



Marton | Tutu Totara | Turakina | Hunterville | Bulls | Sanson | Greatford

Rev Tim's Reflection

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things ... And the God of peace will be with you." [Philippians 4:6–9]

Over the last month, I've been spending a lot of time at St Andrew's Church in prayer. Praying that God will revive and restore His church in Bulls; praying for wisdom and discernment for our leadership, so that we can follow God's plan and not our own. It's been a beautiful time, and I want to thank everyone who joined me.

There is nothing quite like praying together with the Whanau of Christ.

As I sit writing this we're coming to the end of my 5th month in the Parish, and there is so much worth celebrating. Particularly, I think of our recent combined services with Huntley and Nga Tawa Diocesan Schools; and the beautiful celebration that was shared with Rev Farani's Samoan Methodist congregation on Te Pouhere Sunday. I was so proud to see all the members of our community showing such generous welcome to Farani's community – It was a glimpse of the Kingdom of God on earth.

It may have only been 5 months, but believe me when I say that God is profoundly at work in our Parish. Over the last week, I have had the most surprising and profound conversations, moments where God has clearly been at work linking people and resources to bless our community. And I know it's wider than our Parish, God is moving in the Rangitikei!

As the Whanau of Christ in the Rangitikei, we have much work ahead of us, and it's not all easy – the financial situation we find ourselves in is an aspect of this; as is each of our personal journeys with the changes in the Parish.

Continued overleaf

Parish Office

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Priest in Charge

Rev Tim Duxfield
revtim@anglicanrangitikei.co.nz
022 105 1237

I am determined to lead God's people in the Parish from a heart of prayer. I believe that Paul's words in Philippians ring true for us today – it's in prayer that we meet God, are transformed, and see His kingdom break through on earth as it is in heaven. It's in praying that we will see the church heal and grow, and our communities transformed.

As we journey together through the seasons of change ahead, pursuing Christ and his Kingdom, I invite you to continue to pray. Pray alone, pray together, join the rhythm of prayer at St Stephen's, host a prayer meeting – all prayer is good prayer!

Know that God is with us. God is with you. In Him we can do all things. (Phil 4:13)

*Yours in Christ Jesus who strengthens and sustains us.
Tim Duxfield.*

RANGITIKEI SUPPORTS REFUGEES

The Wellington Diocese, in partnership with the Red Cross, stocks pantries and fills homes with linen, kitchenware, and other basic necessities, to assist with refugee resettlement in our region. The Diocese achieves this by inviting mission units to take responsibility for one household.

In early June, Rev Tim and the Rangitikei Anglican Parish put out a call for donations, asking people to give generously so that we could bless a refugee household.

Thanks to a couple of generous donations, and some well-spent money from the Parish's welfare fund, the Rangitikei Parish donated \$1743.66 on the 20th of June. \$850 of this was spent on the household we had been allocated – for a single male refugee. The remainder will be used in the next round of resettlements to bless another single refugee householder.

Here you can see two members of the Diocesan refugee resettlement team sorting and boxing all the items the Parish's donation provided.



The diocesan team thanked us saying, "Thanks so much to you and your people for the really generous giving. Wow, marvellous and an amazing effort, that's incredible."

Prayer Chain

If you need prayer please contact Sue 3276533 or Marian 3276365.

The prayer chain is a group of people who pray for those who have any prayer requests. This is confidential and only the members of the prayer chain have details.

BISHOPS' NEWS – May 2018

*"Master," said John, "we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we tried to stop him, because he is not one of us."
"Do not stop him," Jesus said, "for whoever is not against you is for you."
(Luke 9, 49-50, NIV)*

Greetings to you all in the name of our risen and ascended Saviour.

Since the last letter, General Synod has now been and gone, and Motion 29 (which has now become Motion 7) has been passed, affirming the decision made at General Synod in 2014 to live in two integrities around the issue of the blessing of same-sex relationships. We are so grateful to the leadership of our Diocesan General Synod representatives as they faithfully and humbly sought to discern God's will and enter into difficult conversations wholeheartedly and honourably. Over the next 6-8 weeks we will hold three roadshows around the Diocese, attended by us and by General Synod representatives, at which you will be able to hear more information (including the more broader news around other important social justice motions passed). Please keep an eye out for details of those on Movement Online.

