

CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER

5pm Family Service (no communion)
8pm Carols and communion
11pm Candlelight, carols and communion

CHRISTMAS DAY THURSDAY 25 DECEMBER

8am Carols and communion

NEXT WEEKEND 28 December 2025

8am Traditional Holy Communion
10am Family Service with Communion and music
2pm Holy Communion with music
Kumara No services

The clergy and vestry thank all those who have been involved in the running of the parish this year

Sunday Services weekly: Gavin Riley (assistant sacristan), Rose Goodall (2pm sidesperson), Christina Veale (2pm refreshments),

Those on Service Rosters: Leading services, Intercessions, preachers, communion assistants, sidespeople, refreshments, sound & live streaming, data projector, musicians, singers, and leading services at Kumara,

Weekly admin assistants: Samara Ewan (treasurer); Glenda Torrance (accounts & recorder), Bronwyn Walters (Bookings & admin), Nico & Ronel Maas (cleaning hall, kitchen & toilets), Lewis Bell (lawnmower for Parish Centre), Bob Stanger (locking church & leaves), Joanna Lorimer (prayer requests & the church library), Doug Bray (collecting rubbish from church each Sunday).

Home Group leaders: Harriet Curtis-Hoeve, Roger Lavers, and Helen Wilson.

Ripple Effect Small Group Leaders: Samara Ewan, Jacquie Jones, Greville Wood, Marge Tefft, Robin Kingston, Emily Holmes, and Joanna & Wayne Lorimer.

Regular volunteers: Visiting hospital & elderly, assisting with funerals, catering, church lawn mowing, flower arranging, church cleaning, window cleaning, sending cards to bereaved after one year, vestry members, church wardens, those who bring food for Salvation Army foodbank, prayer team members, praying for healing with the Runanga Healing Rooms, and those who simply see jobs and do them,

Special ministries: Nicki Mora, Doug Bray and leaders with ***The Shed teenage program***, Marge Tefft, Margaret Hyde, Elaine Knowles, Lewis Bell, Gloria Glen with the ***Kids 'n Coffee ministry***, Rach & Evan Hunt with ***Kumara Making Space***, Samara Ewan with leading the ***8am Wed prayer team***.

Special events: Those serving refreshments for blood donors, helpers with the annual fair, those who were involved with organising and supporting the Matariki Remembrance service, Jeanette Oliver for preparing the Advent Wreath, Tracey Hall for Christmas Eve decorations, all the many individual ministries that impact the community as a whole, everyone who works totally behind the scenes to help others, and benefactors.



**Anglican Parish
of Greymouth & Kumara**
24/25 December 2025
Growing Disciples of Jesus
Blessed to be a Blessing

Theme for Christmas: Making Room

Readings: Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-18 and John 1:1-4, 14

Prayer for the Day: Son of God, light that shines in the dark, child of joy and peace, help us to make room for you in our hearts and lives now and forever. Amen.

Preacher: Marge Tefft (8pm, 11pm, 8am)

Theme and Readings for Sunday 28 December

Theme: The Holy Innocents

Readings: Jeremiah 31:15-17; Matthew 2:13-18

Preacher: Robin Kingston

Theme and Readings for Sunday 4 January 2026

Theme: The Good News is revealed to the Gentiles

Readings: Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Preacher: Robin Kingston

LIVING WATERS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Following on from last year, this year's festival will be on Sat, Jan 17th from 10am to 10pm at 32c Adairs Road, Hokitika. Cost \$25. Featured artists include Steve & Ainsley Apirana, Jules Riding, Oliva Harawira, Paul Foulds, and Brendan and Karen Hall. QR code to access tickets is on the poster in the foyer.



COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Combined Churches of Greymouth are again working together to host this event on Christmas Day, from 11.30am, meal at 12 pm, at the Greymouth Baptist Church, 76 High St. If you are at a loose end on Christmas Day, you are warmly invited to come to the Community Christmas Lunch. Doors will open at 11.30am. Everyone is welcome, and Santa turns up with gifts for those under 12 years of age. There is no charge (but koha is accepted). This year we will provide a Hangi-style Christmas meal, and dessert. No booking required.

YEAR IN REVIEW

The parish stepped out boldly by inviting **Julie-Anne Laird from Australia** to lead us in a Relational Evangelism Seminar in February. The result was that we developed 4 groups totalling 36 people meeting weekly to follow a course entitled "The Ripple Effect". This continued right through to the end of November with at least 12 staying the full course. We grew in learning how to share our faith, listen carefully, looking for opportunities and finally how to read the bible with interested people.

The development of the **Healing Rooms in Runanga** was significant, initiated by a dream from Carolyn Killick. It is held every Wednesday evening from 6.30 to 8pm and again on Sunday from 2.30pm to 4pm, It is held in the Runanga Community House, 29 Carroll St. Those praying are from a number of churches in the Grey District, with at least 5 from Holy Trinity.

We **farewelled Anne Bernard** to return to South Africa after many years in the parish.

Emily and Greg Holmes committed themselves to running the 54km ultra marathon in May to **raise funds for repairing the roof over the church lounge and kitchen**. The total raised was just on \$30,000.

