

PARISH CONTACTS

CLERGY TEAM:

Vicar

The Rev Megan Herles-Mooar  
021 02546956

Priest Assistants  
The Rev Rory Redmayne  
338 4540

The Rev Geoff Howarth  
The Rev Ivan Jones

Office Manager  
Sue Stewart  
355 3287

Anglican Parish of Merivale St Albans

Parish Office  
30 Church Lane, Merivale

Tues, Wed, Thurs  
10am - 3pm

Mon & Fri  
10am - 12noon

Ph:355 3287

Postal Address:  
PO Box 36591, Merivale,  
Christchurch 8146

Email: info@allsouls.org.nz  
Web: www.allsouls.org.nz

CHURCH WARDENS:

Vicar's Warden  
Marion Fairbrass  
374 5592

People's Warden  
Lorraine Sharr

Ph: 360-2351



Phone 03 355 4197  
(leave a message)  
or 021 2227543  
or Email: thecorner@  
allsouls.org.nz

TAI CHI AT THE CORNER

Tuesday 1:15pm - 2:15pm  
Thursday 10:30am - 11:30am  
(followed by a cuppa)  
For more information see  
contact details above  
Resuming the week of 18 Jan

FILM CLUB

The Film Club is on the second  
and fourth Monday of each  
month

You will be emailed details  
of where and when  
Ph: Judy on 022 1894597  
for more information

SCRABBLE

Thursdays  
from 10:30am

CRAFT GROUP

First and third Wednesdays  
monthly from  
10am - 12noon  
Last for year Wed 2 Dec  
Restart on Wed 3 February  
Contact  
Lyndsey Sturge on 352 9761  
for further information

You are welcome to come to The  
Corner in the meeting room at the  
back of the All Souls complex

**We will be closing on  
Thursday 17th December  
and  
resuming most groups from  
Monday 18th January 2021**

ACTIVE PERSONS EXERCISE GROUP

This group meets in the Large  
Hall at All Souls Church  
Monday 11:30am - 12:30pm  
Thursday 1:30pm - 2:30pm  
finishing with coffee  
and a snack

Finishing on Thursday 17 Dec  
and restarting on Mon 18 Jan  
For more information see  
contact details above

PLAY THE UKULELE

Meet at 9:15am on Tuesdays  
\$4 per session

We're closing the year with  
a singalong on Tuesday 15th  
at The Corner's Christmas  
Party, and after a break we'll  
resume in late January.

Phone Cathrine, 355 8914,  
for further formation.  
New members are always  
welcome. \$4 per session

DANCE FITNESS

Our existing Body Beat, **Wednesdays at 5:30pm**,  
will focus on body beat/music/dance/Zumba –  
enjoy at your own pace.

Step out of your comfort zone, come along and hide at the  
back of the class if necessary until you burst with  
confidence and vitality!

Last for year 16 December Restart Wed 20 January  
For more information see contact details above  
\$6 per session

BOOK SHARING GROUP

Our last meeting for 2020 will be held  
on Wednesday 16th December, a  
chance to stock up on reading material  
before the Christmas season. In the  
last couple of months we've shared  
a variety of books, as always. The  
beautiful cover of The Dictionary of  
Lost Words by Pip Williams enticed us,  
and the book lived up to its promise. A  
New Zealand novel that has received  
huge international success (snapped up  
by Hollywood and already translated  
into several languages), The Girl in the  
Mirror by Rose Carlyle, produced mixed  
reactions from those of our group who  
read it, but we love mixed opinions!

Next year we'll resume our book  
conversations on January 20th. Please  
get in touch if you'd like to join our  
monthly sessions.

Phone Cathrine, 355 8914.

The Corner welcomes  
parishioners and community  
members - we look forward to  
meeting you and sharing time  
at the Corner on a Tuesday or  
Thursday 10:30am to 12pm  
over coffee or during one of our  
activities below.

MAINLY MUSIC CHRISTMAS PARTY

Last Session for the year  
Monday 7 December  
9:30am

Restart Monday 1 February  
Ph: Bridie Boyd  
0223154991 for more  
information

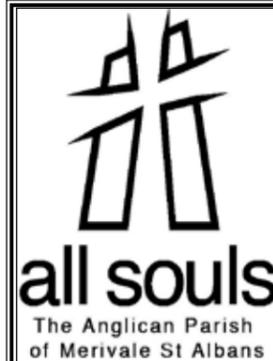
WEEKEND CLUB

A friendly group which meets  
for friendship and company  
once a month.

