

ORDER OF SERVICE

24 DECEMBER 2023

Christmas Eve



**During the service we will gather an offering for the
Christian World Service Christmas Gift Appeal.**

WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S ON THE TERRACE

Wherever you are on your faith journey, wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to, whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe, you are welcome here.

We seek to be a community that is safe and welcoming for everyone regardless of sexual orientation, relationship status, gender identity or expression, sex characteristics, age, mental and physical abilities, mental health, neurotype, economic power, ethnicity, faith or belief.

We recognise that being inclusive is an ongoing journey and we are continuing to learn. We are committed to challenging discrimination within the church and wider society.

Please join in the congregational responses printed in ***bold italics***.

Please stand if you are able, for the hymns and the offering prayer.

We usually sing the hymns without announcement.

Please note your nearest fire exit. The church and hall have been earthquake strengthened.

In an earthquake: drop, cover and hold.

Tonight's service is led by Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

PRELUDE

Prelude on "O little town of Bethlehem"

by Gordon Phillips (1908 – 1991)

CALL TO WORSHIP

On such a night as this there was a birth;
we do not know the date, we do not know the season
but it was on a night like this.

***On such a night as this we gather
to remember this birth,***

and to consider what difference that birth makes
for all the births which have followed it,
including our own,

and for all those births which will follow in the future.

On such a night a baby, dislocated and relocated,

as we are often relocated and dislocated,

became one of us

to experience the glory of being human.

SILENCE

PROCESSIONAL CAROL

WOV 236 'Silent night, holy night'

Words: Joseph Mohr, Music: Franz Gruber

Tune: SILENT NIGHT

1. Silent night, holy night: all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child,
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace
2. Silent night, holy night: shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia';
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.
3. Silent night, holy night: wondrous star, lend your light;
with the angel's let us sing
Alleluia to our King;
Christ our Saviour is born, Christ our Saviour is born.

WELCOME

Merry Christmas and Peace to you

Meri Kirihimete e rangimarie.

E te whānau a Te Karaiti,

ngā mihi aroha ki a tātou katoa.

Kia ora tātou.

la manuia le Kirisimasi

A special welcome to those who are visiting us tonight.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

We have waited with hope,

for God to bring justice and righteousness.

We have waited with peace,

for God's shalom to be felt.

We have waited with joy,

celebrating the things God has already done.

We have waited with love,

awed by how God's love has been shown to us.

OPENING PRAYER

We come to this sacred place of worship to prepare to welcome in the Christ child of Christmas. Still us in your presence, clear our hearts and minds of all that distracts us that we may dedicate this special evening to the promise of hope, peace, joy and love. Amen.

CAROL

CH4 303 'It came upon the midnight clear'

Words: Edmund H. Sears; Music: (arr) Arthur Seymour Sullivan

Tune: NOEL

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
with news of joy foretold;
"Peace on the earth, good will to all
from heaven's all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.
2. Still through the cloven skies they come,
Love's banner all unfurled;
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains
old echoes plaintive ring,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.
3. For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever circling years,
shall the time foretold;
When peace shall o'er all the earth
its ancient splendours fling,
and the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.

AN ADVENT WREATH LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE (4 volunteers please)

This **first candle of hope** which we light
is to remember those whom we have loved and lost.

(First candle is lit)

We pause to remember their names, their faces, their voices,
the memory that binds them to us in this season
in the hope that they will continue to make a difference to our lives.

May God's caring love surround them and us.

This **second candle of peace** we light

is to mend the pain of loss;
the loss of relationships,
the loss of jobs, the loss of health, the loss of home.

(Second candle is lit.)

We pause to gather up the pain of the past and offer it to God, asking that we
receive the gift of peace.

***Refresh, restore, renew us we pray,
and lead us peacefully into the future.***

This **third candle of joy** we light is to remember ourselves this Christmas
time.

(Third candle is lit.)

We pause to remember past weeks and months and years:
the disbelief, the anger, the down times,
the poignancy of reminiscing,
hugs and handshakes of family and friends, all who stood with us.
We give thanks for the support we have known.

This **fourth candle of love** we light is to remember
the gift of love which the Christmas story offers us.

(Fourth candle is lit.)

We remember that Creativity God companions us,
sharing our life, being with us, Emmanuel.

Let us remember new possibilities now in the present.

Spirit of God, calm our hearts so we can hear your still, small voice
on such a night as this.