For many, there will be those who find General Synod's decision on Motion 29 a challenge: for some who feel it has gone too far, and for those who feel it doesn't go far enough. Wherever we lie on this spectrum, we continue to feel that how we behave as a church going forward speaks more to those who do not know Jesus than whatever our personal viewpoints might be, for this reason: our world has lost the ability to work together in disagreement.

In the passage from Luke 9 quoted above, our lectionary reading for this morning, we see Jesus affirming the ministry of those who approach their relationship with him from different perspectives. Our enemy seeks to divide us from within, but we must remember that the world watches how we deal with issues that we cannot agree on. Please know that within the broader Communion, the positive way that the three tikanga of our church has dealt with the issue of same-sex relationships has not gone unnoticed. The way every member of our Province (that includes each individual!) cares for and speaks to and of one another in diversity role-models to the rest of the church how we as Christ's body can bring everyone into the fullness of life that he offers.

We encourage you to continue to pray deeply for us as Bishops as we decide how Motion 29 will be lived into in our Diocese, as well as each parish leader and all of our brothers and sisters in our Diocese and across the Province who are wrestling with this issue.

*Your sister and brother in Christ
+Eleanor and +Justin*

FINANCIAL UPDATE

As some of you will know, our Parish has been struggling financially for some time. The Priest-in-Charge and Wardens have been working closely with the Vestry to communicate this situation to our communities, reduce expenditure, and to ask for ongoing support. We have been blessed by the generosity shown to us by many over the last month and thank God for all of you.

The Parish financials were recently presented to Vestry on the 21st June. They reported our income and outgoings for the year-to-date as follows:

Gross Profit:	\$42,449.10
Total Operating Expenses:	\$54,300.59
Net Profit:	- \$11,851.49

As you can see, we are operating under a serious deficit.

We believe that God is a generous God, who desires to bless and grow His church so that it can be a light to all the world; a place and a people in whom the love of God is made evident, where all can come and hear God's good news.

Therefore we are asking you, as Gods loved people, to consider how you might support the Parish financially at this time. Could you increase your regular giving? Could you give a one-off donation? Do you have skills you could offer the Parish? Please pray, pray for the Parish, for Gods provision, and for wisdom as to how you can contribute.

Automatic payment forms can be found at the Parish Office, and one-off gifts can be given by cash, cheque, or electronically into the following account:

Parish of Rangitikei 01 0681 0004698 00

We believe that God meets us in our generosity, and hears our prayers. So please, give generously, pray fervently, and don't hesitate to contact us.

Tim Duxfield - Priest-in-Charge
Jason Groube – Vicar's Warden
Ann Hammond – People's Warden

GARAGE SALE IN MAY

Many thanks to all who helped with this:

Donating, organising, picking up and disposing of goods, setting up, helping on the day. It was a very cheerful feeling, and many went away happy with their purchases.

Once costs were covered we made approx \$1400 for the Parish.

A BIG THANK YOU TO:

thank
you

- **Lindsay Hopping** who does so many bits and pieces repairing the property around the Parish.
- **Elaine Saywell and her** team for the catering which as well as feeding stomachs and souls, also contributes generously to Parish funds.
- **Elaine and Robin Death and their** team for the monthly Ladies' lunch, which goes from strength to strength.
- **Tim** and his generosity of spirit for the many extra unpaid hours he puts into the Parish, above and beyond his half-time stipend.

TO BE A PILGRIM...

a brief report on travels in the Holy Land 5-19 May 2018

Robin Peirce

Four years ago I read about this pilgrimage and spoke to people who participated. Anticipating a repeat journey, I began saving for it and was thrilled when the Very Rev. Mike Hawke, Dean of Nelson Cathedral, announced this year's pilgrimage to Jordan and Israel.

What a memorable journey it was, on so many levels; the warmth, good cheer and grace of our leaders, Mike and Patsy, the friendliness and care within our NZ group of 25, the scholarship of our local guides on aspects of culture, religion, history and geography -

and the visits to so many significant places – and the comfort of good hotels and fabulous food after long, hot days with lots of walking!

Highlights – too many to mention in one short piece...so here are brief reflections on the places we stood, listened to the Bible passages about them and absorbed the true meaning of what we heard.

