

relationship with God, and in prayer I have experienced God's healing and intervention into situations that I would not think possible. Paul tells us that the peace of God (God's shalom) which transcends all understanding, will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. This peace enables Christians to go through anything and to remain in a constantly reawakened joy.

Murray Wills

Prayers for this week:

The Church

- We await your coming Lord, bless us and all those we love, with your deep joy.
- We pray for the Anglican Church in Canada (Archbishop Linda Nicholls).
- For the Board of Nomination and Board of Trustees: We bring these people before you, grateful for their work and prayer for the ministry and people of your Church through their roles on these Boards.

The World

- We pray for the conflict and famine in Tigray, Ethiopia, one of the worst humanitarian disasters in the world right now, that aid may reach those who need it.

The Covid-19 Epidemic

- For the scientists investigating the Omicron variant, trying to work out the implications for the future of this pandemic, and for those making decisions based on this research.

The Community

- For those who find Christmas a stressful season, whether for financial, emotional, or family reasons.

The Local Church

- For the parish musicians, and for all those helping with the Lessons and Carols: the youth choir and other visiting musicians; may we be hospitable and welcoming.

Those for whom prayer is asked

- Bill, Lynley, Roger, Diana, Emma, Daniel, Leila, Ian, Diana, Stephen, Sheldon, Joyce, John, Beverley, Emily, Holly, Ryan, Lindsay, Sophia, Lynne-Stella, Annette, Mark.
We also pray for: Connie, Peter, Geraldine, Dorothy, Louisa, Albert, Priscilla, Eddie B, Reeta and others known to us.

Those who mourn, those who have died.

- Duncan Brown

This Sunday: Preacher and Presider: Murray Wills

Leader/Intercessions: Peter Bengé

Readings: Philippians 4:4-9, Luke 3:7-18 (Maureen Lamb)

Songs: Hymn 31 :Come, thou long-expected Jesus / Purify my heart

Hymn 27 : On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry

Hope of the world

The Lord's Prayer (Maori)

Rejoice in the Lord always / O come to the altar (communion)

Build your kingdom here

For your personal daily prayer time (taken from the Anglican Lectionary):

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Psalm 25 3-8	Psalm 34 1-6, 21-22	Psalm 85 7-end	Psalm 30 1-5,12-end	Psalm 72 1-5,19-20	Psalm 72 1-2,12-13,19-end
Matt 21 23-27	Matt 21 28-32	Luke 7 18b-23	Luke 7 24-30	Matt 1 1-17	Matt 1 18-24



Tonight : Sunday 12 December, 7.30pm
St James' Church

(Please note: Your 'My Vaccine Pass' will be required for entry)
Also on ZOOM – use the same login as for 10am service.

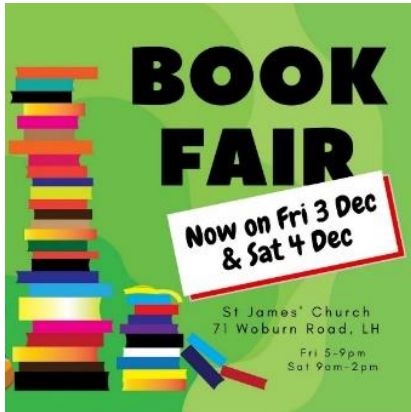
Offerings will go towards the Barnabas Fund for Afghan Christians. Please
take an envelope from the pews or registration desk.

**Daily prayers by ZOOM – 7.45am prayers, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,
9am on Wednesdays and 8.30am on Saturday via Zoom with these meeting details:**
Meeting number: **782 3267 4706**, Passcode: **Lambchops**

ZOOM Small Groups: Please contact us to join any of these groups.

Kid's Prayers	Tuesday 6.45pm	rebeccaheerdegen@gmail.com
Bible Study	Wednesday 10am	millermargaretm@outlook.com
Woburn	Wednesday 7.30pm	maureen@lamb.org.nz
Families	Wednesday 8-9pm	rebeccaheerdegen@gmail.com
Central Hutt	Thursday 7.30pm	benges@orcon.net.nz
Prayer and Praise	Thursday 4pm	lynnejayh@gmail.com

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A HUGE THANK YOU

TO ALL THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR TIME AND ENERGY
IN GETTING THE BOOK FAIR READY, SELLING AND
CLEARING AWAY AFTERWARDS!!
IT WAS A MASSIVE EFFORT BY YOU ALL !!!
Amount raised \$1,200 - Well done, team!

