



The Waikato Cathedral Church of St Peter

Te whare karakia matua o Pita Tapu ki Waikato
stpeter.org.nz



Henry Ossawa Tanner, The Annunciation, 1898

**Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.
Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son,
and shall name him Immanuel.**

Isaiah 7.14

**25 March 2025 – The Annunciation of Our Saviour
to the Blessed Virgin Mary**

7:00pm

**Choral
Eucharist**

President &
Preacher

The Very Rev'd Julian Perkins

Cathedral Centre Toilet: The toilet at the near end of the cathedral centre can be accessed during the service, while keeping the rest of the centre secure.

Service Sheets: Our service sheets can be accessed at stpeter.org.nz and viewed on your phone to save paper and costs. The “CathedralFree” Wi-Fi can be accessed without a password.

Health & Safety:

In the event of a fire: exits are the entrance and the doors either side of the front of the main body of the church.

In the event of an earthquake: drop to the floor, seek cover, and hold onto something. Only exit when all shaking has stopped.

Services Online: Many of our choral services are on our YouTube channel: youtube.com/@WaikatoCathedral (older services are on Facebook). The services are usually available live and are generally under the live tab of our YouTube channel. If you need assistance ask a young person or, failing that, ask Dean Julian.

The Annunciation of our Saviour to the Blessed Virgin Mary

The story of the announcement of the coming of God made flesh in the person of his Son, Jesus the Christ, the Anointed One, is heard in today's proclamation of the good news from the gospel of Luke. The feast marks the conception of Christ in the womb of Mary and has been celebrated in the Church since at least the late fourth century. The perfect humanity and the complete divinity of Jesus is affirmed, following the controversies around those orthodox assertions, which themselves led to the acknowledgement of Mary as Theotokos, God-bearer, which in the West became translated as Mother of God. The celebration thus took on strong associations with the person of Mary, and became known in as Lady Day. In recent years, the Church has re-affirmed the day as a Feast of our Lord, on which his virgin-mother still has a unique place of honour.

Thanksgiving and Praise

A New Zealand Prayer Book, page 476

Music Copyright CCLI 337942

Mass Setting: Missa de Angelis (arr. Palestrina)

The Ministry of Word and Prayer

The Gathering of the Community

Opening Hymn (*please stand / e tū tātou*)

Hail Mary, full of grace! All generations, bless
our highly-favoured sister in her holiness!
Rejoice with her, who first received
God's Word made human, and believed.

Heaven and earth stand still while Mary, wrapped in thought,
accepts the words of joy and dread the angel brought
to bear the Christ, and hold him dear
in costly love, in pain and fear.

Courage and strength were hers when, virgin and alone,
she freely chose the will of God and made it her own.
She laughed, and sang a woman's song:
God lifts the weak, puts down the strong.

Now may we seek the path that Mary's feet once trod,
sufficient in herself to bear the fullness of God -
for Christ will come where faith and love
receive him still, and make him room.

Marnie Barrell (b. 1952)

Greeting (*please remain standing / e tū tonu tātou*)

E te whānau a te Karaiti, welcome to this holy table;
welcome to you, for we are Christ's body, Christ's work in the world.
Welcome to you whose baptism makes you
salt of the earth and light to the world.

Rejoice and be glad. Praise God who gives us forgiveness and hope.
Amen. Christ is our light, the joy of our salvation.

Praise and glory to Christ,
God's new beginning for humanity making ritual water gospel wine,
cleansing all our worship.

**Love and loyalty to Christ, who gives us the gospel.
Praise to Christ who calls us to holiness.**

Song of Praise – The Gloria (*please stand / e tū tātou*)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Forgiveness (*please be seated or kneel / e noho, e tūturi rānei tātou*)

Liturgist

The grace of God has dawned upon the world
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

We come seeking forgiveness
for all we have failed to be and do as members of Christ's body.

Silence

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The presiding priest says

God forgives us; be at peace.

Silence

Rejoice and be glad, for Christ is resurrection,
reconciliation for all the human race.

Liturgist

We shall all be one in Christ, one in our life together.

