

St Aidan's

Anglican Church

21 December 2025

Advent 4

Today's service can be found in APBNZ on page 404

God's Love Revealed

Readings

Isaiah 7:10-16

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

Sentence

A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us.

Matthew 1:23

Collect

Companion God,

you sustain us through the challenges of our human journey.

You uphold us even when our imagination fails to see a way forward.

Encourage us, as you encouraged Mary and Joseph,

that we too may be extravagant in our love of others,

and receptive to the surprises you bring to birth in us.

With Jesus we pray. Amen.

8am Hymns:

P: WOV 382 *all verses* *Worship the Lord*

O: WOV 243 *all verses* *Love came down*

R: WOV 207 *all verses* *There's a light upon*

Welcome to St Aidan's! Please join us for morning tea in the Gathering Area after our services. If you are new, or would like more information, please make sure to introduce yourself and fill in a Newcomer's form.

WORSHIP

CARING

MISSION

What's on at St Aidan's

Today

8am - Holy Communion.

9:30am - Family Service with Holy Communion. *No Kids Church or Youth programmes held during this school holidays, however activity sheets are available in the play area at the rear of the church.*

5pm - Blue Christmas Service. Open to anyone remembering the death of a loved one, or facing a difficult Christmas season for any other reason. All welcome to attend and participate as you feel comfortable.

This Week

The Parish Office will be closed from 3:30pm Monday 22nd December, reopening at 9am on 20th January.

Christmas Eve Wednesday 24th Dec

4pm Kids' & Youth Christmas.

9:30pm Carol Service with Holy Communion.

Christmas Day Thursday 25th Dec

8am Holy Communion.

9:30am Family Service with Holy Communion.

Next Week

9:00am - ONE SERVICE ONLY

Combined Congregations with Holy Communion at special time of 9am.

Prayers

- ◆ Pete, extended family, and friends of Di Macaulay, whose funeral will be held here on Monday at 1pm
- ◆ As schools and many workplaces close for Christmas/New Year break, we pray for rest and safety
- ◆ As we hold our Blue Christmas service today we pray for those who are grieving, and for whom Christmas will not be an easy or enjoyable time of year
- ◆ Our Australian whānau as they grieve the trauma of Bondi
- ◆ Pray that hostilities around the world will not escalate, and that God's peace and love would reign

***Christmas greetings
and blessings to all***

Coming Up

Summer Combined Congregations Services - One service only each Sunday at 9am on 28th December all Sundays in January.

Holiday Services Roster

We still need volunteers to fill duty roles during Christmas and January services when our regular roster takes a break (especially for 8am Christmas Day). If you are available for any of the roles, please add your name to the sign up sheets in the GA.

Blue Christmas



Our Blue Christmas service is on **TODAY, Sunday 21st December at 5pm**. Christmas can be a sad and difficult time due to various

losses that have been experienced during the year, or because of grief processes still being worked through. This service is open to anyone remembering the death of a loved one or facing a difficult Christmas season for any other reason, illness, loneliness, etc.

Preserves For Sale

Looking for a unique, home made, eco-friendly, last minute gift for someone? Anne P has marmalade, pickles, jams, and other preserves by arrangement, with all proceeds to St Aidan's.



January Church Access

If you need access to the church during the Christmas New Year break, e.g. sanctuary guild duties, Kim will be on site to open up on Tuesdays and Fridays between 9am and 1pm.

Usual daily access will resume when the office reopens on 20th January.

Auckland's Angels

Auckland Angels is the Auckland City Mission - Te Tāpui Atawhai campaign to donate food, gifts, and funds each Christmas.

Our gifts for Auckland City Mission allow families, like young mum Tammy who is raising two children with severe ADHD on her own while also caring fulltime for her chronically ill mother, to have joy in their hearts and food on their tables this Christmas.

Tammy shared with ACM how she felt when she received her hamper last Christmas:

"It's been a huge Godsend, being able to do something for my children at Christmas. Its special to see them happy and excited. The best bit for me is being able to have a nice Christmas dinner, have a hot chicken with vegies, and pav for dessert."

Leave your gifts in the donation box up to Sunday 21st December. Cash donations can be put in a clearly marked envelope in the offertory, or donate online by debit/ credit card [at Auckland City Mission's donate page - scroll down to "Donate to Your Team" and search for St Aidan's.](#)



Contacts @ St Aidan's

To contact the people below whose details are not displayed, either refer to your St Aidan's parish directory, or contact Anne in the office who will be able to assist further.