Between a relaxing float in the Dead Sea and the ancient city of Petra we drove to Mount Nebo where Moses stood to see the promised land. From the comfort of our coach we passed through miles of rough, stony desert, the wilderness of Moab and the Wadi Zered – and empathised with the disenchanted Israelites who had to walk it! The people who still struggle to live there deserve our thoughts too.

On Mt. Nebo we stood and read Deuteronomy Chapter 34 as we gazed over the hills and valleys of Canaan, probably little altered but for signs of irrigation and crops.

Everywhere we went there were biblical scenes – shepherds with herds of sheep and goats, black tents, endless rocky landscape with only scrub growing, flat-roofed buildings and stone walls. The 21st century made itself known in the cell phones and litter, and the many archaeological sites.



After a very full day in Petra came our trip to the desert of Wadi Rum, a camel ride and lunch provided by the Bedu, our guide's family. The Wadi Rum is an incredibly beautiful landscape of red sand, towering rocky outcrops and the dome of bluest sky. In the moments when everyone was silent and only the soft plod of camels' feet were audible, it wasn't hard to believe that the ancients really could hear the voice of God. Truly a time to cherish.

Next, a stop at the Jordan river where it is still 'deep and wide', but very muddy, and a light moment with a group of Indian Christians on the opposite side as we sang to each other.

Then into Israel, the sobering experience of the checkpoint at Allenby Bridge and farewell to our informative and delightful guide, Osama. After a somewhat relaxed journey through Jordan, our new guide Ibrahim snapped us into Tourist Alert mode with gifts of sunhats and orange daypacks, maps and a rundown on expectations.

Our base in Jerusalem was the Gloria Hotel in the Old City, near the Jaffa Gate. From here we slogged down Hezekiah's tunnel near the water source, then proceeded to the via Dolorosa.

Jerusalem having been destroyed at least twice since the time of Jesus, it is unlikely that anything is left from that time; but the route itself is, and Good Friday will now bring memories of that roughly paved narrow alley, leading upwards to the hill of Calvary.

In the Garden Tomb we paused in one of the walled gardens for a short Eucharist, among several other groups doing the same. The liturgies of many languages could be discerned and we read Matthew's gospel among the olive and oleander trees. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre offers a feast of sights and sounds; some of us found it difficult to sense God's presence amid the press of people and overwhelming decoration, but peace was found in an empty crypt with superb acoustic below the main floor where a fellow pilgrim and I sang 'Locus Iste' (In this place); and also among the Crusader columns where not many people go.

Visits to Jericho, Bethlehem, Bethany, the Mount of Olives, the mount of Beatitudes, the path to Gethsemane, and Nazareth all had their particular significance; Ibrahim provided a rich commentary on the history of each site as we walked through the ruins of towns and cities, marvelling at architecture, frescoes and mosaics. It was impossible not to reflect on how resourceful and clever ancient people were – and we think we're so smart! Everywhere we went, we read the relevant scriptural passage and sang a hymn. Wherever we received hospitality, we sang a blessing before we left – often also appreciated by other groups!

Our last base was the kibbutz village of Nof Ginosar in Northern Israel.

On the way, we drove south past the Dead Sea on the Israeli side and visited the ruins of Herod the Great's fantastic fort with its four palaces at Masada – an unforgettable experience – then Caesarea Maritima (Herod the Great's amazing town with the harbour still visible, the amphitheatre and Roman aqueduct); Capernaum (notable for its perfect situation by the sea and a very lovely modern church constructed over the ruins which can be viewed through the glass floor) and Caesarea Philippi, a place of great beauty. The last two towns had particularly deep meaning, as we knew for sure that Jesus had been there. Under olive trees by the beautiful clear water from the Banias Springs with the ruins of seven pagan temples in the rocks behind, it was not difficult to visualise him with the disciples as he asked, "Who do you say that I am?"

Our last day was marked by seeing the sunrise over the Sea of Galilee and to go out on one of the replica fishing boats. A crew member demonstrated the age-old method of casting a net (alas, no fish on either side!). A reading of John, chapter 21 preceded five minutes of total silence, and once again, the reflection of our need for profound quiet in order to hear the voice of God.

This was an unforgettable pilgrimage. Inevitably, we brushed up against political problems and were affected by them; but it is impossible not to be deeply moved and thrilled by the sights, sounds, people, places and sheer wonder of the ancient lands we hear about in our Sunday services and in the news. The Holy Land has truly 'come alive.' Sunday services and in the news. The Holy Land has truly 'come alive.' Sunday services and in the news. The Holy Land has truly 'come alive.'

