



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

100 years past, now 100 years forward

Kia ora Cathedral Whānau,
I do hope you have been keeping safe, dry and well as winter hits. I know that some of you have faced flooding in your properties and damage to farms in the recent rains, so please continue to hold our region in your prayers, along with all the emergency workers, as we get through this difficult time.

Many thanks to Ross Whitlock, renowned landscape artist and Cathedral parishioner, who over the past month has exhibited 40 of his paintings at the Suter Gallery that reflect his journey with God. Ross managed to raise close to \$6,000 for the Cathedral and has generously donated the unsold paintings to the Cathedral for ongoing sale. Within this edition of the Cathedral News is Ross' artist talk reflecting how for Ross, the natural and the spiritual come together.

There is a lot happening in the Cathedral as we approach the centenary of our marble Cathedral. Many thanks to Mark Nicholls – assisted by Rae Simpson – as they have completed the floor painting under the pews and on the ramp.



Hopefully the remainder of the pew heaters will arrive next week, so all going well, the under-pew heating will be operational in a couple of weeks in time for our celebrations. As you will have seen, we are welcoming any donations towards this project that will make the feel of the Cathedral much "warmer" in every sense

Over the past month, we have also hosted a number of groups for a tour of the Cathedral. Last week, we had three classes from Nelson Christian Academy come through, who enjoyed looking around, walking the labyrinth, guessing the number of organ pipes and walking up the spiral staircase to the gallery.

To page 2



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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Taken by Surprise
Revd Steve Jordan
Page 3

Choice and Consequence
Ross Whitlock
Page 5

Wardens Wardrobe
Page 8

www.nelsoncathedral.nz



100 years past, now 100 years forward - Continued from page 1

I received a lovely letter of thanks which I thought you would like to see.

A new initiative that we hope to have ready soon is for people to be able to do "self-guided tours" using QR codes located at important points and features in the Cathedral. People can scan these codes using their phone which will take them to the relevant information on the Cathedral website. This will be a fun activity for us all to do, because there is always something to learn about our marble Cathedral.

God Bless

Graham

Dear Graham,

Thank you for having a good time with us, Thank You for giving us a good activity and a good day. As once the Prophet Haggai said "Do not be afraid of your Enemies, for the Lord your God is with you" ~~that~~ Have a good Time, as I pray for you, The Scripture "Matthew 6:9-13" will Help

God Bless you
From Sharon
INCA RM 11

YOUR CATHEDRAL NELSON

A Celebration Lunch
August 2025

100 YEARS



**Sunday August 10 from 12:30pm
Trafalgar Centre**

Cost: \$75 per person (12yrs and under half-price)

Tickets from Cathedral Office (Cash payment)

or pay online into the BNZ Bank Account

Name: Churchwardens of the Parish of Christ Church

Account Number: 02 0704 0028423 000

A Concert Extravaganza

Music by
Candlelight

7pm Friday 15 August

YOUR CATHEDRAL NELSON

Tickets from
nelsoncathedral.nz

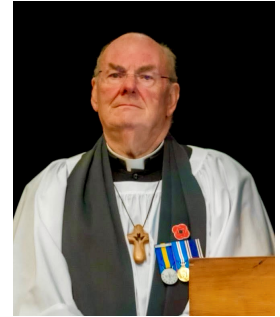


The Flower Guild would like to invite more people to join them. You do not need to be a florist, just to like flowers. If you are interested, please contact the Cathedral Office.



Precentor's Page

Revd Steve Jordan



TAKEN BY SURPRISE

Despite warnings, the recent floods caught many by surprise: if the warnings come when the weather is glorious, it seems somehow inconceivable that there will be a deluge coming in a few days.

But the warnings were accurate!

On the morning that a state of emergency was called, I drove to Richmond. It was the last day of term at the school where my Godson boards, and it was closing early. Certainly was raining heavily, but the state of emergency further surprised me; the journey was damp but otherwise fine.

So the footage beamed into our drawing rooms that evening went beyond surprise: it shocked me. The devastation on the SH6 in both directions, in the Moutere and Golden Bay was staggering; while in Nelson we were barely scathed, albeit many were inconvenienced. Then the news came through of a the tragic death of hop grower Peter Lines.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone affected by these devastating events, not least the rescue services and statutory authorities.

Yet, in all of this there's a wake-up call. There were warnings but many of us failed to pay due credence because it was so pleasant when the warnings were issued. We trusted in our own judgment rather than the advice of experts.

Remember the Christ warned us to be ready for the final judgement. In Matthew 24 Jesus warns us clearly that his second coming will be stealthy and will take us by surprise....'like a thief in the night'.

Perhaps the weather bomb might be a timely reminder for us all to heed warnings, so we might not be taken by surprise.

