# CATHEDRAL NEWS



#### A Place that Matters as the Spiritual Heart of Diocese and City

# **Giving Thanks**

Kia Ora Cathedral Whānau,

We have come to our final Cathedral News of the year as we enter the season of Advent our time of preparation as we celebrate Christmas and the birth of Jesus. This year feels a little different as we approach Christmas knowing that there are no restrictions in place and all our normal Christmas activities can resume. But just as I have found out over the past week, covid is still with us and we need to be careful.

As we journey towards **Christmas** and the New Year, may we remember and be thankful for all that God has done

We have had some great special services over the past month with Armistice Day, the switching -on of the Christmas Tree

Festival, and our Advent Carol Service. The Christmas Tree Festival in particular, is a very special event for our Cathedral and City, and I hope that over the coming weeks many people will come in and visit, marvel at the trees and give thanks for all the community groups and organisations that make Nelson such a special place. But most of all that people will recapture the sense of what Christmas is all about.

A big thank you to the volunteers- and performers who help make the festival possible, but especially the Christmas Tree Festival Team of Joc Smith, Chris and Judith Fitchett. Erin Beatson, and David Lucas who have been working since June to get this event up and running. We can now look forward to Nine-Lessons and Carols (Dec 18), the Christingle Service (Dec 23), Carols on the Steps (Dec 24), and our Christmas services on Dec 24 and 25.

As I look back over the year it is great to see how the staff team has grown as we have welcomed, Rev Emily Holmes as our Deacon-in-training, Nigel Weeks as our Choral Conduc-

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The Very Revd Dr Graham O'Brien Dean of Nelson Cathedral

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www.nelsoncathedral.nz

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols



Sunday 18 December 7 pm

## Giving Thanks - from Page 1

tor, Joy Shackleton running Cathedral Kids, and most recently Beryl Shatford-Banks in the Outreach Coordinator role. Along with Paul Chan, Joc Smith, David Lucas, Rebekah Spink and Rev Steve we have a fantastic team.

But alongside the staff team, there are a large number of volunteers who fill so many roles in the life of the Cathedral. Our retired clergy, pastoral care team, flower guild, all those on the Sunday rosters, Vestry, bellringers, those looking after the candles, Rev Russell Smith and his editing of the Cathedral News....the list goes on. Thank you everyone for all you do to make the Cathedral the spiritual heart of our City and Diocese.

As we journey towards Christmas and the New Year, may we remember and be thankful for all that God has done for us – symbolized for us by the Advent Wreath: The circle of the wreath reminds us of God, who is eternity and endless mercy; the green speaks of the hope we have in God, of renewal, newness and eternal life; the candles symbolise the light of God coming into the world through the birth of Jesus.

May you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

God Bless

#### Graham



An opportunity for an end of year catch-up chat, sing-along and afternoon tea. Bring a friend.

# Friday 2 December 2:30 - 3:30pm





Contact:
Beryl Shatford-Banks
Outreach Co-ordinator
03 548 1008 beryl@nelsoncathedral.nz



#### Nelson Cathedral Christian Meditation Group

Silence, Stillness, Simplicity
In our frantic world, is this something
that you are seeking?
Our small and friendly Christian
Meditation group meets each
Tuesday at 5.30pm to 6.30pm
in the Chapel,
to meditate together. Come and join us
and learn more about this ancient

and learn more about this ancient spiritual practice.

It's easy to learn!

'Making time in our busy lives to open our hearts to the silent presence of God'.

Contact Mary Kroch 027 372 1173 or Erin Beatson 027 680 6355

**ALL WELCOME** 

# **Advent**

#### **Revd Steve Jordan**

The often misunderstood liturgical season of Advent marks the new church year.

So often it has become simply the run-up to Christmas: a busy time buying presents, sending festive cards and preparing for egregious feasts. In fact, one of the key themes IS preparing for the celebration of Christmas, recognising that the Christmas Presence is more important than Christmas presents. That is to say that the fundamental truth behind the birth narratives is that God intervenes in human affairs.

Another theme is recognising that while we think of the incarnation, Christians go further to welcome the Christ into their own hearts. In truth if we accept the Christ, it needs to be a complete immersion, not one in which we accept some elements while conveniently eschewing others.