Robin Peirce

HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS

If you know anyone unable to attend services due to ill health or incapacity, who would like communion brought to them, please call any of the clergy or the Parish Office

HOSPITAL OR HOME VISITS

if you, or someone you know in the Parish, is ill or has to go into hospital, please let us know so a visit can be arranged if wanted. Phone one of the Clergy or the Parish Office.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE PARISH

PARISHIONERS HONOURED BY ROTARY

James O'Regan and Richard Wisnowsky were named as Paul Harris Fellows by the Rotary Club of Marton on Sunday 24th. The Paul Harris Fellowship is an honour recognising a member's service to Rotary and their contribution to Community and Church. At the same meeting, parishioner Ray Sisley was inducted as President of the Rotary Club of Marton.



ST. STEPHEN'S WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

On a cold winter evening, we gathered in the Towgood Room to hear a wonderful speaker from Neighbourhood Support Whanganui. It was a very worthwhile and informative evening which resulted in our speaker running out of information to hand out! So, we are planning another night in a couple of months. Keep your eyes and ears open and there'll be more information to come. Blessings in Christ

Stephanie Shaw

WOOLLY BLESSINGS

Our group continues to grow with people coming and going, and wool being gifted. So much so we've had to do some serious sorting! We now have done quite a few slippers for a couple of local primary schools, some blankets for the Tea and Tots group, along with our normal knitting for the Marton/Bulls and Districts Plunket Nurse which she distributes as needed. If you want to come along anytime, you are more than welcome. See in on any Tuesday from 10am, Towgood Room. Tea, coffee and scintillating conversation guaranteed!

Happy yarnning! Stephanie Shaw



PARISH LIBRARY

The parish library is currently being tidied up to make it more user friendly and inviting. If anyone has a 2 seater couch, bean bags, small LCD tv or a small tv cabinet they would like to donate to the library could you please contact Jason Groube on 021 878 475.

We will also be having a sort through our current books and DVDs to make sure they are still relevant to our parish. If you wish to help in any way, please contact Jason Groube.

CALENDAR EVENTS

30th June: MIDWINTER DESSERT & COFFEE EVENING

St Stephen's Hall at 6.30pm | Cost \$5 per head

This will include a sumptuous range of desserts, great fellowship, and a chance to catch up with lots of people.

Put this date in your diary and remember to invite friends and family too!

1st July: THE LORD'S PRAYER TOUR

7:00 pm Christ Church, 243 Wicksteed Street, Whanganui

Our very own Paul Carey and his songwriting collaborator have been working on an album based on the Lord's Prayer for several years, and now it's time to present their work. Each piece is a song based on one phrase of the Lord's Prayer, and the whole album will be performed on the 1st of July in Whanganui in the form of an evening prayer song event, so that audience members can just listen, or pray, or even sing along.

11th July 8th August: Ladies Luncheon

St. Stephen's Church Hall @ 12.30pm

Please RSVP Elaine 3277618 or Robin 3278280

ST. STEPHEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

4th August: PIZZA NIGHT

6pm, St Stephen's hall

All welcome – come, feast, and enjoy the company as we celebrate being Whanau together. Pizza: \$1 slice. Tea and Coffee provided.

5th August: PARISH COMBINED CELEBRATION SERVICE

9.30am, St Stephen's

A Parish Whanau celebration! Join us praising God for all his goodness to us this year, and the many years prior. We will be blessed with the Choir singing too! Followed by: Morning tea, and a video of the 125th celebrations – Including a children's play.

6th October: Annual Parish Plant Fair

9am, St Stephen's Church Hall

The Annual Parish Plant Fair is a significant fundraiser, and celebration of our life together. We'd love you to be a part of the team!

As we prepare please remember to be potting up cuttings, dividing plants, planting seeds, etc as you clear your gardens for winter. We would gratefully accept all your contributions to the plant fair in October – be they plants, time, or muscles!

In preparation we have a potting morning on Friday 27th July 9.30am @ St Stephen's hall. All helpers welcome.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS:

FUNERALS: We commend into the hands of God and pray for the family and friends of **John Hatzianoglou** service at St. Stephen's 24th May.