Please **Note** this is not our usual  
Saturday - we would like to meet  
up pre-Christmas on

Saturday 12 December 2020  
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Please note in 2021 we will meet  
on the last Saturday of the month  
so our first get together will be  
Saturday 30th January



THE MESSSENGER



DECEMBER 2020

FROM THE VICAR'S DESK



The Rev. Megan  
Herles-Mooar

'UNPRECEDENTED'

What a year it has been! One where  
the word 'unprecedented' has almost  
become commonplace as the world is  
redefined in light of Covid-19. Yet here  
we are in Advent. Where as much as  
we look back at what has been, we are  
called to still ourselves and look forward  
in hope as we approach Christmas and  
the remembrance of the coming of the  
Christ Child. We may be entering into  
the Festive Season a little more raged  
than usual – a little wearier. Yet it is my  
deepest hope that the true reason for  
Christmas, the life-giving celebration of  
our story, may inspire and refresh us all.  
For that is what we all need at this time  
– what the world needs. To remember

that God loves us so much that his son came on earth that we  
may see the face of Christ among us. That we may be filled with  
God's Spirit and carry that out into the world. Each invited to  
enter a deeper relationship with our God and find a way home.  
Our faith story remains for me, the greatest love story ever  
lived. In it, there is peril and sacrifice, profound hope, and  
enduring joy. It is also a never-ending story – one where you  
and I are invited to play our part as we live out our faith. One  
of the ways we do this is by sharing our story widely and boldly,  
and by being a people of generous hospitality. This is something  
that we hope to reflect on our outreach and in our worship.  
These two areas come together in several of our community  
events this year.

Staff Changes

We also have much to give thanks for at this time. We give  
thanks for Cameron who has been an absolute gift to us as our  
curate. We wish him and Victoria all the best on their next  
adventure. We have not lost him completely however and give

thanks that the Bishop and the Cathedral have agreed for Cameron  
to continue as a part of our youth team on a Thursday night.

I would like to welcome the Reverends Geoff Haworth and Ivan  
Jones, who are joining Rory Redmayne and me in part-time  
positions to offer clergy support as we look to the future. I also  
want to give thanks for Frankie Roake who has come to us as the  
co-ordinator of the Corner. It is such a delight to have her with us.  
Have a wonderful Festive Season, thank you all for being an  
extraordinary community.

May the hope found in a manger be with you this season  
Megan

CHRISTMAS CAROLS ON THE LAWN

Friday, Dec 11th at 6pm

This year we are delighted to be able to host Christmas Carols on  
the Lawn. In this our choir director Matthew Harris will lead us  
in a selection of traditional and contemporary Christmas Carols  
accompanied by two brass bands! We will also have a sausage  
sizzle and a mission's gift stand at the event. This is a wonderful  
opportunity to grab the family, a blanket or fold out chair and join  
the festivities.

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Monday, Dec 14th at 6:30pm

Our Blue Christmas service acknowledges that although some  
people may be filled with the wonder of the festive season that  
others find this time of year painful. For some, this is a time of  
loss as they mourn the death of a loved one. For others, a change  
of circumstance can leave one feeling uncertain or despondent.  
There are also those of us who crave a space where we may sit in  
stillness and be with God. The Blue Christmas service endeavours  
to offer this, creating space for contemplation, prayer, and healing.

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE

Thursday, Dec 24th at 4pm

At the other end of the spectrum, we have our family Christmas  
Eve Service. Where the magic of the Christmas story unfolds  
complete with special appearances by the Christmas Dinosaur and  
real donkeys!

MIDNIGHT MASS CHRISTMAS EVE

Thursday, Dec 24th at 11pm

A hush falls over the night as we gather in candlelight to await the  
coming of the Christ Child, then in the half-light, a lone voice is  
heard, joined by another and another as Christmas Carol's ring out  
and we celebrate the birth of the Messiah

CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday, Dec 25th 8am & 10am

Let no Christmas Carol be left unsung, let no tinsel be left unhung.  
Today we celebrate with full voice and tidings of comfort and joy a  
baby born in a manger.