Blessings

Steve



Rev. Emily Holmes who was a curate at the Cathedral and has spent the last year in the Greymouth Parish, has been appointed as the Minister of Hills Community Church in Mapua.

Hills Community Church comes under the oversight of Bishop Steve and is a joining of the Anglican, Presbyterian and Pentecostal congregations in Mapua.

This will be Emily's first appointment as the lead minister, and we will hold Emily, Greg, Gabriel and Elijah in our prayers as she begins this new ministry.



You are invited to:

COMMISSIONING
TO MINISTRY
OF

Reverend Emily Holmes
as
Minister of
Hills Community Church

A Service of Institution, Commissioning, and Welcome
Led by
Bishop Steve Maina and Rev. Ian Smith

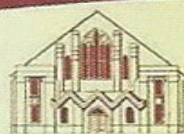
Sunday 20th July
3.00pm
Hills Community Church
Māpua

Followed by afternoon tea

RSVP:
Sally Williams
Hills Community Church
122 Aranui Rd
Mapua
Ph: 03 540 3848
office@hillscommunitychurch.org.nz

Support & care
through your grief

Nelson's
comprehensive
and caring
funeral service
PH: 03 548 2770



Marsden House
FUNERAL SERVICES

In June Ross Whitlock, landscape artist and Cathedral parishioner held an exhibition of 40 paintings at the Suter Gallery, reflecting his journey back to God. This is his artist talk.



"The Shepherd". Oil on canvas 36x48"

Choice and Consequence

Landscape Painting and the Sublime.

"Is it Chance or the dance that moves the world.
Is the world blind and dumb, or bloom, festal?
A vain jest, or holy feast?"

Eugene Warren. Christographia XIV

Perhaps one of the best ways of examining the nature of choice is through Necker's Cube, an optical illusion that appears as a wire frame drawing of a cube. It can be perceived in two different orientations, one or the other, but never both at once.

The classic commonsense view of the world we live in is that it is made of solid objects. What you see is what there is. There is no unseen world, and nothing beyond nature. Nothing supernatural. All matter is composed of atoms. These are tiny little balls that bounce off each other forming solid objects that obey the laws of motion, truly a celestial pinball machine.

In this predetermined world there is no need for a God. Everything happens because of mechanical inevitability. There can be no free will. Your sense of personal choice is an illusion. We are socially conditioned meat puppets, following the whims of our emotions, driven by instinct, and forever lonely and alone. This is the modern secular world.

Quantum physics has redefined reality ever since the early twentieth century. Atoms are not particles but wave forms in a matrix, forming the fundamental ground of being. Everything we see is founded upon probability and becomes consequential depending upon an observer. In this quantum world nothing is fixed until observed. Heisenberg's uncertainty Principle further states "it is impossible to simultaneously know both the exact position and momentum of a particle." Therefore we can never know everything. Schrodinger's Cat was a thought experiment showing how reality can be in multiple states until we observe it. Is the cat in Schrodinger's box alive or dead? Is there a cat in the box at all? We cannot know until we open the box, at which point the state is determined and is forever fixed.

This world of fuzzy probability needs a God to continually observe it to exist. In fact, can the Sublime exist apart from the observer? Coleridge at the waterfall overheard two men talking about it. One says, "It is sublime!" The other, "It is pretty." Does the sublime exist in the waterfall or in the ability of man to perceive it? A bit like the old joke, if a tree falls in the forest and no one hears, does it make a sound? As Bishop Berkeley in the 17th century asked, if there is no observer, does reality even exist?

There was a young man who said "God
Must find it extremely odd,
If the tree that we see
Still continues to be
When there's no one about in the Quod."
Young man, your astonishment's odd
I'm always about in the quod,
And the tree that you see
Still continues to be
Since observed by yours faithfully, God.

Nothing is more mysterious than consciousness. The most extraordinary circumstance of our lives is that our consciousness arises from inanimate matter. Unless of course matter is not inanimate, but rather animated by a conscious and caring God. We live at the center of our personal universe, and God is at the center of our being. In this sense Art and Religion are inextricably intertwined as the purpose of both is to reunite people with the Ground of Being, or God.

The only question is the nature of the God we choose:

The Deist "Ground of Being" of classical physics is a remote, impersonal, uncaring being that watches from a distance, if at all and where everything is pre-determined. This is the Secular World.

The Theist God is the Quantum God of fuzzy probability who spreads before us the Sublime. He is Loving, personal and intimate and opens our eyes through the Majesty of His creation. This is the world of the Sublime.

I believe that throughout our lives the most profound changes in our consciousness evolve through our personal experience of the sublime. In his teaching Jesus emphasized the importance of developing inner righteousness throughout our lives rather than solely material concerns and outward formalism.

