ANGLICAN PARISH OF HALSWELL PREBBLETON

Sunday 8 November 2026, 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

'Living God's Word, Gathering Community.'

All Saints: 9.00am (NZPB404) & St Marys:10.30am: Rev John Shoaf
Grace@10.30am: Rev Andrew Hoggan
Service Leaders: Liz Stewart (All Saints)



READINGS

11 Thessalonians 4:13-18: The comfort of Christ's coming.
Matthew 25:1-13: The parable of the wise and foolish virgins.

READINGS: GRACE@10.30

John 1: 14 - 18,
Colossians 2: 6 - 19

SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming." Matthew 25:13

COLLECT

Father, let us not serve you grudgingly like slaves, but with the gladness of children who delight in you and rejoice in their work; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen

PRAYER FOR A NEW BEGINNING

Lord, it's the start of another week and I have barely caught up from last week. Sometimes its like the days and weeks all blur together and I feel overwhelmed and overloaded. I ask for a good beginning to this week, and for you to be with me as I make a fresh start. Lord I ask for your safety and guidance and for deep rest each night. Let today be a new beginning of a really good week! In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen

All are welcome to share in Communion with us today, and everyone is invited to share a time of fellowship and morning tea after the service.





Following the service at St Mary's, a small prayer team is available at the front of the church for individual prayer.Whether you are facing a challenge, giving thanks, seeking encouragement, or need prayer for family or friends, you are warmly invited to stay and pray with someone confidentially.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sun 8 Nov	5.00pm	Riding on Faith, Prebbleton
Tues 10 Nov	9.30am	Walking Group, Prebbleton
Wed 11 Nov	10.00am	Communion Service, St Marys
Wed 11 Nov	11.00am	Bible Study, St Marys
Wed 11 Nov	3.00pm	Banbury Park Service
Wed 11 Nov	7.00pm	Growth Group, Prebbleton
Thurs 12 Nov	7.00pm	Growth Group, Halswell
Fri 12 Nov		Office CLOSED, Show Day
Fri 12 Nov		NO Lil Boppers, show Day
Fri 12 Nov	1.30pm	Ashford Village Service
Fri 12 Nov		NO DOMINOS, Show Day
Sun 22 Nov	5.00pm	Final AMPED for the year, St Marys
Sun 29 Nov	4.00pm	Journey to Christmas, St Marys

REFLECTION

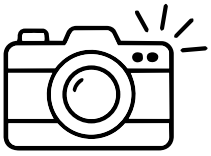
The story of how [the foolish virgins] missed [the wedding] is perfectly true to life. Dr J. Alexander Findlay, Principal of Didsbury Methodist College, Manchester, tells of what he himself saw in Palestine. 'When we were approaching the gates of a Galilaean town,' he writes, 'I caught a sight of ten maidens gaily clad and playing some kind of musical instrument, as they danced along the road in front of our car; when I asked what they were doing, the dragoman [interpreter] told me that they were going to keep the bride company till her bridegroom arrived. I asked him if there was any chance of seeing the wedding, but he shook his head, saying in effect: "It might be tonight, or tomorrow night, or in a fortnight's time, nobody ever knows for certain." Then he went on to explain that one of the great things to do, if you could, at a middle-class wedding in Palestine was to catch the bridal party napping. So the bridegroom comes unexpectedly, and sometimes in the middle of the night; it is true that he is required by public opinion to send a man along the street to shout: "Behold! the bridegroom is coming!" but that may happen at any time; so the bridal party have to be ready to go out into the street at any time to meet him, whenever he chooses to come ... Other important points are that no one is allowed on the streets after dark without a lighted lamp, and also that, when the bridegroom has once arrived, and the door has been shut, late-comers to the ceremony are not admitted.' There, the whole drama of Jesus' parable is re-enacted in the twentieth century. Here is no made-up story but a slice of life from a village in Palestine. — William Barclay

Banbury Park Service: Rev John is asking for a volunteer to assist with the service he leads at Banbury Park Retirement Village. 20-30 people attend this service, which is held at 3 pm, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays. Please let him or the office know if you can help.

Family Event at St Marys, Sunday 29 November at 4pm



We are starting to gather resources and people to help run this community event. If you can offer time or resources, please let Marco or Jenny know. The event will include games, crafts, tea and coffee, and a free sausage sizzle. Please sign up to help or donate - everyone can help in some way, big or small. Thank you to those who have already signed up!



Parish Photos

We are currently updating our Parish website and as part of this activity we need some updated and 'active' photos so that the site shares our activities and is people friendly. You will see Anna Rutherford snapping a range of photos in the next couple of weeks. Once the photos are selected you will be contacted for permission before a photo of you is published online.

International Year of Volunteer

This month we recognise and thank all the volunteers who help out with children and youth ministry in our parish. Both now and in the past, there have been many people who have played a part in nurturing the children and young people in our parish. Thank you for your time and energy given so willingly to provide activities for our young people each week.



FOUND - a 3 x 3 gazebo is still at the hall from the fair, there is no name on this so please let the office know if it belongs to you.

Prebbleton Growth Group Meets at 7.00pm second and fourth **Wednesday**. Hosted by Veve at 8 Skye Lane Prebbleton. All Welcome.	**Halswell Growth Group** Meets at 7.00pm second and fourth **Thursday**. Hosted by Anna and Chris: 18 Augustine Drive, Aidanfield. All Welcome

Next Sunday, 15 November 2026, 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
All Saints: 9.00am, (NZPB 404), St Marys: 10.30am: Rev John Shoaf
Grace@ 10.30: Rev Andrew Hoggan

Readings: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1 - 11, Matthew 25: 14 - 30
Readings: Grace@10.30: Romans 6: 1 - 6, Colossians 2: 20 - 3: 4

Roster for Sunday 15 November: 9am, All Saints and 10.30, St Mary's

	Leader	Reading	Communion	Welcome	Morning Tea
9.00am	M Foster	A Carpenter	L Stewart	G Carpenter	Coral/Veve
10.30am	O Wilson	S Street	O Wilson	P Street/	Sarah
	Data Proj:	Carlos		D Shepherd	

Church Donations

Your regular donations to the church can be made in cash, envelope or automatic payment. Please email the Parish recorder, Simon Scoulding, for a reference number or any queries. (simon.scoulding@gmail.com)
All donations qualify for a tax rebate and receipts are sent out at the end of the financial year.
Bank Account Name: **Anglican Parish of Halswell-Prebbleton**
Bank Account Number: **03-1584-0016851-02**

Contact Us

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Warden: Simon Scoulding: 022 658 9739
Prebbleton Warden:
Graham Carpenter: 02102856524

Children and Youth

Youth Minister:
Marco Bischler: 021 08 49 70 13
E: youth@halswellchurch.org
Kids Church
St Marys: Jenny Lowe: 027 462 0596
All Saints: Vacant - contact Rev Andrew
Dominos Youth
Marco Bischler: 021 08 49 70 13
Lucy Brooker: 022 650 4149

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Open: Wed, Thur, Fri: 9am - 1pm

Web Pages
www.halswellchurch.org
www.prebbletonchurch.org