**Praise to God who has created us,
praise to God who has accepted us,
praise to God who sends us into the world.**

The Collect

**God of grace,
grant that Mary's obedience may inspire us
to obey your will and receive Jesus Christ in our hearts as Lord;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit
one God for ever. Amen.**

The Readings

(please sit for the readings / e noho ki te whakarongo ki ngā pānuitanga)

A reading from the book of Isaiah (7:10-14)

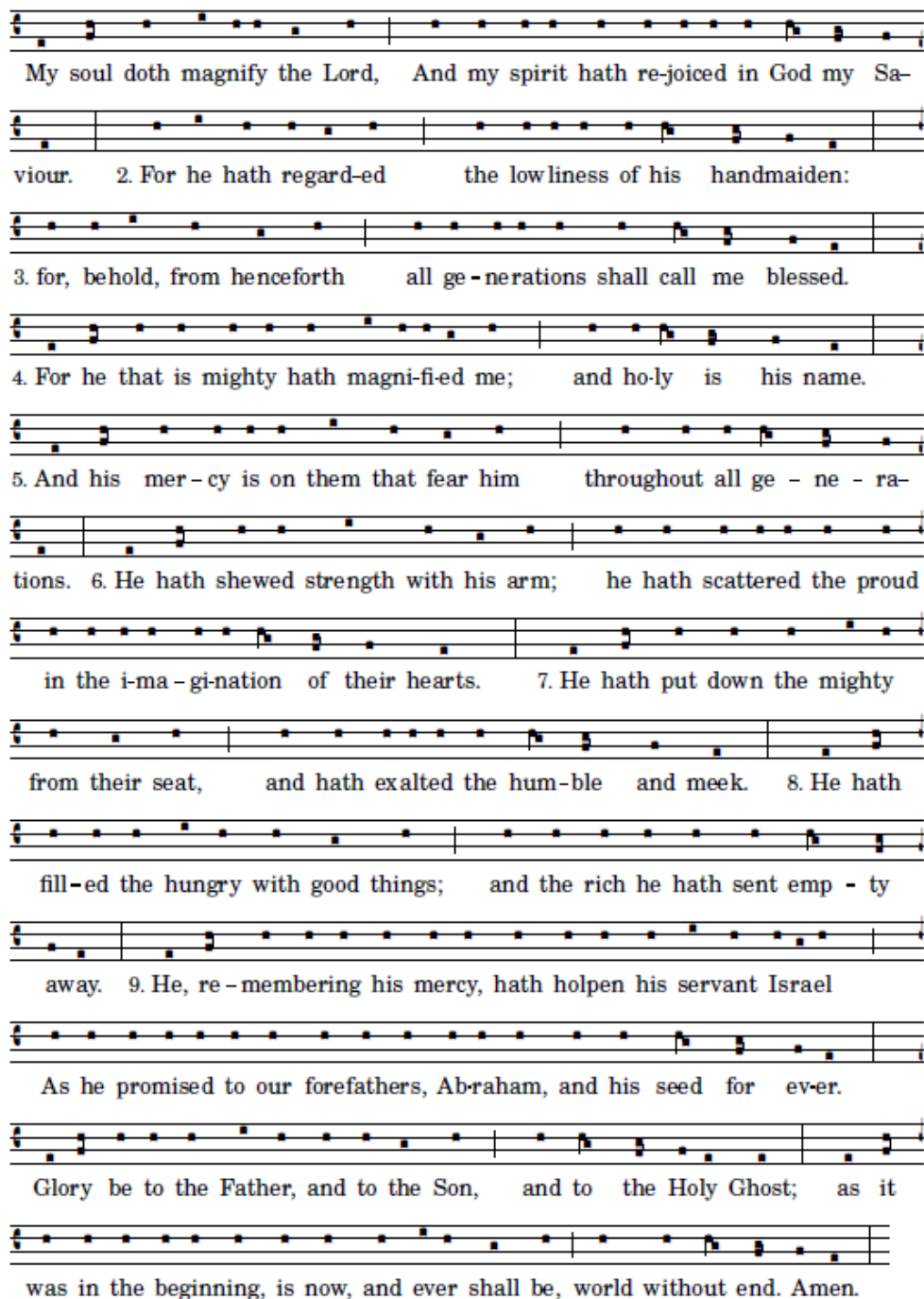
Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel.

[Translation – New Revised Standard Version (Anglicised)]

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**



Magnificat – (please stand / e tū tātou) – tone III solemn



My soul doth magnify the Lord, And my spirit hath re-joiced in God my Sa-
viour. 2. For he hath regard-ed the lowliness of his handmaiden:
3. for, behold, from henceforth all ge-nerations shall call me blessed.
4. For he that is mighty hath magni-fi-ed me; and ho-ly is his name.
5. And his mer-cy is on them that fear him throughout all ge - ne - ra-
tions. 6. He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud
in the i-ma - gi-nation of their hearts. 7. He hath put down the mighty
from their seat, and hath exalted the hum-ble and meek. 8. He hath
fill-ed the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent emp - ty
away. 9. He, re - membering his mercy, hath holpen his servant Israel
As he promised to our forefathers, Ab-raham, and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it
was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (10:4-10)

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, ‘See, I have come to do your will, O God’
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. [NRSVA]

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn (*please stand / e tū tātou*)

Her Virgin eyes saw God incarnate born,
when she to Bethlem came that happy morn:
how high her raptures then began to swell,
none but her own omniscient Son can tell.