The Secular World presents us with an art centered upon the urban world and the immediate concerns of man, where officially sanctioned art is inevitably propaganda commissioned to promote the interests of the state and is always political.

On the other hand, in the World of the Sublime, art is individual and centered upon the natural world where the beauty of creation reunites us with the Ground of Being, who is the God of Love.

The spiritual significance of Quantum Theory is that it can accept the numinous as being at the center of cosmic order. The Theists believe that God is timeless energy not a corporal being. Quantum Physics says that there exists a universal energy that has the attributes of God. On this point there is no fundamental conflict between modern science and the sublime.

Carl Sagan wrote, "When we recognize our place in an immensity of lightyears and in the passage of ages, when we grasp the intricacy, beauty, and subtlety of life, then that soaring feeling, that sense of elation and humility combined, is surely spiritual. So are our emotions in the presence of great art or music or literature or acts of exemplary selfless courage.

The notion that science and spirituality are somehow mutually exclusive does a disservice to both."

Ross Whitlock

PIT & MOORE LAWYERS

For innovative legal advice on
a full range of legal services phone

Nelson - 03 548 8349
Richmond - 03 543 9090

Nelson Cathedral Christian Meditation Group



Tuesdays 5:00 to 6:00 pm
in the Chapel

Come and join us and learn more about this
ancient spiritual practice.

Mary Kroch 027 372 1173 Erin Beatson 027 680 6355

ALL WELCOME

GRE SERVICES

For all your electrical needs!

RESIDENTIAL
COMMERCIAL
HEAT PUMPS
SOLAR
HVAC

☎ 03 546 9930
✉ Info@greservices.nz
🌐 www.greservices.nz

Formerly known as Glenn Roberts Electrical

Emmaus Study Group

Wednesdays
at 12.00 until 1.00pm
In the Choir Room

The Emmaus study is now studying the
Epistle of Paul to the Romans.

The format will be the reading of the
Biblical text, a short exegesis
followed by discussion.

All are welcome



Celebrating 100 years of Nelson's Marble Cathedral

Saturday August 9

- 10am Public tours of the Cathedral on the hour and half-hour from 10am
- 2pm Official tour for dignitaries
- 3pm Planting of the commemorative tree followed by afternoon tea in the Cathedral.
- 4.30pm Choral Evensong service led by the Cathedral choir.

office@nelsoncathedral.nz



Celebrating 100 years of Nelson's Marble Cathedral

Sunday August 10

- 10am Centenary Service.

Concludes with morning tea and the
cutting of a Commemoration cake.

- 12:30pm Celebration Lunch at
Trafalgar Centre.

Cost: \$75 per person,
children under 12 half price.

- Book your seat by emailing
office@nelsoncathedral.nz



David Lucas

Warden's Wardrobe



Jocelyn Smith

We keep hearing a lot about the Earthquake Strengthening needed for our building and about the new heaters that we'll use to make the building more comfortable. In the process some of the floor got painted. We are working towards upgrading the chapel heaters too. We get so tied up with these things that it's easy to forget why we're getting together here in the first place.

I have heard people maintain that they can be perfectly adequate Christians alone in their own homes but helping each other in a church is a vital expression of Christian love and community. The church is more than a building or weekly service - it is a family of believers called to support, encourage, and care for one another. When our Cathedral members help each other, we reflect the teachings of Jesus, of compassion, service, and unity.

Acts of kindness within a church can take many forms. It could be offering a ride to someone in need, providing meals for someone going through a crisis, praying for one another, or simply listening with empathy. These are all ways to strengthen the bonds between us. Helping each other builds trust, deepens relationships, and creates a sense of belonging that can be hard to find elsewhere.

In times of joy and sorrow, the church community becomes a source of strength. Celebrating milestones like baptisms or weddings brings people together in shared happiness, while supporting each other through loss, illness, or financial hardship provides comfort and hope. Through these shared experiences, the church becomes a place where burdens are shared, and no one has to walk alone. Helping also fosters spiritual growth. When members serve each other, they develop humility, patience, and a deeper understanding of God's love in action. It teaches that faith is not just about belief but about living out those beliefs through service.

Ultimately, helping each other in a church reflects the heart of Christian fellowship: loving our neighbours, bearing one another's burdens, and walking together in faith.

Jocelyn Smith

People's Warden

AIRCON RE-GAS

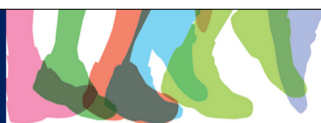
Mechanic Wanted



ROB'S GARAGE
t/a KS & RD LTD
Automotive Electrical, Mechanical
Diagnostic, Repair & Servicing
12 D Quarantine Road, Nelson
Ph 021 1256136



CATHEDRAL WALKING GROUP



What are you doing
on Tuesday morning?

