

ORATIA CHURCH NEWSLETTER March 2024



Corner of Parker & West Coast Roads.

Web: Oratia Combined Church

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. *Mark 8:31*

Oratia 9.30am Services Coming Up

Date	What's on?
Sun 25 Feb	Anglican service led by Vivienne. With morning tea.
Sun 3 Mar	Presbyterian service
Sun 10 Mar	Family service – Harvest Festival. Bring along your produce and non-perishables for the Methodist Foodbank, and some cash to buy jams/chutneys etc. MORNING TEA
Sun 17 Mar	Methodist Service
Sun 24 Mar	Anglican Service. With morning tea.
Fri 29 Mar	GOOD FRIDAY – TENEBRAE SERVICE OF THE SHADOWS IN THE ORATIA CHURCH HALL
Sun 31 Mar	EASTER SUNDAY – ECUMENICAL SERVICE. With morning tea
Sun 7 Apr	Presbyterian Service
Sun 14 Apr	Family service, led by the Worship Team. With morning tea.

Just a reminder that a Samoan congregational service is held every Sunday at 12pm. Everyone is welcome!



Fellowship Thursday 14th March, 1pm, West Lynn Butterfly House and Garden, 73 Parker Ave, New Lynn

Come along and meet at the garden and bring a picnic lunch. **ALL WELCOME – INCLUDING NEW MEMBERS.** *Contacts:* Lynda 813 9869 or Desley 836 6572.

Volunteers, please

Do you like a nice cup of tea and, more importantly, can you put the kettle on? Perhaps you have a floral flair! If either of these sounds like you, give Sharron a call! She'd love to hear from you. We need a few more volunteers to do morning tea or arrange the flowers. First up, we need a volunteer for morning tea on 24th March.

Sharron: 0211 958 302 sharronmeadows@hotmail.com

Online church donations

For those of us who would like to give our offering online, the Church Bank Account is 12-3074-0158058-00. Receipts will be given at end of financial year 31/3/2024.



PRAYER PLEASE Please pray for Paddy and Margaret Marshall following their serious car accident. Paddy is now out of hospital but Margaret will remain for at least another week. We are grateful they are on the road to recovery. Also pray for their families as they support them in the next little while. Please pray also for anyone in our community who is living with a serious illness and all who are bereaved. We pray for the family and colleagues of Green MP and former candidate for Auckland Mayor, Efeso Collins, who has died suddenly.

Wedding bells at Oratia Church

Julia Mason and Chris Pearce were married at Oratia Church on Saturday, with Rev Gareth Walters officiating. Weddings were held frequently at the church in years gone by, but they have become a rarer event lately, so it's a lovely event whenever couples still wish to use the church for this purpose.



Beautiful bows adorn the pews



The happy couple



Molly's lovely flowers for Sunday borrowed by the wedding party for the foyer



Te Whare are still grateful for our donations. Stephen is unable to deliver the donations himself, so Te Whare are hoping to bring a van down from Up North to take up the next load.

Welcome Baby Felix!

Gorgeous baby Felix was born on 27th January to Elise (daughter of Rachel and Jean van Polanen) and Ben. Felix is little brother to Penelope, and Margaret Barnett's second great-grandchild. Welcome Baby Felix!



Church Review

Over the next 6 months, we will be conducting a strategic review to find out how we become more relevant to the community we seek to serve and address the decline in congregation numbers. The review will be led by a team including Ben Meadows, Hilary Mather, Matt Barnett, Catherine Perich, and Paul Goldsmith. In the new year they will be conducting some discussion groups to get your feedback on this topic. In the meantime, feel free to contact Paul on 021 622 368.

ROSTERS



25th Feb

10th Mar

24th Mar

14 April

28 April

Flowers

VOLUNTEER PLEASE

Desley

Cleaning

Marion

Ben and Margaret G

Morning tea

Leanne and Margaret G

Ruth

VOLUNTEER PLEASE

Leanne and Margaret G

Charlene

CONTACTS

TRUST COMMITTEE SECRETARY: Ben Meadows, 021 890 253. Email: benjaminmeadows@msn.com
 BOOKING OFFICER: For Hall or Church: Catherine Barnett, 818 8344. cgabarnett@gmail.com
 OTHER: Confidential Prayer: Molly Whittington, 021 114 7921. Visiting: Paddy Marshall, 814 9859.

ANGLICAN: St Andrew's Priest in Charge: Rev. George Penk; penkgeorge@gmail.com; 818 4449

METHODIST: Rev. Uesifili Unasa (office): 818 6542. Mobile 027 351 3455. uesifiliu@methodist.org.nz

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PRESBYTERIAN: TBC