SPECIAL ENVELOPE APPEAL:

'Let's get out of the red!'

29th July – 26th August 2018

Are you looking for an opportunity to bless the parish financially?

In our bi-annual special envelope appeal, we are asking you to help us 'get out of the red'. Let's work together to put the Parish in a strong financial position so that we, and all our communities, can be blessed by the Kingdom services it can offer.

Here's how it works: 100 Envelopes, labelled \$1-\$100 will be distributed across the Parish. You choose one of these that fits your budget, or the amount you feel led to give. Once you've put your money in it, with your name and address if you'd like a receipt, hand it into the office or drop it in the offertory at one of the services.

Alternatively you can donate it electronically to:

'Parish of Rangitikei' – 01 0681 0004698 00

Code: [your name] Ref: 'EnvelopeFR'

If all the envelopes are taken, filled, and returned, the Parish would collect a total of \$5050.00 – halfway to what we need to 'get out of the red'.

Please know that we so appreciate your generosity, and pray God's blessing of abundance and grace be with you as you bless the Parish with your finances.

Tim Duxfield – Priest-in-Charge

Jason Groube – Vicar's Warden

Ann Hammond - People's Warden

EFM (EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY) UPDATE

We are currently studying and reflecting on developing a sustainable spirituality. One of the recent weeks we were considering who we count as spiritual leaders, and how they were sources of guidance for us. The following are the thoughts the group came up with to answer those questions...

Spiritual leaders: Clergy, leaders at training days, authors, EFM and other mentors, EFM and study groups, non-Christians too, friends, family.

How? Being authentic, offering hope, giving guidance, resonate within, you can take things from what they say/do and apply to your life, they can admit failure, and show how they use this to try again, they fill/feed me, encourage good boundaries, inspire me, positive role-models, but real, link scripture and prayer into everyday living, challenge us but in a way that builds up, practise what they preach as much as possible, evidence of working through human struggle, wisdom, you understand what they say, relevant, prepared to discuss openly and be open to different viewpoints and challenge, they are continually pondering/ reflecting, they have a ritual of daily prayer, quiet time, and finally humility.

This week we invite you to think about who your spiritual leaders are, the people that have grown your faith, and how they do this. Ask yourself, 'can I be a spiritual leader for others?'

HERALD SUBSCRIPTION

Greetings from the Rangitikei Parish Team; we're glad you've got a copy of 'The Herald' in your hands. We're proud of our little newsletter, and we love being able to keep our wider community connected with the wonderful things our church communities get up to. It's a service we want to be able to continue to provide.

As you enjoy reading this 'Herald' you can help us continue to produce it in three ways.

1. Please confirm you wish to continue receiving the 'The Herald' by contacting the Parish Office on info@anglicanrangitikei.co.nz or 06 06 327 8398.
2. Please consider signing up to become a financial supporter of 'The Herald'. You can choose to pay a regular monthly subscription rate of \$2.50 of an annual rate of \$25.00. Subscriptions can be arranged through the Parish Office on info@anglicanrangitikei.co.nz or 06 06 327 8398.
3. You may alternative wish to give a one off donation to support 'The Herald'. Such donations are gratefully received and receipts can be given on request. Donations can be made through the Parish office or electronically to:
'Parish of Rangitikei' – 01 0681 0004698 00
Code: [your name] Ref: 'Herald'

Thanks for your time, and we do hope you continue to enjoy 'The Herald' for many months to come.

CONTACT THE TEAM

Priest-in-Charge

Rev Tim Duxfield
06 327 7930 | 022 105 1237
revtim@anglicanrangitikei.co.nz

*Tim is on a part-time Stipend,
please respect his private time
and make contact as below.*

His Parish hours are;

*Monday Sabbath, Tuesdays
and Thursdays full days,
Wednesdays and Fridays
mornings only*

Wardens

Jason Groube 021 878 475
Ann Hammond 06 327 6267

Priests

Robin Peirce 06 327 5951,
Diana Howard 06 327 6350
John Vickers 06 327 7280,
John Sleep 022 4068 9355.
Peter Brown 027 348 8800

Deacon

Judith Tamblyn 322 1278

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Office hours:

Monday 8:30- 3:30
Tuesday afternoon Wednesday
morning.
Thursdays 8.30-3.30
Closed Friday.

