

Rangitikei Anglicans

Incorporating Marton, Bulls, Sanson,
Huntermville, Turakina, Greatford, Otairi and
Tutu Totara

5th October 2025

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Te Rātapu Rua Tekau mā whitu o He Wā Noa

Readings this Sunday:

Lam 1:1-6 2 Tim 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10

Sentence

Who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? But I am among you as one who serves. *Luke 22:27*

Collect Prayer

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, keep us under the protection of your good providence, and help us continually to revere and love your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Services in the Parish this week:

Sunday 5th October

8.00am - Reflective Service – St Stephen's, Marton
9.30am - Family Service – St Stephen's, Marton
9.30am - Family Service – St Andrew's, Bulls

Wednesday 8th October

10.00am - Ecumenical service with Holy Communion
Towgood room, St Stephen's, Marton

Sunday 12th October

8.00am - Reflective Service – St Stephen's, Marton
9.30am - Family Service – St Stephen's, Marton
9.30am - Family Service – St John's, Huntermville

Events in the Parish:

Week of Monday 6th October to Sunday 12th October

06th Monday: Woolly Blessings, Sanson 10am

07th Tuesday:

- St Stephen's Playgroup, Marton 10am
- Woolly Blessings, Marton 10am
- House Group, Marton 6.30pm
- Parish Choir, Marton 7.30pm

08th Wednesday: Bible Study, Marton 11am

09th Thursday: Prayer, St Stephen's, 6.30am

10th Friday: Bible Study, Marton 10am

11th Saturday:

Diocese-Wide Evening Prayer

9pm Mon–Sat. [Click here for the Zoom Link](#)

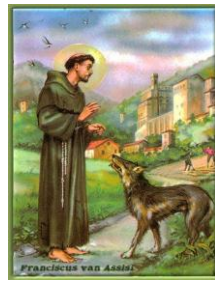
Meeting ID: 211-936-7784 Password: prayers

Faith Like a Mustard Seed. When the apostles ask Jesus to "increase our faith," we might expect an inspiring pep talk or a detailed spiritual training program. Instead, Jesus offers something unexpected: faith isn't about quantity, but quality. Even faith as small as a mustard seed, tiny, almost insignificant, can accomplish the impossible. This is both liberating and challenging. We don't need to manufacture grand spiritual feelings or wait until our faith feels strong enough. The smallest genuine trust in God can move mountains, or in Jesus' vivid image, uproot trees and plant them in the sea. Our doubts and uncertainties don't disqualify us; what matters is where we direct even our fragile faith. Then Jesus shifts gears with a puzzling parable about servants who deserve no special praise for simply doing their duty. At first glance, this seems harsh. But perhaps Jesus is addressing our tendency to treat faithfulness as a bargaining chip with God, a way to earn special status or recognition. True service flows not from obligation or the expectation of reward, but from understanding who we are in relationship to God. We're not employees negotiating benefits; we're beloved children responding to extraordinary grace. Everything we have and everything we can offer already belongs to God. This doesn't diminish our efforts, it frees them. When we stop performing for applause or accumulating spiritual merit points, we can serve with genuine joy and humility. We can offer our small acts of faith, our imperfect prayers, our stumbling obedience, knowing they're enough. This week, perhaps we might release the pressure to have perfect faith or flawless service. Instead, we can simply show up with whatever small seed of trust we have, offering our ordinary faithfulness to an extraordinary God who delights in using small things to accomplish great wonders. Arohanui, Alison.

PARISH PLANT FAIR – Saturday 4th October, 9am – 12.00pm

On **THIS WEEKEND**. Make sure you don't miss it! Buy some plants and come and say hi to the team.

Support the raffle and make sure you get all your seedlings for you Vege garden. There are many wonderful flowers and shrubs donated from many a local garden to also purchase. This is our main fundraiser for the year so come and see what's available.



HOME COMMUNION MINISTRY:

For those unable to attend church services due to illness, mobility challenges, or other circumstances, we offer Home Communion brought to you by our dedicated clergy and trained lay ministers. This sacred ministry ensures that all members of our church family can participate in the Eucharist and maintain their spiritual connection with our community. Additionally, if you would like to receive prayers or the sacrament of anointing, our ministers are ready to provide this pastoral care in the comfort of your own home.

To arrange a Home Communion, please contact any of our priests or the Parish Office.

Season of Creation 2025 Prayer

PEACE WITH CREATION

Creator of all,

*we praise you for the gift of life
and for the faith that unites us in care for our common home.*

*We confess how estranged we have become—
from one another, from your Creation, and from our truest selves.*

*We acknowledge that our greed and destructive impulses
have fractured our relationships with you, with others, and with the
Earth.*

*Fertile fields have become barren,
forests lie desolate,
oceans and rivers are polluted.*

*Thriving communities have become places of suffering,
and the earth cries out.*

Beloved Christ,

*who spoke "Shalom" to frightened hearts,
stir us to compassionate action.*

*Inspire us to work for the end of conflict,
and for the full restoration of broken relationships—
with you, with the ecumenical community,
with the human family,
and with all Creation.*

Prince of Peace,

*through your wounds, teach us to stand in solidarity
with the woundedness of others,
of creation, and of the world.*

*Through your resurrection,
make us people of hope—
with a vision of swords turned into ploughshares
and tears transformed into joy.*

*May we come together as one family,
to labour for your peace—
a shalom where all your people
may dwell in safety,
and rest in quiet places. Amen*

*Extracted from Season of Creation
2025: A Celebration Guide. Peace
with Creation, p14-15*

Together We Pray:

Diocesan Evening Prayers
9pm Mon–Sat. [Click here for the Zoom Link](#)
Meeting ID: 211-936-7784
Password: prayers

Prayer Chain

To join the prayer chain or add a
prayer request,
Text Su on 027 577 1527

To receive emails with prayer
requests: bswells83@gmail.com

Priest in Charge:

Rev Alison Stewart: 021 298 3143
a.stewart@xtra.co.nz

Bishop's Warden:

James Middleton: 022 632 4325
Turakina

People's Warden:

Sue Wells: 021 201 4483

Assistant Priests:

Rev Robin Peirce: 06 327 5951
Wednesday Service
Parish Choir, Sanson

Rev John Vickers: 06 327 7280
Otairi

Rev John Sleep: 022 406 8935
Huntermville

Parish Office:

06 327 8398
office@anglicanrangitikei.co.nz
Tue, Wed, Fri 9am to 12pm
23 Maunder St, Marton, 4710



For Direct Giving:
Parish of Rangitikei
01-0681-0004698-00

~ Blessings for your week ahead. If you have a notice or something you want to share, reach out and we can put it in the pewsheet. Office details are below. Information needs to be in by Tues pm.