
ANGLICAN PARISH OF HALSWELL PREBBLETON

Sunday 18 October 2026, 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time

'Living God's Word, Gathering Community.'

All Saints: 9.00am & St Marys: 10.30am (NZPB404): Rev John Shoaf

Grace@10.30am: Rev Andrew Hoggan

Service Leaders: Murray Foster (All Saints), Ormond Wilson (St Marys)



READINGS

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10: The Thessalonians' faith and example.
Matthew 22:15-22: The question about paying taxes.

READINGS - GRACE@ 10.30

Romans 10: 1 - 5, 11 - 14
Colossians 1: 15 - 22



SENTENCE

For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

1 Thessalonians 4:16

COLLECT

God of nations, help us to reflect and share the goodness that surrounds us. Help us to win justice for poor and rich alike, and bring trust and friendship to all our different races; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Loving God, as Paul praised the Thessalonians for their faith, may we also be found praiseworthy in our love and faith towards you, who are the author of life and from whom all blessings flow; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

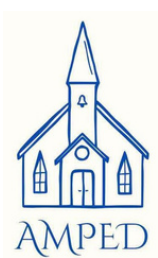
Sun 18 Oct		No AMPED tonight
Tues 20 Oct	9.30am	Walking Group, Prebbleton
Wed 21 oct	10.00am	Communion Service, St Marys
Wed 21 oct	7.30pm	Vestry Meeting
Thurs 22 Oct	7.00pm	Growth Group, Halswell
Fri 23 Oct	9.45am	Lil Boppers, St Mary's
Fri 23 oct	11.00am	St John of God Service
Fri 23 Oct	6.30pm	DOMINOS Youth, St Marys
Sat 24 Oct	7.30am	Mens Group

REFLECTION

There is much talk and concern about AI these days. And yes maybe we have opened something of a Pandora's box. I can't help but think of the OT story of the tower of Babel. Humanity, in its arrogance, thought it could work its way up to heaven, and make a name for itself, via modern technology. Bricks and bitumen were the carbon fibre of the day. "Let's build a tower with its height in the heavens" they so presumptuously declared. Something of the irony of the situation is shown in God's response. Let's go down to see what they are up to. The point I think. Our best efforts fall well short. The warning and solution is given. Let's confuse their speech, otherwise nothing that they propose will be impossible for them. Mmmmm, now it seems we are trying to make a mind, and a mind that surpasses us. A God if you like. Be careful what you wish for?

All this stems from AI. But not the AI you are probably thinking I'm referring to at this point. The AI I'm thinking of is Autonomous Independence. That's the real danger. Isn't that the AI which started our downward spiral. Thinking we could live independently from God. Thinking we were autonomous agents who could chart our own path and set our own destiny. How's that working out?

They say power corrupts, and that truth certainly points to nothing good. I say "power without principle" is even more dangerous. Principle in the truest sense of the word is a God-given thing and is tied to the nature and character of God. It goes a good way towards defining what it means to be truly human. Let's see where all this AI ends. I suspect without God in some way thwarting our aspirations, and our arrogance, it can not end well. Still God is sovereign, Blessings, Andrew



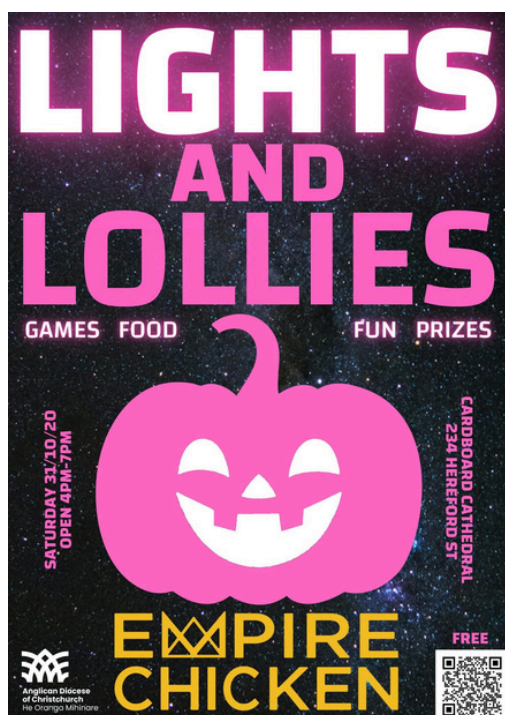
No AMPED this Sunday

Due to all the work happening on a busy Fair weekend, there is no AMPED worship this month. The next AMPED worship will be on **Sunday 22 November** (note the date change due to Show Weekend).



A big thank you to all who have contributed to the Parish Fair. So much work happens behind the scenes as well as on the day and it takes a huge effort to set up, sell, pack down and clear up afterwards. Watch out for the fair total next week.

In this the International Year Celebrating Volunteers, this week everyone take a bow, so many volunteer hours have gone into the fair, too many people to name so if you have have done any job for the fair, be it big or small, thank you for your service.



Sole Tap Studio. We are starting tap classes in the St Mary's Hall in Term 4. We are offering parish families a 10% discount for one term. Classes are designed to suit various ages and stages. Accessibility is huge so we've tried to make our classes as accessible as possible: we don't have a uniform, provide free trials, offer payment plans, and don't even require tap shoes to start. Classes will be on Monday afternoons, we even run some adult classes. Discount Code STMARYS10. For more information: www.soletapstudio.com

Loving God, we thank you for our community of faith and for the care, friendship and encouragement we share with one another. Please continue to bring strength and healing to all who are sick at this time, surrounding them with your love. Amen



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, 25 October 2026, 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
All Saints: 9.00am, (NZPB 456), St Mary's 10.30am: Rev John Shoaf
Grace @10.30: Rev Andrew Hoggan

Readings: 1 Thessalonians 2: 1 - 8, Matthew 22: 34 - 46

Readings: Grace@10.30: Galations 3: 5 - 13, Colossians 1: 24 - 2: 5

Roster for Sunday 25 October: 9am, All Saints and 10.30, St Mary's

	Leader	Reading	Communion	Welcome	Morning Tea
9.00am	R Garters	V Vandenberghe	L Stewart	L Stewart	Jean
10.30am	M Fryer	O Fryer	M Fryer	D Shepherd/	Nick/
	Data Proj:	L Brooker		L Gough	Dawn

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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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

Church Office: 329 Halswell Rd

Administrator: Jenny Lowe

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E: office@halswellchurch.org

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

Web Pages

www.halswellchurch.org

www.prebbletonchurch.org