- See your city from a new angle
- Find your wellbeing and new friends
- Enjoy yummy morning tea
- Meet here in car park

9am Tuesday | Judith 027 319 8511

THE CRAFT GROUP

meets on Thursdays at 1.30pm
for creativity,
a natter and afternoon tea.
All welcome to recycle Christmas
Cards
for the Memory trees or your own
project.

Do you have some unfinished projects?
Bring them along.

For more information contact
Judith Fitchett
on 027 319 8511
or just join us in the Quiet Room

Cathedralkids

Gayle McVay



Cathedralkids Helpers

First of all, I just want to say a huge thank you to the helpers who have stepped onto the *Cathedralkids* roster to help me. You have been incredible and have tossed yourself into the 45 minutes with abandon. Thank you so much. It really is fun and the kids, with your assistance, are learning well.

Learning

I always start with teaching the kids to say **the Lord's Prayer**.

This is the only prayer that Jesus taught his disciples and therefore is very important for the children to know this prayer 'off by heart'. I am also ensuring that the children understand what each line of the Lord's Prayer means - taking it line by line to explain.

As they begin to say and remember this prayer without any difficulty, I am now beginning to ask them to learn (by heart) **Psalms 23**. They understand that this psalm was written by David (the one who killed Goliath - *a good kids visual reminder of who this David was*) - later to become King David.

As well as that, and perhaps more importantly, this psalm, once it is embedded in their memories will be a comfort and reassurance for their whole lives - particularly when times get difficult and scary. I don't think many of us get through life without difficulties...

So parents and grandparents - I'd be thrilled if you could test your children on what they remember of the Lord's Prayer and an explanation of its meaning please.

Then in a few months - if you could also test them on what they remember of Psalm 23 please?

Let me know one way or the other with how they are doing. . .

I'd love to know. ☺

Best wishes

Gayle McVay

Come & have fun!

CATHEDRAL kids

During term time our 10am Sunday service offers the biblically themed **CATHEDRAL kids**

Based on the Anglican Bible Reading Cycle we learn about the world around us and how God wants us to behave

Activities and discussion relate to the theme of the Sunday Service

Age 5ish & up

Leaving a Bequest

If you are considering a Bequest to the Cathedral in your Will, the link below takes you to the wording for your gift so that your donation is correctly directed to the Cathedral.

<https://www.nelsoncathedral.nz/copy-of-volunteering>

Remember also to obtain independent legal advice.

DIRECTORY

Dean:

The Very Reverend Dr. Graham O'Brien
Ph 021 060 1774
grahamob@nelsoncathedral.nz

People's Warden & Building Manager:

Jocelyn Smith
Ph 027 548 7774
joc.smith@xtra.co.nz

Dean's Warden:

David Lucas
Ph 021 398 415
davidlucas88@gmail.com

Honorary Priest: & Precentor

The Revd Steve Jordan
Ph 021 294 6105
stevej@nelsoncathedral.nz

Children's Programme:

Gayle McVay
03 548 1008
kids@nelsoncathedral.nz

Choral Director:

Nigel Weeks
Ph 021 797 006
nigel@nelsoncathedral.nz

Cathedral Organist:

Paul Chan
Ph 021 399 938
paul@nelsoncathedral.nz

Events:

Mark Nicholls
Ph 027 572 9141
events@nelsoncathedral.nz

Outreach Coordinator :

Beryl Shatford-Banks
Ph 022 043 7980
beryl@nelsoncathedral.nz

Pastoral Care and Discipleship:

The Revd Canon Nigel Whinney
Ph 021 118 9985
office@nelsoncathedral.nz

Cathedral Office:

First floor of tower.
Hours: Mon to Fri 9.30am-12.30pm
Phone 548 1008 or fax 548 3264
Postal address: P.O. Box 657, Nelson
7040

Email: office@nelsoncathedral.nz

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

Wednesday • Holy Communion 11am

**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

(Robed Choir and Livestreamed)

12.30 pm

Whakatu Māori Mission Service

5.00 pm

Evensong (Robed Choir and Livestreamed)



NELSON CATHEDRAL INVITES YOU & YOUR FRIENDS TO

Cameo at the Cathedral

An opportunity for a chat and afternoon tea

**FRIDAY 11TH JULY
FROM
2.00- 3.30PM**

**CONTACT:
OUTREACH COORDINATOR
BERYL SHATFORD-BANKS
03 548 1008**



 **livestream**

**The Cathedral 10am service and the 5.00pm service are available
for live viewing**

The services (and some other events) are recorded so are available to be viewed at any time,
not only during the actual time when the service is in session.

<https://www.youtube.com/@NelsonCathedral/streams>