THE CORNER Christmas Party

You are warmly invited on  
**Tuesday 15 December**  
to pop in between **11am - 1pm**  
to share our  
*Christmas Cheer  
and Nibbles*

Come and join us in the  
All Souls Complex in Church Lane

Phone 021 2227543  
or 3554197 and leave a message  
for catering purposes



The Corner had an outing to Uraidia on Tuesday 24 November  
This is a beautiful heritage home in Chapter St. Our group  
were served a lovely morning tea and then were able to roam  
through the house and garden at will.  
Donations are asked for the Motor Neurone Assoc

Tues 1 The Corner  
9:15am Ukulele group  
10:30am - 12noon Coffee & Conversation  
1:15pm - 2:15pm Tai Chi  
6:30 Move Class

Wed 2 10am Eucharist at All Souls Church  
10am Craft Group (Last one for year)  
5:30pm Dance Fitness in hall  
6:30pm carols at St George's

Thurs 3 The Corner  
10:30am - 11:30am Tai Chi class  
10:30am - 12noon Coffee & Conversation and Scrabble  
1:30pm - 2:30pm Exercise Group

Fri 4 Combined Resthomes' service and morning tea

Sun 6 2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
8am Eucharist  
9:30am Sung Eucharist and All Stars  
11:30am Eucharist

Mon 7 The Corner  
9:30am Mainly Music Christmas Party  
11:30am Active Persons exercise

Tues 8 The Corner  
9.15 Ukelele group  
10:30am - 12noon Coffee & Conversation  
1:15pm - 2:15pm Tai Chi  
6.30 Move Class

Wed 9 10am Eucharist at All Souls Church  
5:30pm Dance Fitness in Hall  
6pm Parish monthly dinner at Bailies Bar

Thurs 10 The Corner  
10:30am - 11:30am Tai Chi  
10:30am - 12noon Coffee & Conversation  
11:00am Scrabble

Fri 11 6pm Carols on the lawn at All Souls with a mini fair.

Sat 12 8am Men's Breakfast in Church Hall  
4pm Weekend Club

Sun 13 3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
8am Eucharist  
9:30am Sung Eucharist and All Stars  
11:30am Eucharist

Mon 14 The Corner  
11:30am Active Persons exercise  
6:30pm Blue Christmas at All Souls

Tues 15 The Corner  
11am - 1pm The Corner Christmas Party  
1:15pm - 2:15pm Tai Chi  
6:30 Move Class

Wed 16 10am Eucharist at All Souls Church  
1pm Book Sharing Group  
5:30pm Body Beat

Thurs 17 The Corner  
10:30am - 11:30am Tai Chi  
10:30am - 12noon Coffee and Conversation  
11:00am Scrabble

Sun 20 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
10am Nine Lessons & Carols

Wed 23 10am Eucharist at All Souls Church

Thurs 24 CHRISTMAS EVE  
4pm Children's and Families'  
Christmas Service with live donkeys  
11pm Midnight Mass

Fri 25 CHRISTMAS DAY  
8am Christmas Service  
10am Christmas Eucharist

Sun 27 1ST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS  
10am Eucharist

**JANUARY**

Sun 3 2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS  
10am Eucharist

Wed 6 Epiphany

Sun 10 1ST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
10am Eucharist

Sun 17 2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
8am Eucharist  
9:30am Sung Eucharist  
11:30am Eucharist



We welcome some friends into the complex to celebrate the Christmas Season  
Bring the children in to see our gorgeous sheep - they will love to pat their shiny smooth noses !!

**JANUARY ctd**

Mon 18 THE CORNER REOPENS  
11:30am Active Persons exercise

Tues 19 The Corner  
10:30am - 12noon Coffee /Scrabble  
1:15pm - 2:15pm Tai Chi  
6.30 Move Class

Wed 20 10am Eucharist at All Souls Church  
1pm Book Sharing Group  
5:30pm Dance Fitness

Thurs 21 The Corner  
10:30am - 11:30am Tai Chi class  
10:30am - 12noon Coffee & Conversation and Scrabble  
1:30pm - 2:30pm Active health exercise

Sun 24 3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
8am Eucharist  
9:30am Sung Eucharist and 11.30am Eucharist

Mon 25 The Corner  
11:30am Active Persons exercise

Tues 26 The Corner  
9.15 Ukelele group  
10:30am - 12noon Coffee  
1:15pm - 2:15pm Tai Chi  
6.30 Move Class

Wed 27 10am Eucharist at All Souls Church  
5:30pm Dance Fitness

Thurs 28 The Corner  
10:30am - 11:30am Tai Chi class  
10:30am - 12noon Coffee & Conversation and Scrabble  
1:30pm - 2:30pm Active health exercise

