

Eight Christmas & New Year Gatherings in te Whare

CHRISTMAS 2023

Sunday 17 December

10am Carols Guest Service—60'
Followed by morning tea

Christmas Eve—Sunday

10am Worship & Communion – 60'
Followed by morning tea

6-7pm Christingle for Families
Includes eats and drinks

Christmas Day—Monday

8:30am Traditional Eucharist – 40'
10am Family Worship– 60'



The LYCiG PRAYER

God of mission
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
Joy to our worship,
And power to our witness.
Help our Church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to You,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

NEW YEAR 2024

New Year's Eve - Sunday

10am Family Guest Worship – 60'
Followed by morning tea

8pm Shared rolling supper,
games, singing, prayer with brief
Communion @ midnight

New Year's Day - Monday

5pm Family Barbeque—bring &
share



CHRISTINGLE

At 6pm on Christmas Eve we have a Family time when we sing Christmas carols, have a Bible reading, say a few prayers and create **Christingles** using oranges, candles, red ribbon, tooth picks, dried fruits with a lolly or two and a small candle. Each element of the **Christingle** symbolises a part of the Christmas story. The Christingle time ends with children's party food. All by 7pm. **ALL WELCOME.**



NEWS

December 2023 & January 2024

Advent—New Options & New Possibilities

It was a poignant moment when seven of us from Porirua Anglican met at te Whare Karakia for morning tea with Barbara Edmonds MP for Mana and two of her staff at 10am on Monday 27 November. Earlier that morning Chris Hipkins had submitted his Labour government's resignation and before we parted Christopher Luxton and his team were being sworn in as the new coalition government. For Barbara her term as a cabinet minister ended as we talked! The moment was acknowledged.

We were encouraged to hear from Barbara that the Kenepuru Hospital Emergency Department closure has been delayed. We remain optimistic that this only ED between Wellington and Palmerston North hospitals, serving 80,000 people, will continue operating. Barbara has been at the forefront of negotiations. Our discussion with her was wide ranging including CAB funding; food security and the planned new Ngatitoa iwi social supermarket; housing regeneration in Porirua which includes infrastructure development; social unrest at change of government; retirement village reforms, etc.

Just as Barbara faces new options and possibilities as a member of the Government main opposition party, so this Advent is a reminder for us God is doing a new thing in our midst, rebuilding the Church to be a more effective community in eastern Porirua.



Please pray with us that our Christmas and New Year community facing gatherings and the ALPHA course to begin 17 January contribute to making us a strongly engaged Church, united in the Spirit and experiencing the Lord adding to our number regularly.

Barbara is pictured in te Whare Karakia with Porirua Anglicans

PRAYER

Please pray and give thanks for:

- That emergency medical care may be maintained in Porirua.
- The relevance of Porirua Anglican life in eastern Porirua—that we may draw people to Christ this Christmas and into 2024—giving thanks for newcomers with us recently.
- ALPHA Course participants, helpers & leaders; that this initiative Jan. to Mar. may attract newcomers and deepen the faith of participants.
- Charles' son-in-law Ramond's passing in Sydney.
- Those with special need at this time: Paul & Gwladys, Jo, Tricia, Jocelyn, Shirley, Dawn, Brian...

DIRECTORY

Priest

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I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43:19 NRSVA

DECEMBER & JANUARY SUNDAY WORSHIP

DAY	SERVICE	HC = Holy Communion & L4,5,6 = LYCiG Training Material
3rd Dec	10am Worship & HC— <i>Hope</i>	
10th Dec	10am Worship & HC— <i>Peace—L4 Developing Engaging Worship</i>	
17th Dec	10am Christmas Carol Service— <i>Joy</i>	
24th Dec	10am Worship & HC— <i>Love</i> ; 6-7pm <i>Christingle Family Service</i>	
31st Dec	10am Worship— <i>Reading the Signs</i>	
7th Jan	10am Worship & HC— <i>L5 An Inviting & Welcoming Church</i>	
14th Jan	10am Worship & HC— <i>What is ALPHA?</i>	
21st Jan	10am Worship— <i>L6 A Pathway for Seekers to Become Disciples</i>	
28th Jan	10am Worship & HC— <i>Prophetic Authority</i>	

MID-WEEK

Wednesday Prayer—each Wednesday 2-3pm. Afternoon tea to follow.

Friday Worship—a short worship service (30'-45') at noon each Friday. Followed by light lunch—bring and share. Both continue through Christmas—New Year without a break.

What is in Store During 2024?

Well, we have a new Coalition Government and we pray that they will govern Aotearoa justly. Let us uphold in prayer the new Prime Minister Christopher Luxon and coalition support leaders David Seymour and Winston Peters and their colleagues; that in coalition they may unite all Aotearoa New Zealanders and promote the welfare of all.

We are firmly ensconced in te Whare Karakia as Porirua Anglicans and continue this new phase of our life together as a church community. As we enter 2024 we trust we will build on our December efforts to engage with the Eastern Porirua community. We have prayed and continue to pray hard for growth numerical, spiritual and missional. We have organised community-facing gatherings like the Carol Service, Christingle and Christmas-New Year specials.

We will during Jan/early Feb complete our seminar series LYCiG—Leading Your Church into Growth. By the time this is completed we will begin an ALPHA Course on 17 Jan. that will continue to Holy Week at the end of March. Porirua Anglicans will host this and are excited for the opportunity to be alongside participants whom we believe will enjoy the ALPHA food, videos and discussions. Enrolments continue; who might you invite to this life-changing, international series of meetings that have transformed the lives of so many people?

You will see the recently rediscovered Porirua Anglican flag often flying outside te Whare Karakia when PA stuff is happening inside.

Future of St Anne's DIOCESAN FEEDBACK

“As promised, the outcome of your parish's SGM was conveyed to Diocesan Council last Wednesday. Council's response was one of deep appreciation for the courageous decision that you and your Parish has reached at this time. Council also asked that this discussion be taken forward at an Archdeacon/Diocesan management level, in order to move and start the shaping of a proposal that will (I expect) loop back up to Diocesan Council in due course.”

Ben Pringle, Diocesan Administrator
24 November 2023

ALPHA 2024

On Wed. 17 January 2024 an ALPHA course will begin in te Whare Karakia running from 7pm—9pm Wednesdays. It will run for eleven weeks, ending on 27 March. It will also include a Saturday 9:30am-4pm gathering on 2nd March to consider the Holy Spirit. You can learn more & register to participate in this Course here:

<https://tinyurl.com/poriruaalpha>