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Please Help with Painting Stones!!!

This year's Christmas Eve family service will centre on the Nativity Story using painted river stones to tell the Christmas story.

We need your help to draw or paint simple pictures of characters from the nativity story on river stones to give to families as a reminder of the Christmas story to take home. If we have any left over we will hide them around the gardens/Hutt Valley for families to find!

Come and collect a few stones from Reception to take home or join us after church on 19 December for a drawing bee. Feel free to use these images as inspiration or come up with your own designs!

Feel free to use whatever tools you prefer – both paint and Sharpie pens work well. Please return your painted stones to Reception by 21 December so that they can be glazed.

Contact: Fiona Strachan: FJEStrachan@gmail.com +64 22 068 5573



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Need some time out? Quiet for meditation and reflection?

See Spiritual Growth Ministries booklet
"Resources for the Spiritual Journey".

Opportunities for 2022 – at the back of the church.

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Farewell Gift for Peter and Helen

We invite you to contribute towards a farewell gift for Peter and Helen. Please put your contribution into an envelope, marked "Gift for Peter and Helen".

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10am Thursday Book of Common Prayer (BCP) service

The last BCP service for 2021 was held on Thursday at the Vicarage. In the New Year, the 10am service will commence on Thursday 20 January 2022 at St James Chapel, with a donated morning tea to follow.

(Please note: the Wednesday 12.15pm Eucharist service will not resume in the New Year.)

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The December Prayer Fuel booklet is available at the back of the church. Also available are copies of our Parish magazine "On the Way".

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Pageant thanks! Many thanks to all those involved in this year's Christmas pageant and in particular to Rebecca as script writer/producer, Jonathan and Karen on music, as well as Dean, Allen and Helen who worked their magic so that we could bring participants in live. It goes without saying that we couldn't have done without our talented cast too: Niamh, Londyn, Jess, David, Claire, Jess, Sammy, Junee, Joel, Krystal and Fiona. And THANKS also to members of the Youth Choir who joined in the singing of the carols! Well done, everyone!

A note from your PEL ...

Kia ora tātou,

In last's weeks PEL note, I forgot to mention the names of Pharmacies where people can obtain their vaccine pass. Just in case you, or someone you know, needs this information, here are the pharmacies as listed on the Healthpoint website, found at the following link:

<https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/covid-19-vaccination/?passOptions=passInPerson>

Hutt Valley pharmacies are:

- Life Pharmacy, Queensgate Mall
- Silverstream Pharmacy
- Unichem Upper Hutt Health Pharmacy
- Unichem Upper Hutt Pharmacy
- Wellworks Pharmacy Boulcott
- Unichem Maidstone Pharmacy

Alternatively, you can ring 0800 222 478, and they will post it out to you.

As we come towards Christmas, I have been reflecting on the last year. I remember a year ago being in a conversation with some people who were saying, "Thank goodness 2020 is nearly over. What a year! 2021 is bound to be better." I replied that Covid-19 may well be around for a while. In the moment, I felt like a bit of a killjoy, but now it seems I may well have been prophetic.

When struggle goes on for a long time for a person, can result in diminishing their joy. The message of this Sunday in Advent is that no matter what, there is still joy. God came to us as a baby. I am probably biased given my Early Childhood teaching background, but I think that there are very few things in the world that bring joy more than a baby's smile. The warmth of their delight touches my heart. Some smart person capitalised on this by creating photo albums with the word's "Grandma's/Grandpa's Brag Book". Joy is contagious!

May God's gift of joy be present with you this week.

Arohanui,

Raewyn Berkahn

Pandemic Emergency Leader

Connect with us!



(04) 569 6737



@ANGPARISHLH



STJAMES.NET.NZ



ST JAMES LOWER HUTT

Contact details: Please feel free to contact us.

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Priest Assistant	Revd Murray Wills murray@maxsys.co.nz	021 918 147
PEL/Parish Admin	Raewyn Berkahn parish.admin@stjames.net.nz	021 245 2677
Youth Pastor	Jess Hedge jrlhedge@gmail.com	021 073 9147
All Saints Chairperson	Phil Gibbons philip.gibbons46@gmail.com	027 224 6809

For offerings or other payments to our Parish bank account:

BNZ account 02 0528 0045901 00

Reference: [surname] reason [eg offering]