Sat 30 The Corner  
4pm Weekend Club

Sun 31 4TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
8am Eucharist  
9:30am Sung Eucharist  
11.30am Eucharist

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HAMISH TAYLOR Partner  
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**ALL SOULS ALL STARS**  
Two groups from February  
One under five and one five and over  
and will meet each Sunday during the 9.30 Service  
Charlotte and Bridie

**OUR CHURCH SERVICES**

**SUNDAY**  
8:00am Eucharist  
9:30am Sung Eucharist followed by morning tea  
11.30am Eucharist followed by lunch  
All Souls in Church Lane

**WEDNESDAY**  
10am Eucharist in the Church at All Souls in Church Lane

*PARISHIONER PROFILE*

**Victoria Wales**

Victoria is Christchurch born and bred and like her mother, Christine, always seemed to be drawn towards - and possess a talent for - hospitality. Both, mother and daughter, excel in preparing and enjoying good food, good wine, and good company.



Victoria was schooled in the city. She completed her education with tertiary training in Hospitality and Management. Favourite subjects were accounting, English and anything related to hospitality.

Victoria not only enjoys preparing food, she likes to eat it too. Her favourite food depends on where in the world she happens to be, and whom she is with. However, in her own words, 'if I were stuck on a deserted island, my dream would be club sandwiches (but no egg as I am allergic) or an antipasto platter with plenty of cheese.'

Her working life has taken her from hotel management to travel and tourism. For the past fourteen years she has been a director of HOT (House of Travel) Events. Under this umbrella shelters a number of brands including New Zealand Olympic Travel. This is the authorised ticket reseller for anything to do with the Olympic and Commonwealth Games. 'HOT Events' work with a number of corporate clients to create incentive and reward travel programs while also managing all aspects of clients' conference and event needs. Although at the moment her travels are quiet, she is certainly busy in the office doing anything from the social media posts, working through refunds for clients, cleaning the office and being the IT guru!

Beneath the appearance of a no nonsense efficient woman lies a true romantic. Victoria enjoys a huge variety of music but she particularly loves Jazz and Soul along with anything she can dance to. Special favourites are "Here comes the Sun" sung by Nina Simone and "Moon River". Unsurprisingly, Victoria's favourite films are 'Breakfast at Tiffany's' or any Jason Bourne movie.

She is an avid reader who enjoys anything from magazines to crime novels. Her favourite author is John Grisham.

*MISSION MOTIVATOR*

**Lesley Allan**

Now tell me three things you know about Anglican Missions. If you can do that, you are a lot more informed than me! Why then I am the Mission Motivator? When I saw the opportunity to serve, I felt "a nudge" as Revd Megan would say. This interest in Mission is because my life has been positively influenced by Missionaries in Rhodesia, Central Africa. I lived there for almost 40 years and throughout that time I was in close contact with a New Zealand family (from Christchurch) and their fellow missionaries.

I saw first-hand the hardships and obstacles they came up against. These included not only primitive living conditions, geographical isolation, and limited finances but also social alienation and ostracism. They were working with black indigenous people at a time when a predominantly white Government went to war to delay the transition to black majority rule. The missionaries went about teaching and preaching with gentleness, good humour, and authenticity. Their legacy was a significant one. Many of their pupils went on to become teachers, church ministers and leaders in commerce and industry. They set me a great example of 'faith in action'. When I had the opportunity to emigrate

Victoria is the secretary of three committees. So, when the chance arises she tries to stay away from the laptop. Her guilty secret, and one she is not alone in, is binge watching Netflix. I am aware of others who secretly share this passion. Victoria's anathema is people who fail to carry out a task for which they have volunteered, or agreed to do.

She is an active and valued worker in several areas of the church. Victoria is an integral member of the Hospitality and Fellowship Committee, part of the team who leads at the 9:30am service; and does welcoming, power point and sound. Victoria also takes care of the copyright loading of church music and oversees the Sunday morning tea.

