

Otaki-Waikanae Presbyterian Parish



Parish News
29 March 2026

Christ Centred **✝** **Community Serving**
Welcome to our church

This Week's Service

Sunday 29 March 2026

9.15 am **Waikanae Morning Worship**

Duty Elder: Marion Brash

Readings: Psalm 118:1-2,19-29,
Matthew 21:1-11

Hymns: All Glory Laud and Honour. Lord I
Come To You, Prepare the Royal
Highway, Two Processions, Ride
On Ride On in Majesty, TIS778

10.50 am **Otaki Morning Worship**

Next Week's Service

Service Rosters 5 April 2026

**10.00 am am Waikanae
Joint Communion and
Easter Sunday Service**

Duty Elder: Anne Field

Door Steward: Dot Le Prou

Reader: Graeme Beardsley

Prayers of the People: Peter Jackson

Church & Community Notices



Join us for our service this Sunday
via Live Stream

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89182419966?
pwd=odfqmQBBb2yD81wOsNuukVBO3Q425H.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89182419966?pwd=odfqmQBBb2yD81wOsNuukVBO3Q425H.1)

Meeting ID: 891 8241 9966

Passcode: 556557

**PLEASE MUTE YOUR COMPUTER DURING
THE SERVICE**

Access the same way as Monday Bible Study.



Otaki Waikanae Parish is inviting you to a
scheduled Zoom meeting
Monday 30 March at 7pm

Join **Zoom Meeting**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81957614213?
pwd=IVg33JgWRHbRwfpBaEmUKhzm0tteGl.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81957614213?pwd=IVg33JgWRHbRwfpBaEmUKhzm0tteGl.1)

Meeting ID: 819 5761 4213

Passcode: 770039

All welcome to attend!

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GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

To be held Jointly in
Waikanae

10.00 am Friday 3rd April 2026

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE And COMMUNION

To be held Jointly in
Waikanae

10.00 am Sunday 5th April 2026

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MODERATOR'S EASTER MESSAGE 2026

Easter is upon us and the principalities and powers are once again raging using the human propensity for evil to wreak havoc on human society, whether it's on the big stage of world affairs or the husband beating his partner and children down the street.

Once, I thought humans were basically good and ethically responsible all the time. Some still put the case that human evolution and development will lead us into a new era of enlightenment when that will be true. That view was demolished once and for all for me by a philosophy lecturer who took our class on a journey exploring the questions, "Could the Nazi regime, or similar, happen in New Zealand under the right circumstances?" "Could any one of us be a war criminal and kill innocent people while looking them in the eye?" Our class of about 20 students ended up saying yes to both propositions, and it silenced all of us because of what it meant. That experience was part of my understanding the why of the Easter story.

In Jeremiah 17 the prophet comes to terms as to why Judah rejected God and linked itself spiritually to the world views of its pagan neighbours, where ordinary people became objects to be used in the spiritual practice of making recompense to the gods through human sacrifice and other detestable rituals. Where political rulers sought absolute power for themselves at any cost. Verse 9 is the prophet's conclusion: "The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?" God knows.

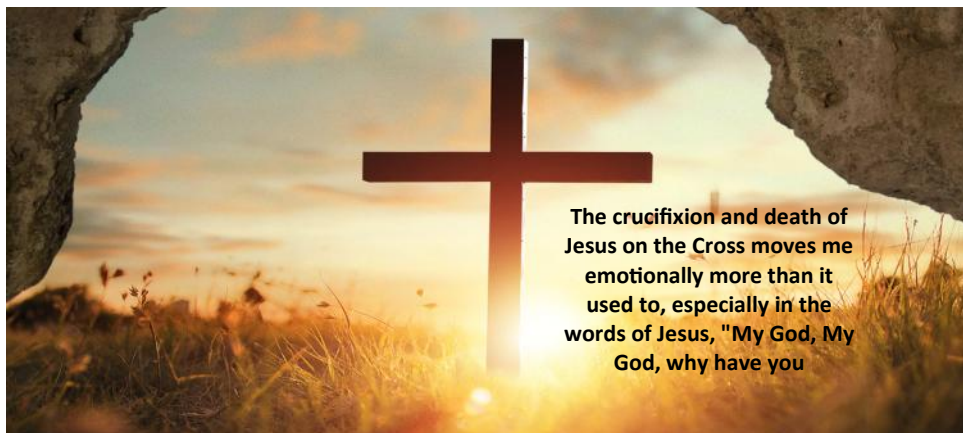
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It can't be fully explained in a paragraph or two of course. But in Jeremiah's world that produced that dire analysis of the human condition, God was there. As I often say to people, do not worry about the future, God is already there. In Jeremiah 28 the prophet makes reference to "the righteous descendent from David's line". Ultimately Jesus Christ is there in Jeremiah's future.