The third strand is preparation for Christ's (second) coming. It gives the opportunity to take stock of our own lives, especially against that standard of 100% commitment. If (like me) you acknowledge that you fall short, being a member of flawed humankind, it might be appropriate to be penitent for our sins as we know that we will be judged on our conduct through life.

It's such an important season, we mustn't let the pre festive busyness deflect us from keeping our relationship with God central to our faith.

Blessings!

#### Steve



Kia ora Cathedral Whanau,

#### **Rev Emily Holmes**

What a beautiful adventure with God we are on in our Monday evening gatherings and community journeys. God is at work in slow unseen proper ways – inspiring people to seek Him in their weekly lives, encouraging and loving on the young and old, making them

capable of reaching out to those around them to offer a meal or a prayer or some words of life.



One young Mum who has journeyed with us for a while said that she realised how her life had changed from torment to peace. While seeking to discover Jesus herself, she has asked for prayer for those in need, gone out of her way to help others we journey with and invited friends into this seeking with her. She is an inspiration to us.

An 8yr old youngster arrived yesterday, jumped out of the car, and asked after my health, remarking, "I'm so glad you're back, its much less dull when you're here." One of my desires is to truly see each person God brings into our life, regardless of their age. To see each child along with each adult as a proper person and child of God is only trumped by the experience of them seeing you back.

It gives me so much joy to watch my kids excitedly arrive from school, set up a welcoming space for others and then gather the children as they arrive to continue welcoming everyone who comes! I feel like jumping with thanks to God when a group of friends seeking Jesus together, can gather with strangers and talk about life and faith in such a vulnerable and respectful way that each person feels safe to see and be seen, to hear and be heard. God works amongst the gathering, the eating, the conversations, and activities. God also works amongst the weekly journeys and spontaneous ways we do life together and support one another.

What an honour to gather around Jesus and practice being part of His mission here!

Blessings,

**Rev Emily** 



# ASSOCIATION OF ANGLICAN WOMEN Advent Service

All women of the parish are invited to an Advent Service hosted by The Association of Anglican Women /All Saints Women Together on

Thursday 8th December, at 7:30pm at All Saints Church Foyer, 30 Vanguard Street, Nelson.

For enquiries/ questions, transport – please contact Kathy Cuthbert 548 8654 or 027 3337 633; Noeline Curtis 547 6483

#### CHRISTMAS AT NELSON CATHEDRAL



#### **Christmas Tree Festival**

Open every day till 15th January

#### Sunday 27th November

Advent Carol Service 6:30 pm

#### Ist Dec - 21st Dec

Cathedral Concerts 1-1:30 pm each weekday at Christmas Tree Festival

#### Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

\*Nelson Civic Choir Christmas Concert 'Joy To The World' 7 pm

#### Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December

\*Nelson City Brass Band Concert 7 pm

#### Saturday 17th December

\*Chroma Choir Christmas Concert 7 pm

## **Sunday 18th December**

Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols 7 pm

#### Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

Christingle 5 pm

#### **Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup> December**

Carols on the Steps 8:45 pm Christmas Eve Communion 11:00 pm Choir sings Carols from Gallery 10:15 pm

## **Christmas Day 25th December**

Holy Communion 8 am Family Communion 10 am

#### Sunday I<sup>st</sup> January

Holy Communion 8 am Family Communion 10 am

#### **Sunday 8th January**

Holy Communion 8 am
Family Communion 10 am
Evening Prayer with Hymns 5:30 pm

## Sunday 15th January

Holy Communion 8 am
Family Communion &
Christmas Tree Switch-off 10 am
Evening Prayer with Hymns 5:30 pm

\* Paid Admission



## Warden's Wardrobe



#### A Cathedral Organist's woes

Well what do you do when the Cathedral organ is out of action and the keyboard you have borrowed to provide the music for the wedding in the Chapel and the electricity supply fails and the bride and groom are about to walk down the aisle expecting the wedding march to accompany them!

Well if you are as capable as our Paul you step across to the piano and carry on as if nothing happened.

Challenges recently with our traditional organ and the cost of repairs has led Paul to write to the Treasurer about the ongoing cost of repairs and the suggestion we consider the purchase of a digital keyboard to be used in conjunction with our magnificent pipes.

#### Paul writes:

"The South Island Organ company (our organ maintenance company) has recommended a major maintenance project for the pipe organ as the instrument is aging quite badly and is expected to develop more major problems over the next 10 years. Without the planned remedial works the organ will continue to deteriorate and eventually break down one day in the future. Such work would include an overhaul of some pipe works and the electronic systems that connect the console with the pipes in the chamber which requires an extensive amount of time and money.