Last year she fulfilled her dream of visiting New York and feels fortunate to have been able to achieve this ambition, especially in the event changing world of travel at the moment. She would like to achieve more KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) this year. Attainment of further KPIs is her annual goal - in doing so she derives satisfaction on both personal and professional levels. An example of Victoria's KPIs is the fundraising she does for the Christchurch City Mission in association with a Tourism Association. She is Vice President of Christchurch - Skål International\*. Each year, Victoria arranges a "bottle" auction for their Christmas Lunch. In 2019, she raised \$11,000 in 40 minutes. Victoria's goal was only \$5,000. Highlights with Skål this year have been hosting the International Executive (11 directors from throughout the world) in January, arranging the clubs 50th birthday celebration and co-ordinating zoom meetings during lockdown.

Aren't we blessed to have such vitality and talent at our disposal at All Souls?

\*Skål International is a global professional organisation of tourism and travel leaders with a strong footprint in New Zealand, including having the World President for 2020 as a local Christchurch person - Peter Morrison.



to New Zealand, I did not need much convincing. As I have indicated, I know little about Anglican Missions. I do know that it includes work done in our backyard as well as further afield, and can range from buying footwear for a few Christchurch school children, to offering pastoral care and psychosocial support to those affected by a tropical cyclone in Vanuatu. Over the next year, I look forward to your company as I go about a journey of discovery. I want to find out more so that I make the word Mission mean something real and tangible to you. To do this, I welcome your input (as well as your \$\$\$), so please share your ideas with me. I thank you all for the support you have given our mission table team, this year. We promised to bring you interesting tidbits and delectable treats during 2021!

*SAVE THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY*

- Friday 4 Combined Resthome's service
- Monday 7 December at 9:30 am: Mainly Music party/donkey rides
- Wednesday 9 December at 10:00 am: Eucharist at All Souls
- Friday 11 December at 6pm: Community carols and sales tables on the front lawn
- Monday 14 December at 6:30 pm: Blue Christmas - for those who find this time of year is an emotional struggle
- Tuesday 15 December 11am to 1:30: The Corner Christmas Party
- Sunday 20 December 10:00 am: 9 Lessons and Carols
- Thursday 24 December 4:00 pm: Children's nativity service complete with donkeys and assorted adults
- Thursday 24 December 11:00 pm: Midnight Mass
- Friday 25 December 8:00 am & 10:00 am: Christmas Day Service
- Sunday 27 December 10:00 am Eucharist (one service only)
- Sunday 03 January 2021 10:00 am Eucharist (one service only)
- Monday 1 February 2021 9:30 Mainly Music resumes

**Blue Christmas Service**  
**Monday 14th of Dec 6:30pm**

A space for those who find Christmas a challenge.  
 Bring your grief, sorrows, concerns and hope.  
 Come, Be Still, Be Supported & Support one another.



*FROM THE PARISH REGISTER*

- FUNERALS**
- 10 August 2020 Doreen JENKINS (91)
  - 7 October 2020 (Mary) Dwyllis BROWN (80)
  - 30 October 2020 Michael MOSS (89)

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**  
 The next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday 12th December in the church hall at 8am. Our speaker is Cheryl de la Rey, Vice-Chancellor of the University. More details will be advised later. Contact Hayward on Ph 022 601 4043 for further information

**TUI EXPRESS**



Tui Express will be back next year with Kerry Kearney at the helm. Nelson has decided to retire so we wish him well and say a huge thank you for all the great trips and the fun times everyone had while he was with us. Kerry is exploring "the job" and will be letting you know details early next year.

*FROM THE OCTOBER VESTRY MEETING*

- St Mary's War Dead Plaques approved and ordered
- There will be a representative from the RNZAF at the Memorial Day service
- During the service there would be the dedication of the font from St Matthew's now outside the memorial window. This was given in memory of Geoffrey Strong who died in WW1 - members of his family to be present at the service.
- Tui Express will start again next year led by Kerry Kearney.
- The motion to buy a house for clergy was passed at the special general meeting.
- Informal parish meetings to be resumed in the new year on the second Sunday of the month.
- Person to be hired to handle digital tasks each week. Maintaining the website etc.
- With Cameron leaving the clergy situation will be problematical. Moved that Ivan Jones to be an Interim Associate Priest for 20 hours a week from the beginning of December until after Easter 2021 and Geoff Haworth be employed for up to 8 hours a week in priestly ministry.
- Looking at employing a Climate Change Champion.
- There is to be a fair in 2021.

**SPECIAL RECITAL**  
 On Monday 16 November we were treated to a special recital with Pat Dolan and Carole Gibb playing some lovely duets. Pat explains below. He doesn't mention the many hours he spends quietly doing a myriad of tasks around the parish complex every week.