CAROL

'We three kings of Orient'

John H Hopkins Jr (1857)

Public domain

Note: we will sing the midsection as one verse, without the refrain

1. We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts, we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.
Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, voices raising, worshiping God on high.
Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

3. Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

PASSING THE PEACE

Our practice is to pass the peace with or without shaking hands, and say "peace be with you"

THE WORD IN TEXTS

Marilyn Wallace

Hebrew Bible

Isaiah 9: 6

Gospel

Luke 2: 1-7 The Birth

Luke 2: 8-14 The Angels

Luke 2: 15-20 The Shepherds

Contemporary Reading

"Tomorrow is Ours"

From Reading the Bible as Asian Women
1987 Christian Conference of Asia

We live without living
We die without dying
And yet...
We dare to dream
We dare to believe
We dare to hope
In a new day – tomorrow
For we know
That we are power.

RESPONSE

For the Word in scripture,
for the Word among us,
for the Word within us,
we give thanks.

HYMN

'Rejoice, Rejoice at Christmas Time'

Words: © 2011 William L Wallace World Library Publications

Tune: ELLACOMBE WOV 335

1. Rejoice, rejoice at Christmas time,
all flesh is sacred now.
Embrace the manger in your heart
beyond the why and how.
For God resides within that space
of love and cosmic awe,
the home of singing, dancing love
beyond life's mystic door.
2. Rejoice, rejoice at Christmas time,
all flesh has sacredness:
all matter bears the sign of God,
imparts God's holiness.
For God can never be confined
beyond our time and space.
God's hand is touching everything:
each life reflects God's face.
3. Rejoice, rejoice at Christmas time,
all flesh reflects God's grace.
The realm that atoms dance within
is nature's ballet space.
when we are one with baby's breath
and tender love's caress,
we find a Christmas manger in
our deepest mind's recess.
4. Rejoice, rejoice at Christmas time,
make space for starry eyes,
discern how Jesus looked at life
with wonder and surprise:
For deeper than our harshest pain,
beyond our muddled mind,
the gift of love in child-like form
is our most precious find.

REFLECTION

Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai

DUET

"Noel / O Holy Night"

by Adolphe Adam, 1803-1856 (French words by Placide Cappeau; sung in French, then English)
Pepe Becker and Kate Lineham (sopranos) accompanied by Dan Poynton

HYMN:

AA31 'E te Atua'

Tune: KUM BA YA arr. Nicola Jansen & Guy Jansen

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. E te Atua, aroha mai (x3)
<i>ake, ake tonu e</i>
<i>ake, ake tonu e.</i> | 1. O God, love us
forever and ever |
| 2. E te Atua, manaaki mai (x3)
<i>ake, ake tonu e</i>
<i>ake, ake tonu e.</i> | 2. O God, bless us
forever and ever |
| 3. E te Atua, awhina mai (x3)
<i>ake, ake tonu e</i>
<i>ake, ake tonu e.</i> | 3. O God, help us
forever and ever |

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lynne Dovey

JESUS' PRAYER

© Rev Sherri Weinberg

***God - heart of the world:
revealed through every aspect of creation:
understood through our awareness.
May we honour the holiness of creation and act accordingly
so that your love is reflected in the way we live.
May we always be thankful for the food we eat
and the friends we have.
May we forgive those who transgress against us
and be forgiven for our wrong doings.
In the freedom of love may we live as your heartbeat
and not be compromised by hesitation.
Through our freedom, may your justice
be seen and heard and experienced
forever and ever.
Amen***

OFFERING MUSIC

Interlude on the Coventry Carol

by W.S Lloyd Webber (1914 – 1982)

OFFERING HYMN

AA 127 'Take my gifts' verse 1

Words: © Shirley Murray Music: © Colin Gibson

Tune: TALAVERA TERRACE

1. Take my gifts and let me love you,
God who first of all loved me,
gave me light and food and shelter,
gave me life and set me free.
Now, because your love has touched me,
I have love to give away;
now the bread of love is rising,
loaves of love to multiply!

OFFERING FOR CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE



PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We pray for Christian World Service and the work they are doing around the world in the midst of crisis, natural disasters, war and famine. Bless these offerings that they may be used to support the CWS Appeal to Share Kai this Christmas and bless the many homes that this appeal will reach and beyond. Amen.

DUET

"I Sing of a Maiden"

by Patrick Hadley, 1899-1973 (words Trad. English)

Pepe Becker and Kate Lineham (sopranos) accompanied by Dan Poynton

COMMUNION

St Andrew's is an open community and all are invited to Christ's table. Wherever you are on your faith journey, wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to, whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe, you are welcome to share in the communion. This is God's meal for all people.

