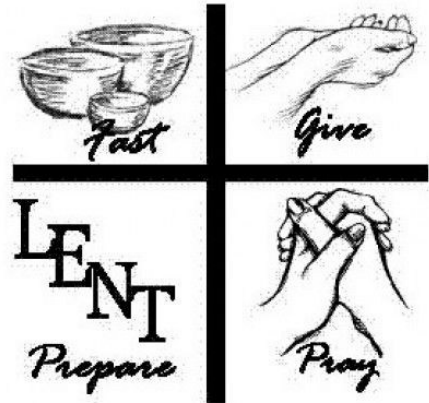


St Mary's Anglican Church, Hawera  
Wesley Methodist Church, Hawera  
St George's Anglican Church, Patea  
Church of the Good Shepherd, Waverley  
Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Stratford  
All Saints' Anglican Church, Eltham  
St Barnabas' Anglican Church, Opunake  
St John's Community Church, Kaponga  
Robert Gibson Chapel, Manaia



## What is our focus this Lent?

If we have given up coffee, or watching television, or some other luxury activity or food item which we like, and would normally indulge in, we may feel that we have done our duty for Lent.

But Lent is not about being deprived of things, although denying ourselves at this season may be good for us.

Lent is about preparing our hearts for the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus the Saviour, whose sacrifice at Easter opened the way for us to come back into relationship with the Father; a relationship which was broken by sin in the Garden.

When we enter into this time of preparation, it may be more helpful to look at what we need to accomplish during the season of Lent, than what we need to get rid of for a while.

The outward symbols of stepping back from our normal indulgences or behaviours should be simply that – the outward expression of an inward change of priority and focus. When the outward change is where we stop, however, we have missed the point of what Lent is about.

This is a time of preparing our hearts to receive our Redeemer. This means recognizing where we fall short of what we should be and addressing those issues in us which prevent us being ready to whole-heartedly receive Jesus as our Lord and Saviour.

We may be holding a grudge against someone – this is the time when we make a conscious decision to choose to forgive and let go of that grudge.

We may have an area in our lives which we know we shouldn't be involved in – this is the time to choose to change our behaviour and to change direction.

Giving up coffee, or chocolate sounds good – and it may be what we need to do for our health, but our main focus during Lent should be to make ourselves ready for celebrating the resurrection of our Lord.

Prayer, Bible-reading and spending time in worship are all ways in which we can re-direct our thoughts and our attitudes. They focus us on God, rather than on ourselves, and that can only do us good.

So, as we move through Lent towards the light that Easter brings us, maybe consider whether you are simply hanging out for the moment when you can go back to 'normal' life, drinking your coffee, eating your sweets and

watching your favourite TV show, or whether your Lenten preparations are helping you to focus on God's grace to us through Jesus. May we all come to Easter morning with our hearts prepared and open to receive our Risen Lord with joy and celebration.

Wynne Bowers-Mason

# THE CHRISM EUCHARIST

THE REAFFIRMATION OF  
MINISTERIAL COMMITMENT AND  
THE BLESSING OF THE OILS



*As a Diocese we shall break bread and renew our calling in  
God's service: we shall receive holy oil for Baptism and  
healing in solidarity with the Christ, God's Anointed One.*

## TARANAKI

31 MARCH, 5.30PM

TARANAKI CATHEDRAL / MERE TAPU

## WAIKATO

1 APRIL, 5.30PM

WAIKATO CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST PETER

Waikato  
Taranaki  
Anglicans 



Lent, in the Christian church, is a period of spiritual preparation for Easter. In Western churches it begins on Ash Wednesday, six and a half weeks before Easter, and is a chance for the Church to reflect Jesus Christ's fasting in the wilderness before he began his public ministry.

Our Lenten Appeal calls the church to give sacrificially both financially and through prayer. Each year, we partner with you to raise funds for projects that directly contribute to the health, wellbeing and development of the communities and people involved.