The recital was a personal and private way of saying thank you to all of the people who just quietly "do things" around the church without being on rosters or committees. The work of the rostered folk and those on committees is greatly appreciated but I just wanted to reach out to all of those who do other jobs be they big or small. Carole welcomed the idea. Not everyone could come along. Some of the "things" are polishing silver and brass, flowers in the church and foyer, rest home visiting, fair linen and soiled purificators, removal of garden rubbish, soup during the lockdown, sweeping the rear deck, transporting worshippers, being an office angel and so so much more. The music was mostly duets and included some of Faure's lovely Dolly Suite. We tried to be at executant, ie concert, level but found that I have to do a bit more practice just yet!. A few days later Carole and I confided that, afterwards, we were both a bit shattered. But it seemed to be a special way of saying thank you to some very special people.

Cheers, Pat

*OUR AUMBRY RESTORED*

If you go into the robing area of the vestry (the room at the back of the church on the left), you will find set into the wall a shiny, brass door with a key in it. This is the aumbry which was recovered from St Mary's church when it was demolished. It was stored in one of the containers for the next eight years. Following substantial restoration, the aumbry has now been fitted into the vestry wall and pressed into service.



So what, do I hear you ask, is an aumbry? In our corner of the Anglican church an aumbry is a locked box in which we keep consecrated bread and wine. These consecrated elements may have come to be there for three reasons:

- a) They may have been consecrated for use at a service when we know that a priest will not be available, but a Communion service is still desired. For example, we consecrated bread and wine on a Sunday in mid-January and put it in the aumbry because it was known that there would be no priest to celebrate Communion at the following Wednesday mid-week service. Such a use is called Communion by extension – in this case the Wednesday service was an extension of the service on the previous Sunday.
- Another example is when lay ministers take communion to people at rest homes. They will use the pre-consecrated elements kept in the aumbry.
- b) It is common to keep some consecrated bread and wine in the aumbry for use with people who are very sick and would not be able to concentrate for the full liturgy of the Eucharist. A shortened liturgy is used and pre-consecrated bread and wine offered.
- c) And sometimes there is a considerable quantity of bread and/or wine left over at the end of a service. While it is usual to consume such excess, it is also a common practice to put it in the aumbry for future use.

And what is so important about the consecrated bread and wine that we keep it by itself in a locked box? Anglicans don't share the Roman Catholic view that consecrated the bread and wine become the actual body and blood of Christ. But nevertheless we do acknowledge that these elements have been set aside for a holy purpose and that it is fitting to treat them with reverence. In the prayer of Great Thanksgiving the priest says the words, "Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive may be to us the body and blood of Christ, and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power, may be renewed for the service of your kingdom." Powerful stuff!

So, we give thanks that another aspect of our new building has been completed and we are now able to look after consecrated bread and wine with appropriate reverence.

Next time you are in church why not go into the vestry and see our newly restored and functioning aumbry? Rory Redmayne



*THE GURNSEY ALTAR*

Have you noticed the table recently installed in the atrium outside the family room? This beautiful piece of furniture is an interesting item from the story of St Mary's church. It is in memory of parishioners Mary and Arthur Chapman and given by their daughter in 1951. The Daniel history of the parish says nothing more about these three people.

It appears from a light search of the internet that Arthur Trueman Chapman built an elegant house on the Northwood estate in 1885. So all I can glean from that is that he was presumably a man of means.

This table was given as an altar in the Lady Chapel of St Mary's church and, curiously, was not named after its donor family but after Frederick Gurnsey who carved it in 1951, just two years before his death.



Frederick Gurnsey originated in Wales where he was born in 1868. He emigrated to New Zealand in 1906. He came as an instructor at the Canterbury College School of Art in Christchurch. Over the years Gurnsey gained a reputation as a fine carver of both stone and wood. Among his many works some of the better known are the Christchurch cathedral reredos and carvings and furnishings in the cathedral's Chapel of St Michael and St George (1932–51). Other major works include carvings for the Bridge of Remembrance in Christchurch (1924), the Massey Memorial in Wellington (1930), the Church of the Good Shepherd, Tekapo (1935).

After the 2010/11 earthquakes the Gurnsey altar was consigned to the diocesan store for the following 10 years, where it was copiously adorned by dust and donations from the birds. Recently recovered it has been washed and polished and once again pressed into service. We continue to give thanks for the generosity of the Chapman family and skill of Frederick Gurnsey.

