



MARKINGS

St Mark's Anglican Parish Te Aroha

Archdeacon: Ven Val Riches

Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Geoff Lamason 0220807297

Permission to Officiate: Rev. Joan Power 8847058

Permission to Officiate: Rev. Ian Harrop 8849292

<http://facebook.com/stmarkstearoha>. www.stmarkstearoha.weebly.com

Knowing + Sharing Christ's Aroha

14th JANUARY 2024
2nd SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

THEME: Guide me O thou great Redeemer.

SENTENCE: O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away.
Psalm 139:1,2.

COLLECT:

**Praise to you, God our creator,
for all your work among us.**

**Yours is the vigour in creation,
yours is the impulse
in our new discoveries.**

**Make us adventurous,
yet reverent and hopeful in all we do.**

Hear our prayer we ask for the glory of your name. Amen.



READINGS INTRODUCTIONS:

1 Samuel 3:1-20. The first book of Samuel covers the history of Israel between the judges and the monarchy that began with Saul in the 11th century BC. Samuel was the last of the judges.

Psalm 139:1-5,12-18. The Lord knows us and our ways intimately; the Lord's works are wonderful.

1 Corinthians 6:12-20. Paul himself began the church in Corinth, but problems emerged there, with some people arguing that Christians could do what they liked. Paul wrote from Ephesus to try to sort things out.

John 1:43-51. In John's Gospel, one of Jesus' first acts is to gather around himself a group of disciples. The group includes Nathanael (probably the same person as Bartholomew), an Israelite without guile.

Next week's readings:

Jonah 3:1-5,10. Psalm 62:5-12. 1 Corinthians 7:29-31. Mark 1:14-20

Visit our website – www.stmarkstearoha.weebly.com

JAN	COMMEMORATIONS	EVENTS THIS WEEK
Sun 14	2 nd Sunday of Epiphany	10am Combined Communion with St David's at St Mark's. Rev Geoff Lamason
Wed 17	Antony of Egypt, Abbot, 356.	
Sun 21	3 rd Sunday of Epiphany	10am Combined Communion with St David's at St David's.

We pray for Jemima, Jenny, Elaine, Gloria & Brian, Beverley, Jaimee & her family, Tom & Carolyn, Jann, her son Dan & son-in-law Maarten, Dorothy, Chrissy, Rori.

If you wish to add a name to the prayer list for the next 4 weeks, please contact Geoff (022 080 7297,) or Pat (8849182)

We give thanks for the long life and service of Raywin, and pray for the Davey family.

We pray for June and her family as they mourn the passing of her brother.

IN THE MISSION FIELD we pray for Anglican Financial Care in Aotearoa New Zealand.

IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND we pray for

- **The Province:** NZ Anglican Pension Board, Media Officer and Anglican Taonga.
- **Our Diocese:** Clergy, People and Communities of Te Aroha, Te Awamutu & Pirongia, Te Kauwhata, Te Kuiti.
- **Our Community:** Social Service Agencies.
- **Our Parish:** Ministry Team, Restoration Team.

TODAY: St Mark's parishioners welcome members of St David's Cooperating Parish again today, and look forward to joining you at St David's next week.

Each of the services at St David's will include Holy Communion.

On Sunday January 21 the Service will be followed by morning tea and then a BBQ in the Peace Garden. For those wishing to stay for the BBQ, please bring your own meat and if possible salad or dessert to share. The meat can be put in the fridge until needed.

The Service on January 28 will also be followed by morning tea.

BIRTHDAYS:

Margeret Turner on 15th
Elspeth Robinson on 19th



ST MARK'S MATTERS;

Prayer and the oil of anointing are always available after services – just ask the priest or members of the healing team.



- ✚ **VISITING:** If you know that a parishioner is unwell, please contact Geoff 022 080 7297, or Joan 884 7058.
- ✚ Geoff and Gayle Lamason will be on leave from today until 31st January. Happy Holiday Gayle and Geoff!

WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

- Sun 21** 10 am Combined Service with St David's at St David's (followed by a barbecue)
- Sun 28** 10 am Combined Service with St David's at St David's

From Vestry:

- The Parish AGM will be held on Sunday 21st April, 2024 after the 10am service.
- Domain Day will be on Sunday 10th March 2024

RESTORATION NEWS from June:

We still have ten Peace Memorial cups available. There were only 50 ordered so they could be a collectors' item in years to come.

A PRAYER FOR THE RESTORATION TEAM.

God of compassion and grace;
grant wisdom, insight, and creativity to the team as they work to raise funding for the restoration of St Mark's Church, Te Aroha. May they be encouraged by our and the wider community's support and co-operation, be it be through word or action, so that together St Mark's becomes a beacon of hope and inspiration for all who live in our district. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.



A PRAYER FOR PEACE

Compassionate and gracious God we ask for your intervention, through men, women, and organisations of authority, to restore peace in nations engaged in armed conflict throughout each continent of our world. Protect and sustain all who are bringing medical aid, food, shelter, and comfort to the innocent victims of such conflict. This we ask in the name of Jesus, The Prince of Peace. Amen.

THOUGHTS ON THE READINGS.

Nathanael seems surprisingly modern: a cynic who thinks he knows the quality of small town Nazareth. But Philip's enthusiasm piques his curiosity – and in Jesus, Nathanael meets his match. He seems threatened by the depth of Jesus' perception, making the reality of his professed faith questionable. Nevertheless, Jesus' welcome is genuine, and he promises great things ahead.

RSCM Sunday by Sunday

Psalm 139:1-5,12-18

A psalm of David.

1 O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me.

2 You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away.

3 You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do.

4 You know what I am going to say even before I say it, Lord.

5 You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head.

11 I could ask the darkness to hide me and the light around me to become night—

12 but even in darkness I cannot hide from you. To you the night shines as bright as day. Darkness and light are the same to you.

13 You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb.

14 Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvellous—how well I know it.

15 You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb.

16 You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

17 How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!

18 I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be for ever. Amen

Thought for the week:

When God measures a person, he puts the tape measure around the heart instead of the head.