

Anglican  
Parish  
GERALDINE

# february newsletter march

EDITION NO. 20 | 2026



## Greetings to the saints of Geraldine (as St Paul would say)

We are in the last few Sundays of the Green, in-between season, as we leave Christmas and Epiphany behind, and prepare to embark on Lent. Ash Wednesday is on 18 February. Back in the day, Lent was the season when catechumens were prepared for baptism at Easter. I know of one family preparing to bring a child to baptism, so please hold them in your prayers.

In the northern hemisphere, Lent was indeed a lean time, with not much to eat until late spring or early summer. So, the poor had to fast, like it or like it not. For many of us, Lent does bring the idea of introducing an element of challenge or sacrifice into our lives.

God does not want us to be miserable and takes no pleasure in it if we are.

Remember Micah 6: 6-7

*With what shall I come before the Lord  
and bow down before the exalted God?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?  
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of  
rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil?  
Shall I offer my firstborn for my  
transgression, the fruit of my body  
for the sin of my soul?*

What does God want? He tells us:

*To act justly and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly with your God. (v8b)*

Simple but not easy. The challenge for you and me this Lent is not to engage in some kind of spiritual heroics. It is to remember that we belong to God, and that as we recognise that our fellow humans also belong to God, we are to love

them, be kind to them and to walk humbly with God. So God is not just for Sundays. As we enjoy God's presence in the Eucharist, we live it out in our lives for the other six days of the week.

Some of us will be thinking about the big picture of God's love for us as we work through The God Story by Adam Cox and Alain Emerson. It is not too late to join us. If you haven't already done so, you could put the app Lectio 365 on your phone and add a morning and evening prayer. For the enthusiasts, there is also a midday prayer.

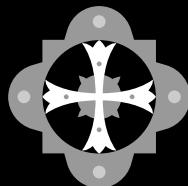
Whatever we do, let us do it joyfully as we prepare for Holy Week in April.

Looking beyond Easter, Mark Walton is bringing his Café Latté Orchestra to town. They will run a week of workshops to prepare for a concert at St Mary's on Friday, 10 April.

And, like me, you will be delighted to hear that former parishioner and much-loved pianist Paul Johnson will be marrying his Teresa on 18 April. I will have the honour of officiating. We hold them in our prayers.

The year has begun, God's spirit is afoot, have a happy and holy Lent.

**Rev Hugh McCafferty**  
VICAR, PARISH OF GERALDINE



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# rosters

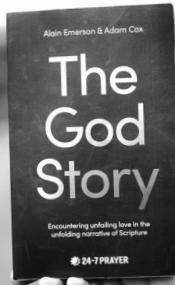
the big list of who does what, where and when

**EVERY SUNDAY**

**St Mary's Church, Geraldine | 10.30AM**

DATE	CLERGY	LAY LEADER	EUCARISTIC MINISTER	FIRST READING	SECOND READING	PRAYERS	FLOWERS	WELCOME	MUSIC
CANDLEMAS 1 FEBRUARY W	Vicar Hugh	Fi	Jan	Susanne	Peter R	Susanne	Deanne	Susanne	Anya
8 FEBRUARY G	Vicar Hugh	Paul	Chris	Ann	Alison	Joy	Denise	Joy	Fi's Band
15 FEBRUARY G	Vicar Hugh	n/a	Rod	Pip	Rod	Vicar Hugh	Denise	Robert	Fi's Band
LENT 1 22 FEBRUARY V	Vicar Hugh	Jan	Chris	Noeline	Robert	Rev Bob	NO FLOWERS	Noeline	Fi's Band
LENT 2 1 MARCH V	Vicar Hugh	Barbara	Ann	Belinda	Alma	Jan	NO FLOWERS	Janet S	Anya
LENT 3 8 MARCH V	Vicar Hugh	Ann	Jan	Peter R	Janet S	Vicar Hugh	NO FLOWERS	Robert	Fi's Band
LAETARE SUNDAY 15 MARCH V	Vicar Hugh	n/a	Ann	Susanne	Ann	Susanne	Robert	Susanne	Fi's Band
PASSION SUNDAY 22 MARCH V	Vicar Hugh	Barbara	Pip	Rod	Pip	Rev Bob	NO FLOWERS	Noeline	Fi's Band
PALM SUNDAY 29 MARCH R	Vicar Hugh	Fi	Jan	Noeline	Alma	Vicar Hugh	NO FLOWERS	Robert	Anya

CONTACT | Fi on 027 899 0703 or [fi@hislopstreet.co.nz](mailto:fi@hislopstreet.co.nz)



## The God Story

12-WEEK STUDY SERIES

**"Encountering unfailing love in the unfolding narrative of scripture"**

Based on the book by Alain Emerson and Adam Cox, over 12 weeks we will get the big picture of what the Bible is about, from Genesis through to Revelation.

