

*Living out the love of Christ in our worship and service to all people.*

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## **Welcome**

A warm welcome to everyone. We are glad you have joined us in this celebration of our life of faith in God. There is a special church area to help children feel at home here, and we hope you will join us for morning tea after the Service.

### **The Bible Readings for today - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 7: 10-16

Romans 1: 1-7

Matthew 1: 18-25



## **INTRODUCTION**

During this season of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany and Candlemas, we prepare for and celebrate the arrival of Jesus, who is God incarnate (God 'in the flesh'). Jesus brings light and hope into a world of darkness, and we are entrusted to listen and respond to the message he brought so that our lives can be transformed and we can help bring that message to others.

**Christingle** remains a great way to visualise important spiritual truths because the symbolism of the orange and the candle is a powerful one. As the Christingle candle burns over the orange it represents the light of Jesus over the world and reminds us that Jesus was proclaimed not only the 'light of the world' but also that those who followed him would not walk in darkness.

## Sentence

A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us. *Matthew 1:23*

## Collect

Living God, you called your people out of Egypt  
and gave them the covenant;  
prepare our hearts to hear your call,  
so that we may receive with joy the gospel of your Son  
and be your faithful people, now and for ever.  
Amen.

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## Notices

### **The Eve and Vigil of Christmas**

24th December 2025

(Wednesday)

St Chad's Linwood,

1 Carnarvon Street

at 7.00pm



Carols and Eucharist. Children's table available

### **Christmas Day**

25th December 2025 (Thursday)

**No Service at St Chad's or St Ambrose**

Please join our whanau at

9.00am, St Faith's New Brighton,

46 Hawke Street or

9.30am, Holy Trinity Avonside,

168 Stanmore Road

Family Communion Service



### **1st Sunday after Christmas**

28th December 2025

St Chad's Linwood,

1 Carnarvon Street

at 10.00am

Extended Communion,

Martz Witty preaching



Weekly activities at both Church sites & bookshop		
Day	Activity	Time
<b>(A) = St Ambrose site</b>		<b>(C) = St Chad's site</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	Morning Prayer	<b>(A)</b> <i>Restarts 13/1/26</i>
	Food Bank and Cafe	<b>(A)</b> <i>Closed reopens 13/1/26</i>
	Handiscope	<b>(A)</b> <i>Closed reopens 11/2/26</i>
	Foot Clinic	<b>(C)</b> <i>Closed reopens 13/1/26</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	Op Shop	<b>(C)</b> <i>Closed reopens 14/1/26</i>
	Eucharist	<b>(C)</b> <i>Restarts 4/2/26</i>
	Parish Prayer Group	Temporarily in abeyance
<b>Thursday</b>	Elder Care Group	<b>(A)</b> <i>Restarts 8/1/26</i>
<b>Friday</b>	Op Shop	<b>(C)</b> <i>Closed reopens 14/1/26</i>
	Morning Prayer	<b>(A)</b> <i>Restarts 16/1/26</i>
	Food Bank, Café and Firewood	<b>(A)</b> <i>Closed reopens 13/1/26</i>
	Te Reo Service	<b>(C)</b> <i>Restarts 16/1/26</i>
	Community Lunch - cost of meal \$5.00	<b>(C)</b> <i>Closed reopens 9/1/26</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	Messy Church	<b>(A)</b> <i>Restarts 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in February 2026</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	Eucharist	<b>(C)</b> 10am
<b><i>At the Barnabas Bookshop site - at 121 Seaview Road, New Brighton, in the mall there behind the Happy Feet shop.</i></b>		
<b>Days open</b>	Tuesday through Saturday inclusive (excludes Public Holidays)	Tuesday 10am to 4pm

<b><u>Next Week's Bible Readings — 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas</u></b>		
Isaiah 63: 7-9	Hebrews 2: 10-18	Matthew 2: 13-23

## **PARISH DIRECTORY for Linwood - Aranui**

**Website:** [www.linwood-aranuianglicanparish.com](http://www.linwood-aranuianglicanparish.com)

**Deacon - Curate:** Rev'd Dr André Muller 022 027 5913

**Supervising Priest:** Ven Katrina Hill 029 770 3098

**Messy Church Co-ordinator:** Rev'd Anne Russell-Brighty 027 436 6828

**Parish Recorder:** Adrian Brighty 027 824 3607

**Bishop's Warden:** Max Joines 384 1934

**People's Warden:** Billy Pamatangi 022 618 8420

**Parish Manager:** Martin Witty 021 222 2007

**Community Worker:** Menna Harries 022 691 3261

***St Chad's Church is at the corner of Carnarvon Street and Buckleys Road***

**Office – at St Chad's:** Hours 9-noon Wed, Fri 389 5833

**Email:** [linwoodstchads@gmail.com](mailto:linwoodstchads@gmail.com)

***St Ambrose Church is at 309 Breezes Road, just off Pages Road***

**Office – at St Ambrose:** Hours 10-noon Tues, Fri 388 6699

**Email:** [stambrose@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stambrose@xtra.co.nz)

***If you want to make a donation to the Parish, our bank account is:***

***Name : Parish of Linwood — Aranui; No: 03-1700-0214522-00.***

### **Humour**

*Don't let your granddaughter say the Grace before  
Christmas dinner!!!*

The wife had invited a houseful to Christmas dinner.

At the table, she turned to her six-year-old daughter and said,  
"Would you like to say the blessing?"

"I wouldn't know what to say," the girl replied.

"Just say what you hear your mother say," the father suggested.

The daughter bowed her head and said, "Dear Lord, why on  
earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"