St Andrew's
ANGLICAN CHURCH
Cambridge · New Zealand

COME AND SEE

HAERE MAI KIA KITE – VENEZ VOIR

November/December 2026

THE BRIDGE



Pet Sunday – new Church sign – Organ Historical Trust of Australia visit – Craft Fair
September & October, St Andrew's Church

standrewscambridge.org.nz

"Come and see" - **John 1:39**

Volume 33 Issue 6 **Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki** **Summer 2026**

PARISH CALENDAR

Nov		
Mon 2	10am	Selwyn Centre
	7pm	Venité Choir
Wed 4	10am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	Bible Study
	1pm	Care Group
Mon 9	10am	Selwyn Centre
	7pm	Venité Choir
Wed 11	10am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	Bible Study
Sat 14	8am-3pm	Working Bee, Grounds
Mon 16	10am	Selwyn Centre
Wed 18	10am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	Bible Study
	7.30pm	Evening Women's Fellowship
Mon 23	10am	Selwyn Centre
	7pm	Venité Choir
Tues 24	7pm	Vestry Meeting
Wed 25	10am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	Bible Study
	1.30pm	Afternoon Women's Fellowship
Sun 29	10-5pm	St Andrew's Day celebrations
Mon 30	10am	Selwyn Centre
	7pm	Venité Choir
Dec		
Wed 2	10am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	Bible Study
	1pm	Care Group
Mon 7	10am	Selwyn Centre
	7pm	Venité Choir
Wed 9	10am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	Bible Study
Mon 14	10am	Selwyn Centre - last for 2026
	7pm	Venité Choir
Wed 16	10am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	Bible Study
Sun 20	7pm	Nine Lessons in Carols
Tues 22	7pm	Vestry meeting
Wed 23	10am	Holy Communion
	1.30pm	Afternoon Women's Fellowship
Thur 24	4.30pm	Children's service & play

Summer School Holidays: starts no later than Saturday 19 December and runs for 5 or 6 weeks.

St Andrew's Church Survey 2026

We are preparing for a new future together, aspiring to be more connected and relevant inside and outside the church. However, to do this, we need your help. Thank you to everyone who has already completed the survey online or in paper format - we are still open to responses and would so appreciate hearing what God is saying to you. Please contact the Office to find out more.

Christmas Dates

Sunday 20 December, 7pm - Nine Lessons & Carols
Thursday 24 December, 4:30pm - Children's service
Friday 25 December, 8am & 10am services

For more updates, please see the pew sheet notices or visit our website.

Armistice concert – Cambridge Brass Band in the Church: Sunday 8 November, 1-3pm.

Church Working Bee – Saturday 14 November from 8am-3pm. Any time you are able to offer would be so appreciated.

Evensong service - Sunday 29 November, 4pm.

YOUTH Programmes

Saint Andrew's Youth - SAY



For more info, please talk to Rev Stephen or see our page: *standrewscambridge.org.nz/youth*

Daniel Bible Study

The group are continuing to look at the Book of Daniel on Wednesdays in the Centre. If you'd like to join in, study commences at 11am (with optional 10.45am hot drink beforehand). Resources can be found on the website, under 'Study' in the 'Worship' tab.

***The Bridge* contributions deadline for Jan/Feb 2026 is Thursday 10 December.**
Please email: office@standrewscambridge.org.nz

FROM THE VICAR



November reflection from Reverend Stephen Black

If you are wondering where to begin, then gratitude is always a good place to start; and gratitude is a word that started an awfully long time ago.

From about 4500 BCE we believe people spoke a language now described as Proto-Indo-European (PIE). That's the language from which Germanic, Romance, Indo-Iranian, Balto-Slavic, Celtic and Hellenic tongues have arisen. The wheel literally helped move the language from somewhere around southern Russia and Ukraine to influence cultures across a vast geography.

Philologists are able to connect and trace words across cultures and then through time. Consider "mother." In Sanskrit - mātṛ, Latin - māter, Greek - mētēr, Old Irish - máthair. We know it's not an accident.

'Gratitude' has a similar story. Linguists propose it derives from the word gwere which means to "favour" or to "praise." So, at the heart of thankfulness are these beautiful concepts that work in both directions: giver and receiver can both experience favour and praise.