*Recommended but not essential, The God Story (including audiobook) is available online.*

**Wednesdays from 4 February**

**10am in the Upper Room @ St Mary's  
or 7pm @ 24 Hislop Street**

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## 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

## St Thomas' Church, Woodbury | 9AM

DATE	CLERGY	LAY LEADER	FIRST READING	SECOND READING	PRAYERS	MUSIC
CANDLEMAS 1 FEBRUARY W	Vicar Hugh	Fi	-	-	Vicar Hugh	Val
LENT 2 1 MARCH V	Vicar Hugh	Fi	-	-	Vicar Hugh	Val

CONTACT | Mary on 03 692 2815

## 2ND &amp; 4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

## St Stephen's Church, Peel Forest | 9AM

DATE	CLERGY	LAY LEADER	FIRST READING	SECOND READING	PRAYERS	MUSIC
8 FEBRUARY G	Vicar Hugh	Victoria	Jan T	Jan T	Judith	Val
22 FEBRUARY G	-	Victoria	Sandy	Sandy	Richard	Val
LENT 3 8 MARCH V	Vicar Hugh	Victoria	Morag	Morag	Judith	Val
PASSION SUNDAY 22 MARCH V	-	Victoria	Cecil	Cecil	Mcgregor	Val

CONTACT | Victoria on 03 693 6085 or 027 304 8577

## 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

## St Anne's Church, Pleasant Valley | 9AM

DATE	CLERGY	LAY LEADER	FIRST READING	SECOND READING	PRAYERS	WELCOME	MUSIC
15 FEBRUARY G	Rev Bob	Paul	John	Sylvia	Joy	Paul	Anne
LAETARE SUNDAY 15 MARCH V	Rev Bob	Ann	Adrienne	Helen	Jan	Peter	Anne

CONTACT | Joy on 03 693 8176 or 027 424 7332

## readings

## 1 February | Candlemas

Malachi 3:1-4

Hebrews 2:14-18

Luke 2:22-40

## 8 February | Ordinary 5

Isaiah 58:1-9 (9b-12)

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)

Matthew 5:13-20

## 15 February | Ordinary 6

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Matthew 5:21-37

## 22 February | Lent 1

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:7-11

## 1 March | Lent 2

Genesis 12:1-4

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17

## 8 March | Lent 3

Exodus 17:1-7

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

## 15 March | Laetare Sunday

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

## 22 March | Passion Sunday

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

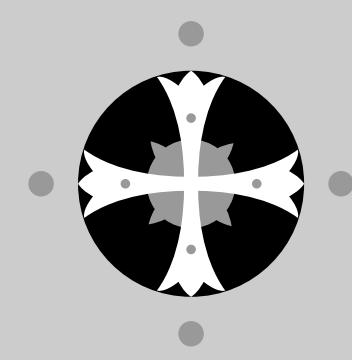
## 29 March | Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11

Isaiah 50:4-9

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 27:11-54



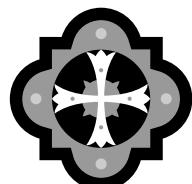


#### PRAYER OF RENEWAL

*God of Mission who alone  
brings growth to your Church,  
send your Holy Spirit to give  
vision to our planning,  
wisdom to our actions, joy to our worship  
and power to our witness.*

*Help our church to grow in numbers,  
in spiritual commitment to you,  
and in service to our local community,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

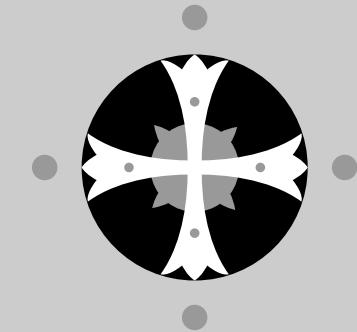
*Amen.*



**Anglican Parish**  
GERALDINE

77 TALBOT STREET, GERALDINE | 03 693 9691

SIDE BAR IMAGE: "Holy Spirit coming" by Chinese artist and theologian He Qi | [www.heqiart.com](http://www.heqiart.com)



#### CONTACTS

##### VICAR

**Rev Hugh McCafferty** | 027 920 8751  
[hugh@anglicansingeraldine.co.nz](mailto:hugh@anglicansingeraldine.co.nz)

##### BISHOP'S WARDEN

**Paul Sagar** | 03 693 8176  
[paul.joy.nz@gmail.com](mailto:paul.joy.nz@gmail.com)

##### PEOPLE'S WARDEN

**Jan Hill** | 03 693 7573  
[janhazelhill@gmail.com](mailto:janhazelhill@gmail.com)

##### HEALTH & SAFETY

**Barbara Cassidy** | 027 262 4233  
[cassidyob@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cassidyob@xtra.co.nz)

#### OFFICE HOURS

##### TUESDAY-FRIDAY

**Rev Hugh** | by appointment

##### FRIDAY

**9am-12pm** | **Audrey Butts**

##### OFFICE PHONE

**03 693 8380**

##### OFFICE EMAIL

[admin@anglicansingeraldine.co.nz](mailto:admin@anglicansingeraldine.co.nz)