I think of Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday in terms of being the pinnacle story of the Incarnation. Why was Jesus born of the Virgin Mary as the Son of God, fully human and fully divine? God's fulfilment of the Old Testament hope of the coming Messiah and the coming of the Kingdom of God to bring true justice and peace for the People of Israel and all who believe in him from the gentile world. And now that the death and resurrection of Christ is an historical event to contemplate, those of us who do believe are looking forward backwards to the Kingdom of God being fulfilled on earth. At this time, that seems as far away for us as it did for Jeremiah in a sense. How long, O Lord, until you return to put all things right?

The crucifixion and death of Jesus on the Cross moves me emotionally more than it used to, especially in the words of Jesus, "My God, My God, why have you abandoned me?" Was that the cry of the humanity of Jesus Christ, or his divinity as the Son of God. It is both and. What does sinful humanity face at judgement? Abandonment, as you follow the description of judgement through the Scriptures. This is an anathema if you hang onto the notion of the instinctive goodness of humankind of course. Jesus, the Son of God, taking on the nature of humankind, being fully human and fully God, became the subject of God's fierce judgement of humanities sin on the Cross. Because the humanity and divinity of Jesus cannot be separated, that cry of anguish I imagine was heard in every spiritual realm, with rejoicing in at least one of them. Jesus was judged and died for the sins of the world as the atoning sacrifice to give life and peace to all humanity. And those who put their faith in Christ receive that life and peace.

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I think of Resurrection Sunday. Before I go to church to lead the resurrection day service as I have done for many years, I make the space to reflect, be in awe, worship, sit in silence and in my mind and soul repeat those famous liturgical words, "Jesus Christ is risen. He is risen indeed".

I can't explain why I believe with so much certainty. Some of it comes from reading the Gospel passages describing the reactions of the first witnesses to the empty tomb and first appearances of Jesus. I believe because I have experienced many interventions in my life like miracles and answers to prayer that are not natural but supernatural. Testimony, personal and corporate, gives you good reason to believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day. I give intellectual ascent to the crucifixion and resurrection as one thing, but through meeting the Trinity in different circumstances life has thrown at me to try and stop me believing intellectually, the revelation of the Holy Spirit life encounters goes through my mind to my soul. Simply, you come to believe because you know it in your knower.

This Easter, I encourage you not to just tell the story of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and his rising on the third day from the cul-de-sac of intellectual ascent and discover the Holy Spirit's revelation to the church and whole of humanity - Christ died, Christ is risen! If you have not come to the place of revelatory faith in the Easter story, you may have another challenging Easter to navigate and reconcile unbelief with the testimony of the Christian Church worldwide. For those who have doubt, keep on the journey of discovery my friend.

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An analogy of what the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ means for me as I journey on. As the story goes, the composers Pyotr Tchaikovsky and George Handel had a conversation after attending worship in heaven, Revelation 4 style. The singing of the angelic host was something both had never imagined possible. They were overwhelmed and forever changed. Both composers were famous for their contribution to Christian music on earth. Handel's "Messiah" with the famous and moving *Hallelujah Chorus*. Tchaikovsky's the "Liturgy of St John Chrysostom" with the famous and moving *Hymn of the Cherubim*. Two different cultures, two languages, two Christian traditions echoing each other in proclaiming the glory of God. Handel asked Tchaikovsky what inspired him to compose the *Hymn of the Cherubim*. The answer came. "I wanted blind people to see the dawn."

I know in my knower that I have seen the dawn in the death and resurrection of Christ, through the testimony of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. I look forward to the increasing brightness of the new day when I meet my Saviour and Lord in New Heaven and Earth.

Peter

Right Rev Peter Dunn

Moderator

Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

Maundy Thursday

Please join Rangiatea and All Saints churches as we remember Jesus' last meal with his disciples, with a fish and chip meal at All Saints, followed by foot washing at Rangiatea.

Thursday 2nd of April

6pm Fish and Chip Meal – \$10
(RSVP by Monday 30th of March
via text to Katie 0226146118)

7pm Footwashing



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OTAKI
Sunday 29 March
after the Sunday Morning Service.

BISCUIT BLESSING OTAKI

The Otaki Biscuit Blessing was given to
Huha Otaki in March.

Please remember the staff in your prayers.

