

Greymouth & Kumara Anglican Parish
Lockdown Newsletter 8
16/17 May 2020 – Alert Level 2 (Phase 1)

MARGE WRITES

Well, we certainly had a surprise at our 11am ZOOM service on Sunday (17th) when Bishop Steve and his wife, Watiri, joined us from Nelson. It was lovely to have our Bishop greet us (albeit a little nerve wracking to have the boss show up) and we look forward to when they can come in person and be with us. Hopefully, in November.

I know that there are a lot of complaints around the country about the restrictions placed on religious gatherings during Phase 1 of Level 2. However, I am personally relieved to have some extra time to prepare the buildings and the protocols for when we can regather. And, to think that we might get to restart our normal gatherings on Pentecost weekend (the birthday of the Church) excites me. We await the government's announcement on Monday, 25th May.

In the meantime,

- There will be ZOOM services 23/24 May. Links will be sent out later this week.
- The Church and Hall in Greymouth and the Church in Kumara will remain closed this week.
- **The Parish Office will reopen this week with limited hours:**
 - **9am – 3pm Tuesday-Friday (Nicky Hawes will be present from 9am-1pm)**
 - Please note that a number of sanitising and distancing protocols will be in place.
- Care Cluster Leaders, please continue to contact your members via phone or other means at least once in the next fortnight.
- Home Group leaders have been sent the protocols for physically restarting. Home group leaders, please Marge know when you plan to restart physically gathering. Many groups cannot even ponder restarting at the moment because of the number and spacing restrictions.
- Marge and Robin will be working both from home and at the Parish Centre this week.
- Rosters remain on hold until further notice. Nicky will be contacting members of the various rosters to see if each member feels comfortable serving on the roster during Alert Level 2. No one needs to feel pressured to serve if you think it might pose a health risk to you or others in your household. We will then adjust the rosters accordingly.

With love and blessings,

Marge

THIS COMING WEEKEND'S SERVICES

Our services this next weekend (23/24 May) will again be via ZOOM—6pm Saturday and 11am Sunday. A link will be sent out by email later this week. It will be a different sort of ZOOM service than what we have been experiencing as I (Marge) believe it will give us a good opportunity to hear from each other where we might go next as a parish. To prepare for this coming weekend, please pray about and ponder the following—

- Are there any aspects of our ZOOM worship services that we might want to incorporate into our 'normal' weekend gatherings?
- How might we continue to use ZOOM in the future even when we can gather physically for worship?
- Some of our home groups can meet under the current restrictions and some cannot. Do you think there is value in creating more and smaller home groups? If so, is the Lord calling you to be a host and/or leader?
- Are you beginning to sense the Lord's invitation to our parish to join him on mission? If so, what specific area(s) do you think that might be?

Our Theme for this coming weekend is— The Waiting Room

Our Readings for this coming weekend are— Psalm 24; Luke 24:35-53

UNIQUE STUDY EXPERIENCE: GOING DEEP WITH REVELATION

Andrew Burgess, Dean of Bishopdale Theological College in Nelson, is hosting a weekly online teaching event for Nelson Diocese and all interested folk.

Last week's teaching was superb and it will continue this Wednesday at 7pm via ZOOM.

Andrew ("Burge") is doing a 'big picture' overview of the book of Revelation – with a particular focus on the character of living in and for the kingdom of God in a world that is very different to that. Jesus calls His Church to 'overcome' (or 'conquer') and we will take a broad look at what that looks like in Revelation. We won't be doing any predictions of when exactly Jesus will return, or looking at different readings around the 'rapture', for example – we will just be focusing on some key insights in Revelation about living faithfully in this time between Jesus' ascension and His return.

Go to www.bishopdale.ac.nz and then click on REVELATION SERIES in the top menu to view the first two teachings. The ZOOM link for the live session this Wednesday is the same that was sent last week. If you need Marge to send it again, please contact her at margetefft@xtra.co.nz.

THANK YOU'S

Again, we thank everyone who is helping and encouraging others during this time especially our Care Cluster Leaders. Our feedback from the care clusters leaders is very encouraging. Also, thank you to Mary Findlay and Tracey Hall for reading and to Jeanette Oliver and Jacquie Jones for leading intercessions. A big thank you to Rochelle Dash for cleaning and sanitising the Parish Centre in preparation for opening this week and to Nicky, Rochelle, and Robin for assisting Marge with the safety protocols for the Parish Centre.

HELP WITH SANITISING SURFACES BETWEEN SERVICES

When we are allowed to gather again for worship services, we are required to sanitise all "high touch points" (e.g. pews, door handles, light switches, etc) in between each service. Please consider if you could be available to assist with this following the service you normally attend. If so, please ring the Parish Office or send an email to office@greymouthanglican.co.nz.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR MARGE & ROBIN & NICKY

Please note that with the return to more normal office arrangements, Nicky Hawes will be monitoring the office email. Therefore, please use the office phone and email for general parish enquiries, contacting Nicky, items for newsletters, etc. Please use Marge's and Robin's personal emails for matters needing their attention. Marge and Robin can still be contacted via the Parish Office phone or their cell phones. Parish Office phone is transferred to their home when office is closed.

Parish Office phone: 03 768 7508

Marge's cell: 021 0233 2189

Robin's cell: 021 0228 7926

emails: Nicky: office@greymouthanglican.co.nz;

Marge: margetefft@xtra.co.nz;

Robin: robin@greymouthanglican.co.nz