Rory Redmayne

*WE SAY GOODBYE TO A SPECIAL FRIEND*



It was with much sadness that we farwelled The Rev Cameron Pickering on 29 November. He has been with us as he served his curacy before being ordained as a priest on 31 October. We wish him all the best as he takes up his position at the Christchurch Transitional Cathedral. He will be missed but we will get to see him briefly each week !!



**WARDEN'S REPORT**

We were happy to have been involved in the very special occasion of Cameron's ordination. It was a wonderful time, and was well supported by the All Souls community and Cameron's family and friends. Congratulations Cameron. The vestry are now working hard to ensure Megan is well supported when Cameron moves to the Cathedral.

We have also been busy ensuring that all the All Souls staff have all they need to work well for the parish.



Bishop Peter and clergy during the ordination of Cameron Pickering on 31 October 2020



The Vicar readjusting Cameron's stole to hang parallel for a priest as opposed to diagonally for a curate



Bishop Peter with Cameron and his wife Victoria, Gareth Bezett who preached the sermon and the Vicar Megan Herles-Moorar after the service

**GRAND AID**

2021 - the start of a new term, start of a new year. For needy families this is often a time of great stress. The cost of uniforms, stationery, school trips, photographs - the list seems endless, especially in families where there several children.

In previous years donations from All Souls to our parish schools - Mairehau and St Albans - have enabled senior pupils to join their friends in going on camp; they have provided shoes and winter clothing for children at St Albans. Assistance is offered to cases the schools know to be genuine and multiple payments are not made. Donations are tax deductible. A receipt is issued by the school at the time of payment

In making a donation to either school, we are taking our faith into the community, being seen to practise what we preach. If however you are somebody who likes to get a little more bang for your buck, you can buy some jam and/or pickle from me (Wendy Nuthall) and the payment will be donated to one of the schools.

Thank you for considering my request.  
Wendy Nuthall

WHAT IF YOU, YES YOU PERSONALLY, could save a child from growing up to become a criminal? What if you could turn a child with low self esteem into a person comfortable in his/her own skin?

A little dramatic perhaps, but I am convinced that the ability to read, or not, can make this kind of difference in a child's life. I don't for a moment believe our Grandee service alone can achieve that difference - but we can help the process.



Helping children with reading difficulties overcome their problems is by no means a one-way street. Ask Jocelyn Jarmey, Diana Satterwaite or Miles McIntyre. Volunteers derive heartfelt joy in their involvement.

Nor is being a Grandee only about reading. In today's society if there are two parents in a family they are both probably working full time. Children may go to an after school programme, picked up late in the afternoon by a parent who is tired yet still has to deal with household chores and getting a meal. Consequently the child often sits before a screen of some sort, and has very little one-on-one attention from an adult. A Grandee is as important in making good this lack, as in helping the child with their reading.

It's said that if you want something done, ask a busy person. Well I'm asking if you could possibly find ninety minutes a week to turn a child's life around, If you truly don't have that time, there is the option of taking part in the team as a 'reserve'.

It is especially important to have men in the classroom, as often children have no male role model at home. The children love Miles to bits, and he derives great pleasure in his work as a Grandee.

I need five new Grandees on the team and three reserves. Please don't read this and turn to the next article - THIS WORK IS IMPORTANT FOR NEEDY CHILDREN IN ST ALBANS AND MAIREHAU PRIMARY SCHOOLS - THEY ARE PART OF OUR PARISH.

Wendy Nuthall, email wendyn@xtra.co.nz, 0273535027, 3522284.

**FROM OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR**

What a year it has been! And aren't we all glad it is almost over, and the time is here for us to reflect, relax and enjoy the Christmas spirit.

Our Christmas preparations are well under way! We have our Mainly Music Christmas party with a donkey for the children to ride on coming up soon. And on Christmas Eve, at 4pm, we have our Children's Christmas service, featuring Wally the Dinosaur and his quest to find the baby Jesus. Donkeys will also be making an appearance there too! We welcome all the families in the neighbourhood, and all people of all ages, to this wonderful service. It will be a lot of fun, and with a lot of laughter.

This year, our children and youth programmes have continued to develop, and we have loved getting to know so many young people.

