



THE WAIKATO CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST PETER

Te whare karakia matua o Pita Tapu ki Waikato

Dean The Very Rev'd Wendy Scott



Dean's Message for Passion Sunday:

E te whanau a te Karaiti

Tēnei te mihi ki a tātou katoa, mo te māuiui Covid-19

As we settle into Level 4, I want to remind you of the peace of Christ which passes all understanding. Even as I write this I'm grateful for my faith and that I am not alone. Jesus is my constant companion no matter what!!

These are unprecedented times. We sat together in the office on Friday last (what a luxury), Jean Redout and Walter Crookes told stories of living during the bombing of London in WW2. Not all of us have such experiences to draw on, but the one surety we have is that we are connected to the family of God through his son Jesus Christ. We are not alone. We will connect via the phone, face book and our web site. Please remain connected to our Cathedral family, to your neighbours and family. There are lots of ways we can be people of faith in real and meaningful ways. Now more than ever we have an opportunity to 'love' our neighbours. Don't be shy to let them know that you will keep them in your prayers. Be a person of peace and help out where you can.

There will be ways we can support the wider community and if you can help we will be collecting names so email through to the office or ring me. The Cathedral phone is diverted to my cell phone during this period.

Christians throughout time have faced adversity, but I want to leave you with the words of Lamentations: "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God's mercies are new every morning, great is your faithfulness." (3. 22-26)

May God watch over you, keep you and those you love safe,
and the blessing of Father, Son and Holy Spirit be yours.

Arohanui, Wendy.

Prayer resource for Passion Sunday 29.03.2020

Grace and peace to you from God.

Kia tau ki a koutou, te atawhai me te rangimārie o te Atua.

God fill you with truth and joy.

Mā te Atua koe e whakaū, ki te pono me te hari.

While we are unable to meet as a congregation, let us each spend a little time in God's presence to be mindful of the mystery and significance of this season, and to pray for ourselves, for each other, and for the world. You may wish to light a candle.

We are now entering the period of Lent during which we focus more and more on the last days of Jesus' earthly life, and on His suffering and death. Today's Gospel reading teaches us that though Jesus felt intense sorrow for the death of His friend Lazarus, He also gave hope to Martha and fully knew His own power to save.

‘Let the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.’
Ps 19:14

Slowly and carefully read two or three times the following excerpts of the Gospel for the day, paying attention to any words or phrases that particularly strike you.

The whole reading for Passion Sunday is long, here are some excerpts that you might find helpful. Take time to read John 11:1-45.

John 11:1, 3, 7, 17, 23-25, 34-35

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. The sisters sent a message to Jesus, ‘Lord, he whom you love is ill.’ Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Let us go to Judaea again.’ When he arrived, he found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days. Jesus said to Martha, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ Martha replied, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on

the last day.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live.’ He said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus began to weep.

In your mind, dwell on the words that struck you and on the event as a whole. Picture Jesus and the other participants, see yourself in the crowd. Speak to Jesus, Mary, and Martha about how the scene touches you and how you respond to what Jesus says and does.

Readings set down for today are:

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11

- What question would you ask Jesus?
- How did you feel at different points?
- What do you think about eternal life?
- Who do you most identify with and why?

As a conclusion, pray the collect for Passion Sunday:

*Jesus, God of hope, in you we see a life that never dies.
Surrounded by death and violence may we never give in to despair.
But rest in you our resurrection and our life.
For you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

Prayer Points:

Each Sunday we pray for our world, our country and our own needs.

Please pray: God in your mercy, hear our prayer

I want to commend to you undertaking a daily rhythm of prayer at this time, it can help give you a sense of grounding for your day especially while we're in isolation. There are a number of options on the diocesan web site. If you don't have access, sitting quietly at 9am & 7pm, lighting a candle, reading the scriptures, (the daily readings are provided here for you, praying and giving thanks for the ways God has blessed your day.



Check out our Facebook and website for updated information

**St Peter's Cathedral,
Hamilton
www.stpeter.org.nz**

Morning Prayer for the week commencing 30th March

<p>Monday 30th March:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psalm 73 • Exodus 8:1-19 • Hebrews 11:17-31 	<p>Tuesday 31st March:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psalm 35 • Exodus 8:20 - end • Hebrews 9:15 - end 	<p>Wednesday 1st April:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psalm 55 • Exodus 9:1-12 • Hebrews 12:3-13
<p>Thursday 2nd April:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psalm 40 • Exodus 9:13 - end • Hebrews 12:14 - end 	<p>Friday 3rd April:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psalm 22 • Exodus 10 • Hebrews 13:1-16 	<p>Saturday 4th April:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psalm 23 • Exodus 11 • Hebrews 13:17 - end

For our children:

Check out the STRANDZ website: www.strandz.org.nz