COMMUNION HYMN

AA100 'Now to your table spread'

Words: © Shirley Murray Music: © John Ireland Trust

Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN

1. Now to your table spread we come, each one, in faith
that you alone provide the words of life and death:
in wine and bread, in promised food
we find your loving heart, O God.
2. Hands of the world stretch out, your mystery to touch
in longing to believe a truth beyond our reach,
to sing in joy, to cry in grief,
to know your meaning in our life.
3. Here is our common wealth in sharing what is good,
as though all humankind around one table stood,
this bread to break, this wine to taste –
one people in the name of Christ.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Michael Morwood (adapted)

On this special night of nights once again we celebrate a
Creative Mystery we name God. A serendipitous creativity
beyond our words and beyond our images.

A creativity which undergirds our human existence in all its
complexity and all its diversity.

All our collected human wisdom is a visible
expression of this Creative Mystery,
active in all places, at all times, in individuals and cultures, seeking
expression in the creation of a just and peaceful world.

We rejoice in the birth of Jesus in whom we see the
fullness of human possibility: to make God visible in
our lives.

In Jesus we have seen this Mystery come to
expression in human form.
Like us he grew in wisdom.
Questioning.
Searching for meaning.

Shaping convictions. Enacting justice. Experiencing love and coming to know love's connectedness with God.

Jesus stood firmly in his own religious tradition and preached good news to all people dreaming of a better world.

We rejoice that Jesus led people to discover the sacred in the ordinary:

in the crowd, in the rejected ones, in everyday life, in human yearnings to be better people, and in being neighbour to one another.

And so we recall the ancient story.

At the end of a journey, among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and shared the bread with his friends, asking them to gather in memory of him, and to live in a covenant of love, with their God.

Let us share this bread and be strengthened, loving as Jesus loved and bringing peace and justice to the world.

We take this wine, mindful of our responsibility to be bearers of forgiveness, tolerance and understanding.

We drink committing ourselves to allow the Spirit of generosity that took flesh and moved so boldly in Jesus to move in our lives.

To this commitment we give our 'Amen' and offer it as our Christmas gift to our family, friends and neighbours and to all the earth.

God of life, with this bread and this wine, we celebrate the birth and life of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to follow his way.

***Bless us and these gifts, so that we may
take light and hope, love and peace, into
the world, now and forever. Amen.***

COMMUNION IS SHARED

*We share in:
the bread of life; the cup
of blessing; the light of
the world.*



MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above the deep and dreamless
sleep the silent stars go by: yet in
the dark streets shineth the
everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the
earth; Ye who sang creation's
story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

To the weary comes
refreshment,
To the grieving, strength and
peace; To the anxious, sweet
contentment, To the captive
soul, release.

Refrain *Come and worship
Christ, the newborn King
Come and worship ,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!*

The first nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel.*

Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn king,
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join
the triumph of the skies; with
the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

Mild he lays his glory by, born
that we no more may die, born
to live as one with earth, born
to give us second birth. Hail the
heaven-born prince of peace!
Hail the son of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.

Refrain *Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn king.*

THE CALL TO SERVICE (standing)

Go as far as your courage takes you,
for we cannot go beyond the reach of God.
Give as extravagantly as you may,
for we cannot spend all the riches of God.
Care as lavishly as you are able,
for we cannot exhaust the love of God.
Keep journeying and searching,
for God will always travel with us.

BLESSING

And now may the blessings of life be upon us.
May the memories we gather here give us hope for the future.
May the love that we share bring
strength and joy to our hearts, as we live
into the just reign of God, and the peace
of Christ be with us until we meet again.

PROCESSIONAL CAROL

WOV228 'O come all ye faithful'

Words & Melody: (poss) John Francis Wade

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him born the king of angels:
*O come let us adore him, o come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
'Glory to God, glory in the highest'
*O come let us adore him, o come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Yea, Lord we greet thee, born for our salvation,
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
*O come let us adore him, o come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

POSTLUDE

Toccata (from Symphony for Organ No. 5)

by C.M. Widor (1844 – 1937)

