i roto i te aroha me āu tamariki katoa,
i roto i te kotahitanga o te Wairua Tapu.
Ko te Karaiti hoki te Hēpara pai. Āmine.**

**Gracious and loving God,
we thank you for Tārore,
whose death brought not vengeance but reconciliation;
create in us, your whanau,
a gospel love and a truth so deep,
that we too may live together in love with all your children,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen."**



**Tārore of Waharoa
Holy book,
holy whānau,
holy child.
Tārore of Waharoa,
your life poured out
like the cascading waters of Wairere,
like the death of the innocents.
May we who drink from your wellspring,
be refreshed by the grace that enlightened you:
Gospel bearer,
Child martyr,
Life giver.
Your life and death become a parable,
like the tales of the Christ,
like Te Rongopai a Ruka.
Of such as these is the Kingdom of God.**

Cathedral Shop

We have received new stock for the Christmas season!

- Christmas Cards
- A range of nativity sets
- Candles
- Jewellery
- and more...

Cathedral Shop

Contact Min at:
shop@stpeter.org.nz



Cathedral Ministry Team

During the Dean's absence, The Most Rev'd Sir David Moxon will have the Bishop's oversight of the Cathedral.

If you have any queries, please contact the Wardens in the first instance.

The Rev'd Mele Prescott | 021 028 41156 | ap@stpeter.org.nz

The Rev'd Canon Bryan Smith | 027 381 6119 | canon.bjsmith@yahoo.co.nz

The Rev'd Robin Olds | (07) 854 6713 | 027 441 9292 | robinselby13@gmail.com

The Rev'd Wendy Tyrrell | bells@stpeter.org.nz

Deacons

The Rev'd Blythe Cody | 021 065 8963 | blythe@stpeter.org.nz

Cathedral Contacts

People's Warden | **Walter Crookes** | (07) 843 8150

Dean's Warden | **Bryan Bevege** | 027 249 1818

Hospital Chaplain | **Julian Perkins** | (07) 839 8899 (*ask for the Chaplain*)

Cathedral Verger | **Dilip Kurien** | 021 057 3897

Director of Music

Dr Rachael Griffiths-Hughes | 027 286 8779 | rachael.griffiths-hughes@waikato.ac.nz

Digital Communications Director

Eon Malan | 022 089 1981 | comms@stpeter.org.nz

Bank Details 02-0316-0268898-000

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51 Victoria Street, Hamilton Central, Hamilton

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Unite against COVID-19



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