Mainly Music continues to be a strong and fun group, great for toddlers, parents and carers. The lemon muffins are now legendary, and every week the children race each other round and round the hall on mini motorbikes. We have a lot of fun dancing together, followed by morning tea and play time. If you have a child under 4, we would love to meet you. We will be starting back next year on the 1st of February.

The first three terms we ran a young women's group, for those women aged 16-21 who wanted a support group to explore faith, mental health and spiritual journeys with. It was a lovely group, and we hope to run something similar next year.

This term we have launched our board games afternoons, which take place every Wednesday during term time from 2:30pm-5:30pm and is for anyone under 20 years. There have been many games of Catan, Monopoly Deal, Among Us, and Uno played. And many chips eaten! This will also be a group we run next year.

Thursday nights we have our youth group. Anyone under 18 is welcome to the first half 6.00pm-7.30pm, where we have activities such as Zombie Tag, Spotlight and Octoball (one night we even made sheep!), and then Night Prayer followed by a supper. Each term we also do some special evenings, such as bonfire nights, trips to Margaret Mahy, or trips to the beach. At 7.30pm, those under 13 leave us, and rest stay for a chat or a lesson on life skills and faith; we have covered topics from how to be a good friend, to what it means to be Anglican.

Our Children's Church, at 9:30am on a Sunday morning has been a lot of fun. We have made lanterns, played with play dough, and learnt a lot. Next year we hope to run two simultaneous programmes on a Sunday morning, one for under fives and one for five and over, so that we can better cater to the diverse range of ages attending. If you have children in either of the categories we encourage you to come along.

Also in the works is creating an All Souls Youth band, who hopefully will provide some of the music at the 11:30am service. If you are a young person who can play an instrument and wants to join a band - please get in contact. We would love for you to be a part of us.

Most excitingly, we are about to confirm or baptise several of our youth which is a wonderful testament to how hard our volunteer leaders have worked this year to journey with our young people and bring them to Christ.

We hope that 2021 is a better year for everyone, and look forward to seeing all the families, children and youth in our community back in our doors in February!

Blessings and Seasons Greetings,  
Bridie (Children and Youth Co-ordinator at All Souls Church, 022 3154991)

**ON THE ELEVENTH HOUR, OF THE ELEVENTH DAY ..... ARMISTICE SERVICE AT ALL SOULS**



Armistice Day at All Souls Church was celebrated a little differently this year. Armistice is remembered as the moment at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918 when the guns fell silent over Europe marking the end of the hostilities of the First World War.

All Souls had also been unable to observe Anzac Day this year due to the Covid-19 lockdowns. So on Wednesday 11th November we held a combined Armistice/Anzac service to remember those from the former parishes of St Mary's Merivale and St Matthew's St Albans who had lost their lives in the two Great Wars of the last century.

When the new All Souls Church in Church Lane was built, the WW1 Memorial stain glass window from the former St Matthew's Church was installed in the new building, but the accompanying plaques were never displayed. Nor was there any memorial to the fallen from the parish of St Mary's. This was put right on Armistice Day when the



St Matthew's plaques and a new plaque remembering the fallen from the St Mary's congregation were affixed and dedicated by the vicar Rev Megan Herles-Moorar.

The service was particularly special because it also involved the rededication of a memorial font given by the parents of Flight Sergeant Geoffrey Walter Strong. This font was in use for more than 60 years in St Matthew's church, both at the original Edgeware Road church and then later in the newer Cranford Street church. It was retrieved after the earthquakes and put into storage. Thanks to the help of a number of parishioners, it was retrieved and lifted by a hired crane to its present position in the fern garden outside the Memorial Window.

Flight Sergeant Geoffrey Strong was the bomb aimer on an operational attack on Wuppertal on the night of 24th June 1943. His four engined Stirling bomber of 75 Squadron RNZAF was shot down by either German night fighters or flak over the Netherlands. His body was washed up on the island of Nordbeuland and the Dutch buried him in the Flushing General Cemetery. The captain of his plane, Pilot Officer Norman Bluck, was aged only 22. All seven crew were lost.

The service at All Souls was attended by a number of Geoffrey Strong's relatives and a representative of the RNZAF. The congregation gathered around the Memorial Window while Rev Megan Herles-Moorar went outside to the fern garden to re-dedicate the font.



The Vicar re-dedicates the WW2 Memorial Font watched by two relatives of the late F/S Geoffrey Strong and Squadron Leader Kate Bint RNZAF who then saluted having laid a wreath on the table to the Memorial window and font (left)