After nine months in the role of Vicar, I am experiencing gratitude. I am grateful for the trust and support that this community has invested in me. I am grateful for the extraordinary work you have done to help us grow. I am grateful for the future that we are constructing together.

When we gather on Sundays and Wednesdays we celebrate the Great Thanksgiving (or Eucharist). This exercise in gratitude gathers us as one people breaking bread together. It focuses on the good that God has done for us and the good we can do together. When we focus on goodness – "whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable … excellent or praiseworthy" (Phil 4.8) – we find God.

So may we find God together and be grateful for the Good that rises up.

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday 29 November - *Diocesan Centenary celebration and Saint Andrew's Day*.
10am Combined Service, with a 12pm Parish Lunch in the Hall.
Please bring a plate of finger food to share. Important to note: there will be no 8am service that day.

St Andrew's Craft Fair, Labour Day 2026

More photos on page 5.







The 30th annual event was another great success, thanks to Ian Dunn and his team of good workers. There was a hive of activity, with the wonderful cafe in the Hall Lounge and a wide variety of creative stall holders throughout the Grounds. Prayers were answered for nice weather and a fun community outreach which brought decent-sized audiences in to see our special Church building and hear the Cambridge Brass Band too. Much joy and smiles were seen, families of all generations, bells were ringing, and a buzz of excitement was in the air. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported!

Vestry News

- The interest in Baptisms is increasing, and preparation classes are being run during this school term.
- New roses were planted by our bell ringers into the French garden and are already putting on a good show!
- Our box hedges have mostly recovered from their yellowing, after fertilising and being sprayed for fungus.
- The Lychgate is undergoing some maintenance work, mostly dealing with the rotting in the wood.
- A brand new roadside sign for the Church was installed in September (see photo on front cover). We are so thankful to those who were involved in the construction of it.
- Many exciting projects are in talks and coming together here, so keep an eye out for updates…

Synod Report 2026

The second session of the 43rd Synod of the Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki was held on the 16th and 17th October 2026 at Waikato Diocesan School.

The Synod opened with a service of Evening prayer within which the Bishop's Charge was given. This year had a special focus as the Diocese celebrates 100 years since its inception as a separate Diocese from Auckland and Wellington.

There were two Bills before the Synod. Bill No 1 was looking at the provision for representation of the Anglican Schools in Synod. This allows for two representatives from each of the five Anglican Schools of our Diocese, one of whom must be a learner enrolled at the school. It provides a voice from the 3700+ young people in our schools. Also included in that Bill was the establishment of the office of Vice Chancellor to the Diocese as a deputy Chancellor. The Chancellor is the legal representation on Synod, a position currently held by Judge Christopher Harding.

Bill No 2 was the Archdeaconry Statute Amendment Bill 2026 and addressed the itemised list of Archdeacons' duties. The bill passed the removal of these prescriptive duties and allows for flexibility of guidelines that can be approved by Standing Committee.

In addition to the Bills, a number of Motions were presented. Most of these are annual motions, covering reports from various entities within the Diocese and Financial reports and the Budget for 2027. Financially the Diocese seems to be managing the finances well, helped by grants from St John's College, Auckland and the Assessments levied on all parishes.

Motion 10 was the most significant of the Motions presented, called the Model of Episcopal Succession. As Bishop Philip has indicated his intention to retire in the not too distant future, Standing Committee has been considering what might be the best way forward for our Diocese. After much discussion, the Synod has voted for a Coadjutor Bishop model. A Coadjutor Bishop is a bishop who works alongside the Diocesan Bishop with an automatic right to succeed as Diocesan Bishop once that office becomes vacant. Once the Coadjutor Bishop is elected, Bishop Philip will have to retire within 24 months. He has indicated that he intends finishing before that time has elapsed. Standing Committee has expressed a hope that the Electoral College for choosing a Coadjutor Bishop will be held in the first half of 2027.