We were delighted to celebrate the **baptism of Kate Simpson** in March. She is a regular worshipper at the 8am service.

While Marge and Robin were overseas, quite a few **parishioners took over their regular duties**. When they returned, Ronel & Nico Maas continued cleaning the kitchen, toilets and hall, Doug Bray the collecting of rubbish, Bob Stanger opening and closing the church on Mondays and associated duties, and Christina Veale the washing of tea towels. Others have seen tasks and picked them up when they see the need.

To celebrate Matariki, we held a community service assisted by local iwi and the Highland Band. About 50 people attended the service organised by Emily. There was keenness expressed that we do this again in 2026.

The parish **farewelled the Holmes family** towards the end of June. Emily moved to Mapua to take the role of minister at Hills Community Church. We miss her enthusiasm, her depth of prayer, her willingness to keep learning and her preaching. Greg was very involved as a teacher at John Paul 2. The boys attended St Patrick's Primary School. It was an emotional occasion.

In September a number of parishioners attended a meeting with **Pastor Hanna Massad who founded the Christian Ministry to Gaza**. We were impressed with his careful approach to all the issues currently involved and we gained a valuable insight into what it means to live in Gaza today.

Robin was able to experience major surgery and 8 days in hospital, most of which were on clear fluids or nil by mouth. As a result he was off driving for 6 weeks during August/September. All this put a greater stress on Marge.

During the year we had a number of **children come occasionally to the 10am service**. Without a children's worker Marge and Robin took turns in doing the teaching and craft work while the other was preaching. Earlier in the year Emily and Greg were able to cover this ministry. We are very pleased to have children attending. Most are grandchildren of parishioners, though for a couple of months we had a new family with 5 children. We appreciate those that have volunteered to assist Marge and Robin anytime an influx of children are present.

The Youth Shed, run by the Moras and assisted by other leaders including Doug Bray, has been a positive experience for many teenagers. In order to **help the teenagers financially to get to the Diocesan Spring Camp**, an appeal for funds was made. Nearly \$4,000 came in, enough to cover all who needed assistance this year, and probably for 2026 as well!

As a result of the camp during Labour Weekend, about **seven teenagers expressed interest in the Christian Faith**. A new group for them was formed, meeting on a Sunday afternoon. This was a real answer to prayer.

Kumara Church received a face lift with Washrite cleaning all of the roof, building and walkway. This has helped us see that the roof now needs work done on parts that are rusting.

For three years **Rach and Evan Hunt have held "Making Space"** twice a month on a Sunday afternoon. This was in the form of a discussion and fellowship group. The season for this gathering came to an end in December.

In October **Dr Chris Marshall, a former Laidlaw College lecturer and professor emeritus of Victoria University** spoke publicly about the future of the church in the NZ context. It was a challenging address that has provoked some serious discussion.

We were sad to hear of the **death of Rev'd David Hastings** in Christchurch. He and his wife Dot were members of our parish for about four years and looked after the parish on a couple of occasions when Marge and Robin were away overseas. He was a keen Alpha promoter and also a bowling enthusiast.

The Parish Fair, even without Jim Findlay's whitebait patties, raised over \$7,000.

A bequest of over **\$34,000 from an anonymous past parishioner** was received for general purposes. This has been set aside for future upgrades of our properties.

The Grey District Council honoured **Tony and Margaret Woollett with a Civic Award** for the extensive volunteer community work.

Throughout the year we had weekly admin volunteers of Samara Ewan, Glenda Torrance, and Bronwyn Walters.

Our deepest sympathies went to the extended families of those who had died during the year. Jean Flood (memorial service in Feb), **Norman Wilkins** (married to Dot for about 58 years), **David Wilson** (father of Rochelle Wilson); **Craig Bruce** (taught Sunday School for 4-7 year olds for 10 years), **Debbie Crestani** (related to Torrance family), **Stephen Pillai** (husband of Dorothy and mother of Laurayne), **Janet Haddock** (choir member and keen AAW member for many years), **Gary Hogan** (husband of Janet and member of Salvation Army and 8am livestream regular), **Leonie Tindale** (regular worshipper, initially 10am, then 8am before moving to Nelson), **John Torrance** (husband of Glenda and sister of Lewis Bell), **Ella Boddy** (17yr old daughter of Kevin and Julieanne Boddy), **Shirley Brown** (became a believer through Alpha at the age of 84, and a growing Christian ever since), **Dawn Caldwell** (vestry secretary for a time and keen AAW member for many years), **Kerry Eggeling** (uncle of Robyn White and dedicated member of the South Westland community), **Barrie Calder** (father and grandfather of Cailin and Ellie belong to Kids 'n Coffee), **Rev David Hastings**, **Anna Matthews** (wife of Steve and dad to Donna-Marie and James. They were key members of our parish before moving to Upper Moutere), **Len McGrane** (brother of Mary and Joy McGrane), **Thelma Eggeling** (aunty and "second mum" to Robyn White and her siblings), **Jean Mason** (mother of Bronwyn Walters), **Kevin Brown** (husband of Kaye and past parishioner of our parish), and **Jolan McLean**.