## SUPPORT OUR WORK THIS LENT.

We're changing up how we approach our work in 2026. This Lent we're asking for your financial support for one (or more) of our core work programmes.

You can donate by credit card using the button below, or a direct deposit using the following details (simply put the name of your desired programme ie. "water", "food", "climate" or "disasters") as the reference/code:

**Account: Anglican Missions Board**  
**Number: 02-0585-0001796-00**

### WATER AND SANITATION

Access to safe water and facilities is a fundamental human right. This programme provides safe water and appropriate sanitation for those most in need.

### FOOD AND LIVELIHOODS

When is the last time you were hungry? For millions of people, that's their day to day reality. This programme supports sustainable food systems and livelihoods around the world.

### CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

This is the only Earth we have. We have a responsibility to look after it. A donation to the Climate and Justice programme helps provide sustainable and just solutions for people, communities and the planet.

### DISASTERS AND RESILIENCE

From floods and cyclones to conflict and displacement, disasters take many forms. We help communities prepare in advance, and we respond when crisis strikes.



# 100 year celebration of Naumai Park

Join us at activities throughout 2026 to celebrate 100 years since the naming of Hāwera's Native Park

**Naumai Park History Booklet Launch**  
SUNDAY 15 FEBRUARY

**Tai Chi**  
SATURDAY 14 MARCH

**The Great Puppet Hunt**  
SATURDAY 21 MARCH

**Nature Artist Stone Painting**  
SATURDAY 28 MARCH

**Hāwera Harriers Club Walk & Run Through the Park**  
SUNDAY 29 MARCH

**Event for Youth**  
APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

**Singers and Songwriters**  
SATURDAY 18 APRIL

**Bird ID Workshop**  
SATURDAY 9 MAY

**Arbor Day Planting**  
FRIDAY 5 JUNE

**Puanga Art in the Park**  
JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

**Spring into Biodiversity**  
FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

**Poetry in the Park**  
TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER

**A Native Park**  
30 OCTOBER - 8 NOVEMBER

**Barden Party Theatre**  
SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER

**Christmas Carols in Naumai**  
SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER



Find out more of what's happening and other confirmed events by following Friends of Hāwera Parks on Facebook or on STDC's website [www.southtaranaki.com/naumai](http://www.southtaranaki.com/naumai)



Te Ope Whakaora

## The Salvation Army

19-23 Regent St, Hāwera



Te Ope Whakaora

Food  
Furniture  
Clothes

Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>  
9am-2pm  
**MARKET DAY**

Books  
Arts and Crafts

Stalls available - \$10 per table

Email [tim.malton@salvationarmy.org.nz](mailto:tim.malton@salvationarmy.org.nz) for registration of interest



## **Holy Week**

### **Palm Sunday 29 March**

**10am—All Saints', Eltham—Cluster Service for Stratford, Eltham and Kaponga.**

**10am—Opunake Combined Churches Service at The Wave Church**

**10am—St Mary's, Hawera**

**10am—Good Shepherd, Waverley**

### **Tuesday 31 March**

**5:30pm Chrism Mass, St Mary's Cathedral, New Plymouth**

### **Thursday 2 April—Maundy Thursday**

**10am—St Mary's, Hawera**

### **Good Friday 3 April**



**8:30am—Eltham (TBC)**

**9am—Opunake (start at Cenotaph, finish at Catholic Church)**

**9:30am—Stratford (start at Baptist Church)**

**9:30am—Hawera (start at Baptists, finish at Presbyterian)**

### **Easter Day Sunday 5 April**

**Normal Sunday services (see page 7)**



## March Services - at 10am

- Sunday 1st - at St Mary's
- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> - at Wesley with communion
- Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> - at St Luke's Patea
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> - at Wesley
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> - combined service at Whitely New Plymouth

CONTACT - Rev Michael  
office@wesleyhawera.co.nz  
021 079 1593

March is the month of transition and movement. March on in to church to hear words of wisdom to keep you going. Every Sunday there is a service for you somewhere see below



St Luke's Patea had their church service on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February being a great success with Rev Michael. Was wonderful to see a full church in full song enjoying being back in their church celebrating with food and fellowship afterwards.