The Synod concluded with a Centenary Eucharist Service held at Southwell School followed by a Centennial Dinner.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Juliet and her team of volunteers continue to do wonderful work with the young ones on Sunday mornings. A message from Juliet:

The theme for Term 4 is 'Journeying to Jesus', leading us to Advent at the end of November. Starting at the very beginning with God's wonderful creation, we are learning of the rescue plan God sets before us. We hear the Old Testament stories with their pointers to Jesus. Our journey leads us to the one who comes to rescue us, the Christmas present opening to reveal Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us. He is born in a stable and laid in a manger. A reminder too of our Christmas Eve Children's Service on Dec 24th at 4.30pm.

Selwyn Centre - Happenings in September and October

There is lots of chatter and friendships strengthened at the Parish Centre on Monday morning at the Parish Centre while the Selwyn Centre guests meet.





Photos: Birthday celebrations

One day we talked about superstitions and as one guest said, "I never knew I was so superstitious!" We unknowingly do (or avoid) lots of behaviours to ward away bad luck. Interestingly in some parts of the world a black cat crossing your path is considered bad luck but in others parts of the world black cats are a symbol of good luck. This superstition dates back to Egyptian times.

We also talked about gratitude and what we need to be thankful for. One delightful guest wrote that she had gratitude for over 60 years of marriage. We started of the session with a gratitude prayer of:
Thank you God, for the roof over my head, a bed to sleep in, the food on my table, and the shoes on my feet, forgive me if I ever start to complain and forget my great blessings.

We had a most delightful session on classical music and how special it is even though we may be unaware of the impact it has on our life through film theme tunes, opera, etc. We thoroughly enjoyed finishing off that session with listening to the finale of the British Proms.

Yvonne Johnston - Selwyn Centre Co-ordinator

Men's Fellowship - 15th October 2026

We had a great turn out for an evening with Professor Mark Mullins.
Mark spent most of his childhood growing up in Japan, where his parents were based as Presbyterian missionaries, returning to the USA for a time every five years.
At the age of 18, it was back to the States for university, then Canada for his PhD in Religion & Society.
Mark returned to Japan, was engaged as an academic for 27 years – his unique ability to fully connect with two different cultures, a blessing.
Mark took up his position at the University of Auckland in 2013 as Professor of Japanese studies, Arts, Education and Humanities. He has as many awards as he has published books (there are many).
Thank you, Mark, for sharing your unique journey with us.

Rob Laing - Fellowship group

Organ Historical Trust of Australia visit - September 2026

Article and photos from Michael Cox





On Tuesday 29th September delegates, of the Organ Historical Trust of Australia visited St. Andrew's. While this was the third conference in New Zealand, the trust had never visited St. Andrew's prior to this. Michael Cox, as Chairman of the New Zealand planning committee, organised the visit, stressing the significance of the church's architecture, the glorious stained glass and to hear a pipe organ somewhat diverse from a strict historic instrument. But first, Suzanne and her team welcomed everyone with a sumptuous morning tea in the lounge. Our visitors then joined parishioners in the church and listened to Merv Hunt as he explained the background to our exquisite stained glass windows. Dr Philip Gearing played three works on the organ and accompanied some lusty hymn singing. OHTA Chairman Steve Kaesler presented Walter Nicholls with a copy of the conference booklet - a detailed publication providing history of all the venues and organs visited that week. Several delegates availed themselves of the opportunity to play the organ. OHTA delegates were most appreciative of this visit and it served the purpose of building community with like-minded people. Thank you to all involved.

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Women's Fellowship

Afternoon Group

Next meeting: 1:30pm
Wednesday 25 Nov
Parish Centre
Leader:
Glynis Gasnier

Evening Group

Next meeting: 7:30pm
Wednesday 18 Nov
Parish Centre
Leader:
Susan Pini

Men's Fellowship

Next meeting: 6pm
TBC
Parish Centre
Leaders:
Rob Laing & Peter Spiller



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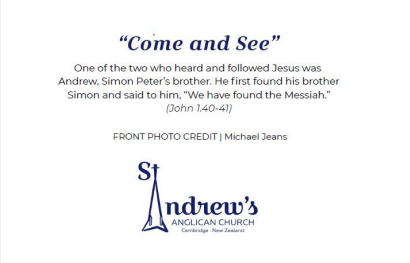
St Andrew's Craft Fair - photos by Michael Jeans