As a result this leads to consideration of a more economical alternative, a digital solution which is not only cheaper to run in the long term but also guarantees durability and versatility.

In fact we have been offered a roughly \$98,000 package that includes a 4 manual digital organ fitted with the latest technologies which I think will serve us well for the next 15-20 years at least Unlike the pipe organ it doesn't require quarterly tuning.

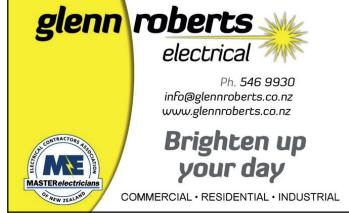
In most cases the sound quality is on a par with a real pipe organ if not surpassing it.

I am not a pipe organ purist or advocate of digital organs but I was just looking at this from a practical point of view.

We may not have the money upfront but if we could start doing some fundraising or approach some donors for inheritance funding this could be possible to achieve in the near future. Instead of spending a fortune to keep up the existing instrument with the same specifications we could have a reliable and much more versatile Cathedral organ in the future.

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It will give us more flexibility and opportunities in our regular worship as well as music out reach.

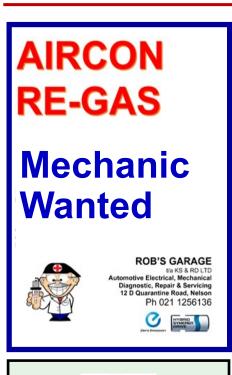
If we stack up the yearly organ budget of \$10,000 for maintenance we have at present over the next 10 years" it will give us some \$100,000 anyway"

To the Wardens this makes a lot of sense so we thought we should put this out to our Parish in the hope Parishioners might consider if they can assist.

Kind regards and Christmas wishes to all.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our wonderful Cathedral.

Graham Allan Jocelyn Smith Churchwardens

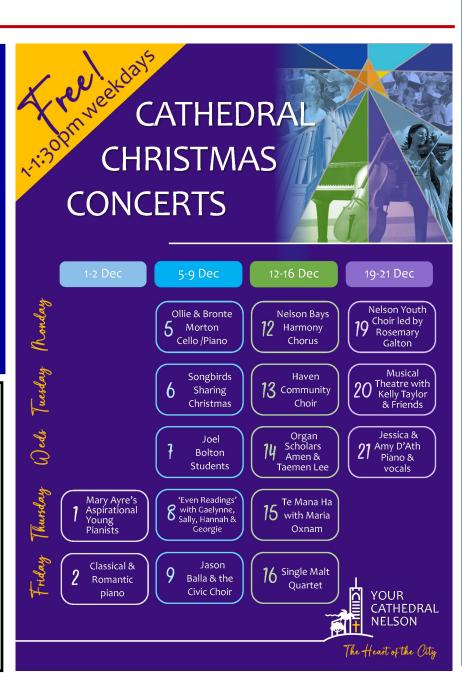




**We** have Parish Prayer each morning for 15-minutes at 9am.

Monday to Saturday. You can join in via zoom using this zoom link: Graham O'Brien's Personal Meeting Room,

https://anglicanchurchnz.zoom.us/j/7448540777



#### **DIRECTORY**

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#### **Cathedral News**

welcomes contributions from parishioners and readers. If you have a contribution or perhaps an idea for an article please contact the Editor (russell77@xtra.co.nz) or the Dean (grahamob@nelsoncathedral.nz).

#### **CATHEDRAL SERVICES**

Monday • Holy Communion 12:15 pm Dec 5 and 12 (Will resume on Jan 9, 2023)

Wednesday• Holy Communion 11am Dec 7,14,21 (Will resume on Jan 11, 2023)

Worship at Nelson Cathedral is varied and frequent with 4 different services on Sunday

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Choral Eucharist & Children's Church

(live streamed)

**12.30 pm** Whakatu Māori Mission Service

Will resume in the New Year

**5.30 pm** Evensong Dec 4 and 11 (resumes Jan

29). While the choir is on holiday we will hold Evening Prayer with Hymns through the holiday period except Dec 25 and Jan1.







The Cathedral 10am service will be available for viewing on our website:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwg-Hxdb7caA2MiHgPxThAw/live