Office: Mon-Fri 9 - 3:30	Anne Godman-Funaki office@staidans.co.nz 929 4670 ext 1	Evening Fellowship (EF): Christine Roke
Vicar:	The Rev'd Sarah Stevens-Cross <i>On leave until further notice</i>	Home Groups: Wesley 929 4670 ext 4
Priest in Charge:	The Rev'd Dr Kim Benton M 027 510 3714 kim@staidans.co.nz	Children's Ministry Coordinator: Vacant
Priest Associate:	The Rev'd Wesley Fifita M 027 269 3037 / 929 4670 ext 4 wesley@staidans.co.nz	Library: Anne Mercer
Priest Assistant:	The Rev'd Christina Turner christina@staidans.co.nz	mainly music: Hannah Pospos mainlymusic@staidans.co.nz
Other Clergy:	The Rev'd Anne Priestley	Men's Ministry: John Priestley
Vicar's Warden:	James Parkinson	Mission Shop: Jenny Haggitt
People's Warden:	Vacant	Outreach: Barbara Weir
Afternoon Fellowship (AFG):	Mary Parkinson	Pastoral Care: Desré Simpson
Accounts:	accounts@staidans.co.nz	Pins & Needles: Mary Parkinson
ASTA:	The Rev'd Anne Priestley	Prayer Circle: Karel Lee
Choir:	Antoinette Pope	Privacy Officer: Miles Brown privacy@staidans.co.nz
Coffee & K's:	Annette McGrevy & Ronnie Kay	Website & Social Media: Isobell Tregoweth staidansremuera@gmail.com
		Young Adults: Nic Mercer
		Youth: Nic Mercer youth@staidans.co.nz
		Find us online: www.staidans.co.nz @staidansremuera

Regular Events @ St Aidan's

Sunday Services	8am Holy Communion 9:30am Family service with Holy Communion, and including Youth and Kids' Church during the service
AFG	Afternoon Fellowship Group meets in the GA, first Tuesday of each month March to December, at 1:30pm.
Choir Practice	Practise on Sunday morning at 9am. Contact Antoinette.
Coffee & K's	Meets for a walk and coffee on the 4 th Saturday of each month. Contact Annette McGrevy.
Contemplative Prayer	Meditation (online via Zoom meeting ID: 876 7943 0576) each Wednesday at 9:30am - contact Anne P.
Kids' Church	All children aged 3-10 during the 9:30am service. Contact Christina .
mainly music	Wednesday at 9:30am in the Hall during school terms. Music and play for pre-school aged children and their families or care givers. Contact Hannah .
Men's Ministry	Meets on the last Thursday of each month, February to December, for breakfast at 7:30am. Contact John.
Mid-week Communion	Mid-week Holy Communion services, first Wednesday of the month at 11:30am.
Mission Shop	Open Thursday, Friday & Saturday 10am to 2pm. Contact Jenny.
Pins & Needles	A knitting for charity group, second Monday of each month. Contact Mary.
Prayer Meeting	Thursday mornings at 9:15am in the GA, or join from home via Zoom - Enter the Zoom online meeting ID : 959 1932 0025, or phone: +64 9 884 6780 and enter Passcode 1 #.
Small Groups	All welcome! Contact your small group (home group / house church / Bible study) leader, or speak to Wesley for information about joining a small group.
Vestry	Meet monthly 7:30pm in the GA, usually on the fourth Tuesday.
EF	Evening Fellowship meets monthly on the third Tuesday at 7:30pm in the GA.
ASTA	Advocacy at St Aidan's is community-focused writing for advocacy and justice, 10am on the last Friday of each month. Contact Anne Priestley.
Young Adults	Meets every second Sunday at 4:30pm to 6:30pm, plus occasional social events. Contact Nic .
Youth	School aged youth (age 11+), Sunday during the 9:30am service. Contact Nic .

Bank Account for direct deposits:

Parish of St Aidan Remuera* 06-0257-0052666-13

Please use your giving number as reference. Contact the office if you are unsure what it is or would like one allocated.

*All recorded donations are eligible for a charity refund - Individuals can claim a third of the donation back as a tax rebate, up to a maximum claim equal to their annual taxable income.