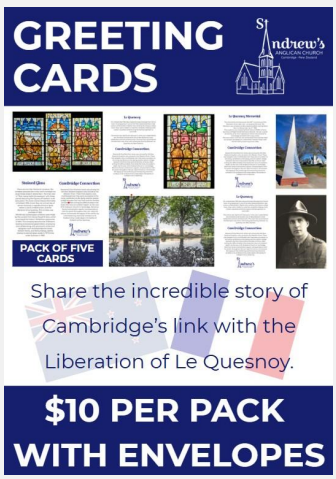
St Andrew's Church CARDS

Unveiled at the recent Labour Day market, we are now offering St Andrew's Church cards (with the famous Michael Jean's photo) for $2 each, as well as our *Cambridge-Le Quesnoy* card packs (with five unique cards) for $10.
A fundraising initiative for St Andrew's, we hope that locals and tourists alike will enjoy having a little 'take away' souvenir of our Church and town.
Please visit the Office if you would like to purchase the cards.











November/December Missions

The Missions Box recipient for November and December will be Messy Church and the community Christmas Cheer project.

CHRISTMAS CHEER

Letter from the CAMBRIDGE COMMITTEE OF SOCIAL SERVICES:

Each year our Cambridge Social Services organises Christmas Cheer for Cambridge families in need. As in 2025, our committee will again be giving families, all of whom are currently working with a local social agency for support, the opportunity to choose presents for their children. It has been an extraordinarily difficult time for many families due to the current economic climate and we know that Christmas Cheer recipients will be grateful for the support. In the weeks leading up to Christmas, the local Salvation Army will be transformed into a 'Christmas Grotto'. The parents in the nominated families will be invited to come at a prearranged time to select gifts for their children. Closer to Christmas they will also receive a food hamper for a Christmas meal and a supermarket voucher.

How can we be involved here at St Andrew's Church?
Please leave items in the 'Christmas Cheer' hampers - in the Parish Centre during office hours or the Church on Sunday mornings. The greatest need is a selection of brand new gifts to refill the toy area but donations of food and money is also very welcome. Donations will be required by Thursday 10 December. CCOSS are grateful to the number of people who donate gifts and money to help families, particularly at this time of the year. They count it a privilege to be a part of the generosity which people in our community show for one another. Thank you for considering giving your support to this!



Summer Bible Verse

"Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near…"
Matthew 24:32

Hmm, what to do about the pigeons…?
Apparently they love spikes.



COONEY&
NORRIS WARD MCKINNON

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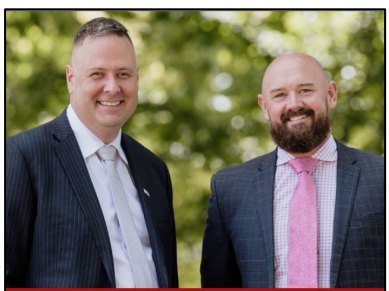
Selwyn Centre

For 65+ age group
$4 per session
Mondays in the Centre:
10am - 12 noon
(except for public holidays and a short recess over the Christmas - New Year period)

Enjoy companionship whilst exercising, participating in activities, and over a cup of tea! Come and join us and bring a friend!
For further information, please phone the office:
078276751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ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
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St Andrew's ANGLICAN CHURCH Cambridge · New Zealand





WEEKLY SERVICES

Sundays 8am and 10am - Holy Communion
Wednesdays 10am - Holy Communion

REST HOME SERVICES

2nd Monday of the month - 2:30pm at Resthaven on Burns
3rd Monday of the month - 2:30pm at St Kilda
4th Monday of the month - 2pm at Oakdale

FROM THE PARISH

Weddings

We congratulate the following couples who were married here in October:
Ella Watson & Scott Voorend
Zion Bell & Luke Franzoi

Baptisms

We welcome into the family of the Church:
Reily Andrews

Funerals/Memorial services

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of those who have died.

Marian Twentyman
Ben Hankinson
Noelene How
Bridget Cameron
Brian Dunstan
Joshua Arnold

DONATIONS

St Andrew's Church is grateful to all those who support our ministry, operations, and maintenance for our Heritage NZ Category 1 buildings and organ.
If you would like to make a donation, please visit the Office or use online banking with our account details:
Saint Andrews Church 02 0300 0025058 00

Alternatively, please scan the QR code:

Thank you.

www.standrewscambridge.org.nz