Please come lots of fun - Lower North Island Synod meeting of 2026 is happening in Taranaki. Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 10.30am – 2.30pm, Inglewood United Parish, Corner Brown & Kelly Streets, Inglewood

Combined Churches are having a Walk of Witness on Good Friday

9.30am Good Friday  
3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026 Starting  
at Hawera Baptist  
Church, Surrey Street  
finishing at St John's  
Presbyterian Church,  
Argyle Street



Coffee group on  
Wednesday mornings  
10am to 11am  
Wesley Hall Lounge



## Register for our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

To register your attendance for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2026  
email - office@wesleyhawera.co.nz  
or register online <https://forms.gle/cs6Fbqc5viZ7zGAe7>

A great Bible verse for March, often associated with new beginnings and trusting God through transitions, is Isaiah 41:10 (NIV): "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand".

## Mid-Week Services Roster

Wednesdays	
All Saints, Eltham	10am 8 April
Holy Trinity, Stratford	10am 22 April
Thursdays	
St Mary's, Hawera	10am

## April 2026 Sunday Services Roster

	Sunday 5 April Easter Day	Sunday 12 April Easter 2	Sunday 19 April Easter 3	Sunday 26 April Easter 4
Holy Trinity, Stratford <b>10:30am</b>	W Bowers-Mason HC	P Bowers-Mason HC	Morning Prayer	P Bowers-Mason HC
All Saints, Eitham <b>9am</b>	W Bowers-Mason HC	P Bowers-Mason HC	Morning Prayer	P Bowers-Mason HC
Manaia Methodist <b>10am</b>			W Bowers-Mason	
Kaponga Community Church <b>10:30am</b>	C Hunn HC	Own Arrangements	Own Arrangements	Own Arrangements
St Barnabas Opunake <b>9am</b>	C Hunn HC	I Sargent HC	P Bowers-Mason HC	Morning Prayer
St Mary's, Hawera <b>10am</b>	<b>8am</b> P Scaife HC <b>10am</b> B Gibbs HC	To Wesley	<b>10am</b> B Gibbs HC	To Wesley
Wesley Methodist <b>10am</b>	To St Mary's	Methodist Minister	To St Mary's	Methodist Minister
St Georges, Patea <b>10am</b>	R Smith			
Church of Good Shep, Waverley <b>10am</b>		R Smith		B Gibbs

## Contact Us

If you have news to share please contact us.

Archdeaconry of Waitotara

Office is at St Mary's, Hawera

Postal address 18 George St, Hawera 4610

Email is best

[wta.manager@wtanglican.nz](mailto:wta.manager@wtanglican.nz)

[www.anglicanswaitotara.org.nz](http://www.anglicanswaitotara.org.nz)

## Contact details for the Central & South Missioners

Rev Brendan Gibbs 021 214 9160

[brendang@wtanglican.nz](mailto:brendang@wtanglican.nz)

Rev Paul Bowers-Mason

[paulbm@wtanglican.nz](mailto:paulbm@wtanglican.nz) 027 364 9274

Keep up to date with news around New Zealand and the world.

[Anglican taonga](#)



The Anglican Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki has a monthly e-magazine. Usually there is a short video message from Bishop Phillip, notices of upcoming events and how to register for them. Well worth a look.

You can find it at [www.waikatotaranakianglicans.nz](http://www.waikatotaranakianglicans.nz)



You can now watch recent sermons from Central Taranaki featuring Rev Paul Bowers-Mason, Rev Wynne Bowers-Mason and others, [www.anglicanswaitotara.org.nz](http://www.anglicanswaitotara.org.nz)