We have an updated Parish Telephone
Directory available.

They are available from the office.
If you would like one please let me know.



Connect

I have received very little for the Connect this week so it
will be postponed for a month or two.

My apologies to everyone who did send something in,
I will use it next time if it is still relevant.

Thank you

Church & Community Notices

**GARAGE SALE
OTAKI CHURCH
249 MILL ROAD, OTAKI
28 March 2026— 8am start**



Lots of bargains at the garage sale

We would love to see you there!

***Saturday 28th March will be the last day for the
Otaki Garage Sale.***

***Many thanks to Meri and the team for their
fundraising efforts over the last several years
on behalf of our Parish.***

Church & Community Notices

8-week Yoga Therapy course for people living with arthritis.

If this sounds like something you (or someone you know) might benefit from, I'd love to hear from you.

The course will:

- Run for 8 weeks (April–May, starting after Easter)
 - Every Tuesday 5.15pm for 60min
- Include small group sessions (6–10 participants)
 - Be offered at a student rate

During March, I'll meet with each participant individually for a one-on-one intake assessment so I can understand your needs, joint concerns, and goals before we begin.

This course is suitable for all levels and different forms of arthritis. It will focus on safe movement, strength, mobility, and practical tools you can use at home to support your joints long-term.

If you're interested or would like more details, please send me a message. I'm currently looking for 6–10 participants to join the course.

If you are interest please contact Anja on [027 516 7075](tel:0275167075) or check the website [Waikanae Yoga & Wellbeing](#)

What Is Yoga Therapy?

Yoga Therapy is an evidence-informed, personalised approach to yoga that adapts movement, breathwork, and relaxation practices to support specific health conditions. Rather than a general yoga class, it focuses on individual needs, symptoms, and functional goals — helping participants improve mobility, reduce pain, and build confidence in their bodies safely.

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Mission	Main Contact People	Contact Numbers
Kapiti Hidden Books	Yvonne and John Miller	04 2389663
Biscuit blessing	Annie Christie - Otaki	027 480 4803
	Dot Le Prou - Waikanae	021 297 9144
Christian World Service	Marion Brash	04 293 1932
Bible Society	Marion Brash	04 293 1932
Café Rendezvous	Peter Jackson	021 207 9455
	Dot, Penny, Destine	
	Helen, Lisa	
Garage Sale	Meri Risati-Garratt	
	Kevin, Heather	
Saturday Morning Café & Sale	Lois Gemmell, Annie Christie	
	Heather Craig	
Wednesday Fun Club	Heather Watson	06 364 8391
Skills Sharing	Lois Gemmell	06 364 0993
Te Awhi Rito	Peter Jackson	021 207 9455
	Lois, Quentin,	
	Margaret S, Sheree	
Messy Church	Adair Anderson, Katie Lewis	027 774 1041
Christian Broadcasting Service		

Daily Bible Readings

Monday 30 March

Isa 42:1-9

Ps 36:5-11

John 12:1-11

Tuesday 31 March

Isa 49:1-7

Ps 71:1-14

John 12:20-36

Wednesday 1 April

Isa 50:4-9a

Ps 70

John 13:21-32

Thursday 2 April

Exod 12:1-4,(5-10), 11-14

Ps 116:1-2,11-18

John 13:1-17,31b-35

Friday 3 April

Isa 52:13–53:12

Ps 22

John 18:1–19:42

Saturday 4 April

Job 14:1-14

Ps 31:1-5,16-18

John 19:38-42

MESSAGE OF THE WEEK

**"Just one small positive
thought in the morning
can change your whole
day".**

Parish Contact Details

Minister: The Rev. Peter Jackson

phone: 021 207 9455

email: minister@owpresb.nz

Rev. Peter Jackson is available to meet
with you:

1st and 4th Monday each month in Waikanae from 2.00
-3.00pm

1st and 4th Thursday each month in Otaki
from 11.00-12.00pm

Please contact the office for an appointment.

Parish Clerk: Glenda John

Phone: 027 329 5440

email: parishclerk@owpresb.nz

Parish Office: Jacqui Hurley

Hours: Waikanae 9:00am to 12:00pm Monday,
Wednesday, Thursday

Otaki 9:00am to 12:00pm Tuesday

phone: 022 166 0989

email: office@owpresb.nz

website: www.otakiwaikanaechurch.nz

43 Ngaio Road, Waikanae

Offerings: Can be paid by Direct Debit into:

06 0592 0094011 00

Church Bank Account—Otaki Waikanae Presbyterian Parish

