

Monday 20 Jan *Marge and Robin's day off
Emily Returns to Work*

Tuesday 21 Jan 3pm Wardens Meeting with Marge

Wednesday 22 Jan 10am Dixon House Extended Holy Communion (Barry)

Thursday 23 Jan

Friday 17 Jan *Emily's half day off*

Saturday 19 Jan *Emily's day off*

Services Next Sunday 26 January 2025

GREYMOUTH:

8am Traditional Holy Communion
 10am Family service with Communion & Music
 2pm Afternoon Worship


KUMARA: NO Service or Making Space

Prayer Requests to: Joanna Lorimer - 027 380 2989

FLOWERS

 Helen & Raewyn

CHURCH CLEANING
 Deb Eatwell
 Hilda van Wyk


CHURCH MOWING
 Trevor Morrison


Last Weekend: Attendance: 75 Offertory \$3,718 (Budget weekly total needed: \$3,700)
 Holy Trinity Church account # 03-0846-0012777-00



**Anglican Parish
 of Greymouth & Kumara
 19 January 2025
*Growing Disciples of Jesus
 Blessed to be a Blessing***

Theme: Wedding Miracle
Sentence: Mary then said to the servants, “Do whatever Jesus tells you to do.”
Readings: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (p 1487); John 2:1-11 (p 1364)
Prayer for the Day: Lord God, thank you for showing us the dramatic difference between faith before Jesus and what the new covenant is. Thank you that forgiveness for us through Jesus is permanent. Our guilt is truly gone. Help us now to follow you in full obedience to you as our Lord and Saviour. Amen
Preacher: Robin Kingston
 Theme for next weekend: Freedom
 Readings next weekend: 2 Corinthians 3:17-18; Luke 4:14-21
 Preacher next weekend: Emily Holmes

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- 9am—12noon, 22 Feb 2025—
Relational Evangelism Seminar

This will be an opportunity to hear a brilliant and practical speaker on the topic of sharing our faith in practical non-pushy ways with friends.

Our guest speaker will be Julie-anne Laird. **Our parish will be joining with Cobden-Runanga at Church of the Resurrection at 40 Richmond Street.**

Julie-anne’s topics will be—

- How people become Christians-14 Things I’ve Learnt
- 6 Sorts of Friends

Please make every effort to be there.

Please note that Julie-anne also will be our preacher on Feb 16th via a

video link. The sermon will springboard nicely into the Saturday Seminar on Feb 22nd.

TRIAL EVACUATION

Sometime between now and the end of January we will have a required fire drill at one of our Sunday services. Those serving as sidespersons, worship leaders, and clergy are advised to pick-up an instruction sheet on the long table in the foyer.

ROSTERS

We encourage those who are on church cleaning or church lawn mowing to pick up their rosters for 2025 from the table in the foyer. If the flower roster is not also there, Jeanette will soon be getting that to you.



Marge Writes

I have a growing excitement for the upcoming **Relational Evangelism Seminar**

with Julie-anne Laird on Saturday, 22nd Feb (see notice on front page). Growing in confidence and skill in sharing what Jesus means to us is one of the goals to come out of our Wayfinding Day in November.

Robin and I, along with Emily and Greg, heard Julie-anne's seminar at the diocesan Leadership Camp last July and really got a lot out of it.

Many of you, like me, may have experienced an inspiring talk but then never got around to putting the things learned into practice. This could easily happen in February if we don't have a way of embedding and practicing the principles we learn.

Thankfully, Julie-anne's team have developed a mechanism to assist this process. It is called **The Ripple Effect Course**. Vestry agreed we should offer

this course to the parish this year. Everyone in the parish is invited to join.

The course consists of 4 Modules of 8 sessions each. We will do 1 module per term. The first Module to begin the week of February 24th.

The Ripple Effect Course is designed to be done in small groups. As another of our 2025 goals is to increase our number of small groups, this course can facilitate this process as well.

By the end of next week you will each receive a letter either by email or post with more details about the course and its topics and how I envision it playing out logistically over this year. I will also be asking for some feedback regarding interest and what times would work for you.

On a completely different matter it is lovely to welcome Emily back to the work tomorrow after her annual leave.

With love and blessings,

Marge

P.S. It was a privilege for Robin and me to join with other church leaders from the West Coast to bless the people at the Musical Festival on Saturday afternoon.

HOW'S IT GOING?

Would we have reacted any differently?

The Passover Festival in Jerusalem had ended the day before. The next morning thousands upon thousands of pilgrims would have packed up and headed back to their homes travelling in large groups for safety against robbers, wild animals, and the elements.

Mary and Joseph had set off with their entourage assuming Jesus, now 12 years old and on the cusp of manhood, was somewhere in the group.

But he wasn't.

At the end of the first day's walk back towards Nazareth, Mary and Joseph discovered Jesus was not there and they panicked.

The next day they rush back to Jerusalem and looked and looked, but could not find him. Their worry increased.

Then, after three days, they discover Jesus in the Temple engaged in conversation with the teachers of the Scriptures.

Mary and Joseph rush to him in both relief and amazement. Mary says, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been very worried, and we've been searching for you!"

But Jesus is gobsmacked and with no hint of insolence replied, "**Why did you have to look for me? Didn't you know that I would be in my Father's**

house/doing my Father's work?"

Jesus assumed Mary and Joseph understood who he was and that it was the most natural thing in the world for him to be in his Father's house. But they did not understand.

Jesus is both 100% human and 100% God. Now that is hard for us to get our heads around. It would have been the same for Mary and Joseph.

Jesus at 12 was growing in his intimacy with his heavenly Father and as such growing in his understanding of who he is and what he is to be doing.

After this incident, Jesus returns to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph and continues to mature. He is obedient to his earthly parents and waits for the right time to start his public ministry.

So what is the message for us?

When we put our faith in Jesus Christ, we are adopted into God's family and God becomes our Father. Just like with Jesus, God desires us to join him in his work in the world.

One of the goals for this year that came out of our Wayfinding Day last November was to discover what God is up to in our community and join with him in it. Robyn White will be leading our journey of discovery over the next few months. Please pray that we will see where God is working and that our parish will wholeheartedly join in.

So, how's it going?

WORD FOR TODAY

Copies of the latest Word For Today devotional booklet is now available on the table in the foyer. A gold coin donation in the offering basket would be appreciated.

THANK YOU

A number of people have been helping with summer projects around the church. Our thanks to Tracey and Bev

for assisting with taking down and storing Christmas decorations. Thanks also to Drummond, Bev, and Gideon for helping Robin with the prepping and painting of the veranda and steps.

NEURO KNOW HOW

Sat, 25 Jan 10am—4pm at Westland Recreational Centre. An opportunity to learn more about neurodivergence. Workshops, Activities for all ages, and a neuro market place.

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