THANK YOU

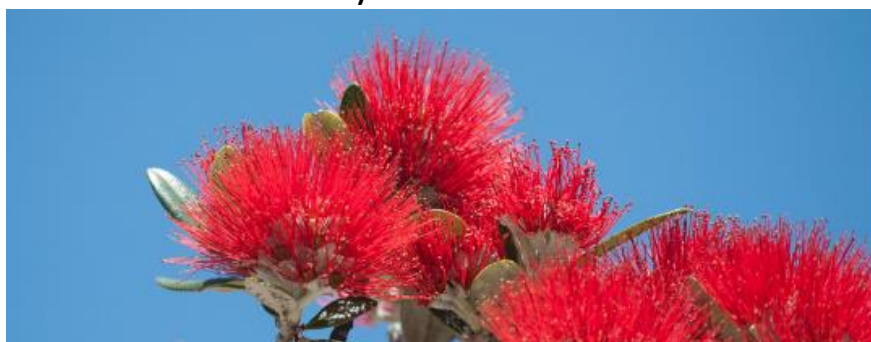
Peter Franklin, our organist this evening
Pepe Becker, Kate Lineham (sopranos), Dan Poynton (pianist)

Christmas Day Celebration Worship

St Andrew's on The Terrace

10.00 a.m. tomorrow

Everyone Welcome



ST ANDREW'S ON THE TERRACE WELCOMES ALL VISITORS

Please sign the visitors' book at the back of the church.

We hope you enjoyed worshipping with us. At St Andrew's we want you to feel at home—to join in with the activities of our community of faith, or to come and find your own spiritual place in your own time. If you would like more information about St Andrew's or to explore becoming a member or associate member, please fill in one of the welcome leaflets (at the back of the church) and hand it to a minister or a welcoming team member.

GENEROUS GIVING

St Andrew's depends on the generous giving of members and friends. If you would like to make a donation or support our work through planned giving, please contact our Parish Office or Treasurer. Bank account for donations is: St Andrews on The Terrace, BNZ Lambton Qy, 02-0534-0004022-02

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Words/music to new hymns and gathering statement, prayers and affirmation are original unless acknowledged.

ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY NOTICES

WHO OWNS THE HOLY LAND?

We still have available some copies of Lloyd Geering's 2001 book *Who owns the Holy Land?*, based on his lecture series delivered in that year and published by the St Andrew's Trust for the Study of Religion and Society. If you would like to obtain a copy, please contact the office, either in person or by e-mail (Office@standrews.org.nz). A contribution in the range of \$5-\$10 would be much appreciated.

SUPPORT FOR DCM (DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY MINISTRY)

We are grateful for the many services provided by the DCM since 1969 and one way we can offer our support is to FILL the food baskets at the back of the church each Sunday.

Suggested items: Tinned – soup, fish, baked beans, stews and fruit / pasta and curry sauces / Jam, honey Marmite/Vegemite and peanut butter / porridge, biscuits and muesli bars / instant coffee and tea bags / soap, toilet paper, toothpaste and toothbrushes **and some treats for this Christmas time.** (Please no fresh fruit/vegetables)

For other ways to support the work of the DCM visit <https://www.dcm.org.nz>.

WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

CWS CHRISTMAS APPEAL – “SHARE FOOD THIS CHRISTMAS”



Somawathie knows what is like to work very hard and watch as her crops are destroyed by hungry elephants or the lack of water or fertiliser. In Sri Lanka, she lives on a small plot of land and is learning new ways of growing enough food at low-cost. Like many small farmers, she can see the effects of the climate disaster. Thanks to our partner Monlar, she has changed her approach to gardening and no longer buys expensive seeds and fertiliser. But she has found her own ways to scare the elephants that walk over her land in search of food. The climate crisis is one more challenge that she faces. This Christmas we are asking you to support our appeal, Share Food this Christmas.

The CWS Christmas Appeal has been a tradition in New Zealand churches since 1945 when the first Christmas Bowl appeal was launched to raise funds for post-war reconstruction in Greece. Together we have supported millions of people through conflict and disaster. We have helped them improve their lives and livelihoods. Your donations have funded our local partners to strengthen communities in their efforts to end violence and promote human rights and peace. Thank you.

Donations can be made through CWS:

- **Online at cws.org.nz/donate**
- **By direct deposit** (Name of Account: Christian World Service, ANZ Account number: 06 0817 0318646 00 Email your postal details to cws@cws.org.nz if you would like a tax receipt)
- **By Phone with a credit card: 0800 74 73 72**
- **By Post to: CWS, PO Box 22652, Christchurch 8140**

Remember: all donations of \$5 or more are tax deductible.

CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE GAZA PALESTINE EMERGENCY APPEAL



Christian World Service has launched an **emergency appeal** to assist people who have been affected by the current conflict in the Middle East, particularly Gaza. Thousands of people have been killed, injured and displaced. Nearly two hundred people are being

held as hostages. Hospitals including the Al Ahli Arab Hospital, schools and homes have been damaged or destroyed. The need for a ceasefire and humanitarian relief is overwhelming.

“The people of Gaza are living in harrowing conditions with limited resources, and we cannot stand idly by while they suffer... Our collective efforts can make a significant difference in the lives of those trapped in this nightmarish situation,” DSPR.

Funds raised will meet some of the urgent needs of people through our long term partner the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR). In Gaza, DSPR is providing shelter, food and support to people who have fled the north and who have lost homes. Some churches are hosting Muslim and Christian families from the community. Together they have secured some food supplies, but more will be needed in the months ahead.

CWS is supporting the **call** for an immediate ceasefire and access for humanitarian relief.

DSPR is an integral part of the local community. It is preparing to help many more people as soon as it practically can with:

- Food
- hygiene kits
- shelter
- medications and medical treatment
- psychosocial support

Donations can be made through CWS:

- **Online and by direct deposit to the Gaza Palestine Emergency Appeal**
- **By Phone with a credit card: 0800 74 73 72**
- **By Post to: CWS, PO Box 22652, Christchurch 8140**

NB: CWS is a member of ACT Alliance a coalition of over 140 churches working together on humanitarian, development in over 120 countries.

SUNDAY ROSTERS

A folder with an outline of each duty is now kept on the back table. If you are unable to do your rostered duty please arrange a swap/substitute and inform the office. Thank you.

Thanks to our volunteers

Welcoming	Lynette and Brian Burrell
Sound	Ben Gray
Laptop	Cam Smart
Offering	John Harper, Barrie Keenan
Coffee/tea	Sherry and Cake Sandra and Tony Kirby (CG), Janet Horncy
Family Time	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
Readings	Marilyn Wallace
Prayers of the People	Lynne Dovey
Communion	Lynne Dovey, Frank Cook, Kath Kerr, Janet Horncy, Janet Martin, Sonia Groes-Petrie
Rainbow Room	In recess
Library	Closed
Musician	Peter Franklin

On duty Monday 25 December – Christmas Morning Service

Welcoming	Pam Fuller
Sound	Sue Hirst (CG)
Laptop	Sue Hirst
Offering	Tony Pears, Paul Franken
Coffee/tea	Lunch in Conference Room 1
Family Time	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
Readings	Tony Kirby
Prayers of the People	Sandra Kirby
Rainbow Room	In recess
Library	Closed
Musician	Peter Franklin

On duty Sunday 31 December – Sunday Gathering led by Ian Harris

Welcoming	Pauline and David Patchett
Sound	Sonia Groes-Petrie (CG)
Laptop	Cam Smart
Offering	Barrie and Jenn Keenan
Coffee/tea	Vivienne Mountier, Simon Miller
Family Time	Dawn Cowdry (TBC)
Readings	John Harper
Prayers of the People	Sonia Groes-Petrie
Rainbow Room	In recess
Library	Closed
Musician	Judy Dumbleton

MISSION STATEMENT OF ST ANDREW'S ON THE TERRACE

To create a lively, open Christian faith community,
to act for a just and peaceful world, and to be catalysts for discovery,
compassion and celebration in the capital.

MINISTRY AT ST ANDREW'S – THE TEAM

Minister	Rev Dr Fei Taule'ale'ausumai
Parish Council Convenor	Sue Hirst
Treasurer	Paul Barber
Facilities Management Group	Sandra Kirby
Pastoral Care Team	Pat Booth, Brian Burrell, Maxine Cunningham, Katrina Harper
Theologian in Residence	Lloyd Geering
Presbytery Representative	David Douglas
Church Music Coordinator	Vacant
Eco Church Coordinator	Sonia Groes-Petrie
Faith in Action Coordinator	Paul Barber
Rainbow Room Coordinator	Vacant
Roster Coordinator	Pam Fuller
Concert Coordinator	Kristina Zuelicke
Centre Manager	Adelina Reis
Office Administrator	Christine Wilkinson
Facilities Assistant(s)	H. Wilkinson, O. Ruegg, L. Oakley, M. Barber

St Andrew's on The Terrace

www.standrews.org.nz

30 The Terrace – P O Box 5203, Wellington 6145

Office Hours: 9 am – 5 pm Monday to Friday

Phone (04) 472-9211

office@standrews.org.nz



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