

**Greymouth and Kumara Anglican Parish**  
**Lockdown Newsletter 4**  
**20 April 2020 - Lockdown Day 26**

**MARGE WRITES**

I write this while we await the news of the government's decision regarding whether we remain at Level 4 a bit longer or move to Level 3 later this week. The front page of The Press this morning had a large photo of the Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern, with a serious look on her face and the headline—*PM's decision of a lifetime*. I saw it at 6am and Robin and I immediately prayed that the Cabinet would make the right decision as I'm sure you have prayed, too. Paul's exhortation to Timothy has never been more relevant—

I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Saviour, who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. (1 Timothy 2:1-4, *New Living Translation*)

Whatever the government's decision, our current parish life is not going to change much whether we remain at Level 4 or move to Level 3—

- Weekend services will continue via ZOOM for the foreseeable future
- Home groups will still not be able to meet in person, but, where possible, continue via ZOOM or other video conferencing facility
- The Parish Office will remain closed or with very limited hours with only Marge present. We are waiting for the government announcement and guidance from the diocese on this situation and will send out a notification in due course if we are able to have limited hours and what safety protocols to have in place
- We expect that the church building itself will remain closed at Level 3 though again we await further clarification
- Marge, Robin and Nicky will continue to work from home
- Care Cluster Leaders will continue to contact their members via phone or other means

Our weekend services via ZOOM continue to be well attended (33 Saturday; 94 Sunday) and again included many from out of town and overseas. It was great to be able to breakout into smaller groups for a share time.

Vestry will be meeting this week via ZOOM. Our main points of discussion will be the morale and pastoral care of the parish at this time as well as our financial situation. I will include the main points of our meeting in next week's newsletter.

With love and blessings, *Marge*

**NEXT WEEKEND'S SERVICES**

Our services this next weekend (25/26 April) will be via ZOOM again—6pm Saturday and 11am Sunday. A link will be sent out by email on Friday. To prepare for this coming weekend, you may like to ponder the theme and readings ahead of time--

Our Theme for this coming weekend is—*The Eyes Have It*

Our Readings for this coming weekend are—*Ephesians 4:28-32; Luke 19:1-10*

## **THANK YOUS**

Again, we want to say thank you to everyone who is doing anything to help folk during this time from working in essential services to grocery shopping for the vulnerable and making a friendly phone call. Thank you to our Care Cluster Leaders for the weekly phone calls to their cluster group. Thank you to Marilyn and Greville Wood and Eric and Diana Fensom for readings and prayers in our services last weekend.

## **END OF FINANCIAL YEAR GIVING RECEIPTS**

A big thank you to Nicky Hawes for preparing and posting the end of year giving receipts. You should receive yours in your letterbox this week. If you also wish to receive an electronic copy, please email Nicky directly at [nckyhws@gmail.com](mailto:nckyhws@gmail.com).

## **VESTRY**

Vestry will meet this THURSDAY, APRIL 23<sup>rd</sup> via ZOOM at 7:30pm. Marge will send out a ZOOM link to Vestry members by Wednesday.

## **ZOOM FOR HOME GROUPS**

If a member of your group does not have a ZOOM account to schedule a meeting for your group, please contact Marge who can use one of her accounts to set up and start meetings for your group. She does not have to be present once the meeting has started. Ring Marge if you are interested.

## **TESTIMONIES**

A number of people have been contacting us about the good things that are happening and we include a few here:

- Yvonne Davison was so grateful for the kind care package left at her front door by the folk who do her nails during normal times
- Nora Graves (currently staying with Christina Bushby) was overwhelmed with the butterfly birthday cake that Christina baked her and the singing of "Happy Birthday" by the Saturday congregation during the ZOOM service
- Many have said how much they appreciate the ZOOM services each weekend and the ability to "see" each other and worship together and share communion
- One or two parishioners currently without internet capability have expressed an interest in getting equipment and upskilling for the future and are grateful that some in the parish have offered to help them when we return to normal life

Do send you through your testimonies, answers to prayer, thank yous and we will try and include a few each week.

## **CONTACT DETAILS FOR MARGE & ROBIN DURING LEVEL 4 & LEVEL 3**

Landline phone: 03 768 7508

Marge's cell phone: 021 0233 2189

Robin's cell phone: 021 0228 7926

emails: [office@greymouthanglican.co.nz](mailto:office@greymouthanglican.co.nz); [margetefft@xtra.co.nz](mailto:margetefft@xtra.co.nz);  
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