
ANGLICAN PARISH OF HALSWELL PREBBLETON

Sunday 13 September 2026, 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time

'Living God's Word, Gathering Community'

All Saints: 9.00am (NZPB456) & St Marys:10.30am: Rev John Shoaf

Grace @10.30am: Rev Andrew Hoggan

Service Leaders: Murray Foster (All Saints), Mark Fryer (St Marys)



READINGS

Romans 14:1-12: Do not judge another.
Matthew 18:21-35: The parable of the unforgiving servant.

READINGS -GRACE@10.30

Matthew 4: 23 - 25, Acts 8: 1 - 25

SENTENCE

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. Romans 14:8

COLLECT

God of infinite mercy grant that we who know your pity may rejoice in your forgiveness and gladly forgive others for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Lord Jesus, you have the words of eternal life. May we let your word dwell richly and profitably within us, as we open ourselves to your service. Amen

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

As we come into spring, we pray for all those who are still unwell from winter flu. We pray especially for those in hospital or recovering, especially Justine, our musician, and Rob, our tireless cemetery worker and general handyman. We ask Gods blessing for healing on all those who are suffering in body or mind. Amen

All are welcome to share in Communion with us today, and everyone is invited to share a time of fellowship and morning tea after the service.



Following the service at St Mary's, a small prayer team is available at the front of the church for individual prayer. Whether you are facing a challenge, giving thanks, seeking encouragement, or need prayer for family or friends, you are warmly invited to stay and pray with someone confidentially.

PARISH CALENDAR

Tues 15 Sept	9.30am	Walking Group, Prebbleton
Wed 16 Sept	10.00am	Communion Service, St Marys
Wed 16 Sept	7.30pm	Vestry Meeting
Fri 18 Sept	9.45am	Lil Boppers, St Marys
Fri 18 Sept	10.30am	Anthony Wilding Service
Fri 18 Sept	6.30pm	DOMINOS Youth, St Marys
Sun 20 Sept	5.00pm	AMPED, St Marys
Sat 17 Oct	10.00am	Parish Fair



FROM THE OFFICE

Rev John will be away overseas on leave from 21 - 30 September. Services will be covered by Rev Andrew and Marco Bischler. Any urgent needs can be directed to Rev Andrew or the wardens.

Rosters for October and November will be drafted next week, if you are on a roster please let the office know any days you are away by 16 September.

AMPED, Next Sunday 5.00pm, St Marys

Come and join us next Sunday for this informal time of music, worship and prayer. Food and fellowship to follow. All ages are welcome.

REFLECTION

When prayer is unselfish, it is always answered. But here, as everywhere, we must remember the basic law of prayer – that law is that in prayer we receive not the answer which we desire, but the answer which God in his wisdom and his love knows to be best. Simply because we are human beings, with human hearts and fears and hopes and desires, most of our prayers are prayers for escape. We pray to be saved from some trial, some sorrow, some disappointment, some hurting and difficult situation. And always God's answer is the offer not of escape, but of victory. God does not give us escape from a human situation; he enables us to accept what we cannot understand; he enables us to endure what without him would be unendurable; he enables us to face what without him would be beyond all facing. The perfect example of all this is Jesus in Gethsemane. He prayed to be released from the fearful situation which confronted him. He was not released from it; but he was given power to meet it, to endure it and to conquer it. When we pray unselfishly, God sends his answer – but the answer is always his answer and not necessarily ours. — William Barclay



- Raffle tickets are available after church.
- Mystery Bottle collection boxes are in both churches.
- Posters are available for you to put up around the area.
- Time to sort out all those unwanted bits and pieces in cupboards, garage and wardrobes.

Church Stalls: Here is a reminder of the stall co-ordinators. Let them know if you can help out on the day or with preparations.

Plants - Jenny Fletcher

Books - Alice Scoulding/Emily Fryer

White Elephant - Viv Bearpark

Cakes/Preserves - Dawn Tindall

Plushies - Kate O'Neill

Clothing - Anna and Jenny

Cakes/Preserves - Dawn Tindall

Toys - Loren Butler/Anne Gough

Devonshire Teas - Sarah Rees

Mystery Bottles - Zyskowski Family

Chocolate Wheel - Alan Shears

Sausage Sizzle - Wayne & Loretta Dixon

Stall Holder Meeting - Sunday 20 September: There will be a short meeting for all stall holders after the 10.30 Service at St Marys next Sunday. This is a chance to check in on preparations, timing etc and any needs in advance of the fair.

Synod Update

Synod convened on Thursday evening with the Eucharist at the Transitional Cathedral, and then met at St Christopher's Avonside all day Friday and Saturday. The Bishop gave an initial address in which he continued his call for the renewal of the Diocese. Many of the bills and motions brought up were administrative in nature, but there were three issues which generated a great deal of discussion. The first concerned the remaining funding needed to finish the Cathedral in the Square. After the diocese puts in its share, there is a \$30 million gap which we hope will be funded half-and-half by the NZ Government and the Christchurch City Council. This may depend on the outcome of the upcoming national elections. The motion was to approve this funding plan, and it passed unanimously. The second controversial motion asked the Diocese to disinvest from any funds which involved Israel, and specifically called Israel's actions in Palestine "genocide." There was passionate discussion on both sides before it was voted down, by about 45-55%. The third issue involved the use of AI, and called for a working group to be formed to study the effect of generative AI on the work of the church. The motion was brought by two synod youth reps and passed comfortably. Rev John



Prebbleton Growth Group

Meets at 7.00pm second and fourth **Wednesday**. Hosted by Veve at 8 Skye Lane, Prebbleton. All Welcome.

Halswell Growth Group

Meets at 7.00pm second and fourth **Thursday**. Hosted by Anna and Chris: 18 Augustine Drive, Aidanfield. All Welcome

Next Sunday, 20 Sept 2026, 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
All Saints: 9.00am, St Marys: 10.30am (NZPB476): Rev John Shoaf
All Saints: Grace@10.30am: Rev Andrew Hoggan

Readings: Exodus 16: 2 - 15 Matthew 20:1 - 16

Readings: Grace@10.30: Isaiah 53:4 - 7, Acts 8: 26 - 40

Roster for Sunday 20 September: 9am, All Saints and 10.30, St Mary's

	Leader	Reading	Communion	Welcome	Morning Tea
9.00am	J Fletcher	A Carpenter	J Fletcher	G Carpenter	Rosalie
10.30am	O Wilson	S Street	O Wilson	L Gough	Loren/
	Data Proj:	R Butler		P Street	Nick

Church Donations

Your regular donations to the church can be made in cash, envelope or automatic payment. Please email the Parish recorder, Simon Scoulding, for a reference number or any queries. (simon.scoulding@gmail.com)
All donations qualify for a tax rebate and receipts are sent out at the end of the financial year.

Bank Account Name: **Anglican Parish of Halswell-Prebbleton**

Bank Account Number: **03-1584-0016851-02**



Contact Us

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Children and Youth

Youth Minister:
Marco Bischler: 021 08 49 70 13
E: youth@halswellchurch.org
Kids Church
St Marys: Jenny Lowe: 027 462 0596
All Saints: Vacant - contact Rev Andrew
Dominos Youth
Marco Bischler: 021 08 49 70 13
Lucy Brooker: 022 650 4149

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Web Pages

www.halswellchurch.org
www.prebbletonchurch.org