As Eve, when she her fontal sin reviewed,
wept for herself and all she should include,
blest Mary, with man's Saviour in embrace,
joyed for herself and for all human race.

All saints are by her Son's dear influence blest;
she kept the very fountain at her breast:
the Son adored and nursed by the sweet Maid
a thousandfold of love for love repaid.

Heaven with transcendent joys her entrance graced,
near to his throne her Son his Mother placed;
and here below, now she's of heaven possest,
all generations are to call her blest.

Thomas Ken (1637-1711)

The Gospel (*we remain standing and turn to face the gospel | Ka tū tonu tātou ki te whakarongo ki te Rongopai*)

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Word became flesh and lived among us,

and we have seen his glory.

John 1.14

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The holy Gospel according to Luke (1:26-38) **Praise and glory to God.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

[NRSVA]

This is the Gospel of Christ. **Praise to Christ, the Word.**

The Sermon

The Affirmation of Faith (please stand / e tū tatou)

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God. We worship you.**

The Prayers of the People

(please be seated or kneel / e noho, e tūturi rānei tātou)

On this day the Father made our salvation known to Mary
by the message of an angel. Filled with confidence, let us pray.

You chose the Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son.
Have mercy on all who wait for your redemption.

We pray for ... [the Church universal]

God of grace **you hear our prayer.**

Through your angel Gabriel you brought a message
of peace and joy to Mary.

Give to the world the joy and peace of salvation.

We pray for ... [the peace of the world]

God of grace **you hear our prayer.**

By the consent of your handmaid and the power of the Holy Spirit,
your Word came to dwell among us.

Open our hearts to receive Christ, as Mary the Virgin received him.
We pray for ... [those present]

God of grace **you hear our prayer.**

You look with compassion on the lowly and fill the hungry with good
things. Encourage the downhearted, help all those in need
and comfort those near to death.

We pray for ... [the sick, the suffering, the helpless]

God of grace **you hear our prayer.**

To you, O God, nothing is impossible, and you alone do marvellous
things; save us, and bring us on the last day with ... and all the faithful
departed into your glorious kingdom.

God of grace **you hear our prayer.**

Grant, O Lord, that by the riches of your grace
we may grow up into him who unites our life to yours,
even he who is the first-born of all creation,
your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Sacrament

The Peace (*please stand / e tū tatou*)

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Luke 1.78,79

Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace
who breaks down the walls that divide.

The peace of God be always with you.
Praise to Christ who unites us in peace.

Liturgist: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

— 1 —

Sing we of the blessed Mother
who received the angel's word,
and obedient to his summons
bore in love the infant Lord;
sing we of the joys of Mary
at whose breast that child was fed,
who is Son of God eternal
and the everlasting Bread.

— 3 —

Sing again the joys of Mary
when she saw the risen Lord,
and, in prayer with Christ's
apostles,,
waited on his promised word:
from on high the blazing glory
of the Spirit's presence came,
heav'nly breath of God's own being,
manifest through wind and flame.

— 2 —

Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,
of the sword that pierced her
through,
when beneath the cross of Jesus
she his weight of suffering knew,
looked upon her Son and Saviour
reigning high on Calv'ry's tree,
saw the price of our redemption
paid to set the sinner free.

— 4 —

Sing the greatest joy of Mary
when on earth her work was done,
and the Lord of all creation
brought her to his heav'nly home:
virgin mother, Mary blessed,
raised on high and crowned with
grace,
may your Son, the world's
redeemer,
grant us all to see his face. .

George B. Timms (1910-1997)

Preparation of the Gifts

Almighty God,
so fill us with your grace,
that we in all things may accept your holy will
and with the Virgin Mary, full of grace,
rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Great Thanksgiving *(please stand, sit or kneel as you are most comfortable throughout the following prayer / mō tēnei inoi katoa, e noho, e tū, tūturi rānei i runga anō i tāu e pai nei)*

The Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

It is the joy of our salvation, God of the universe,
to give you thanks through Jesus Christ.

CW: Festivals, p.55

We give you thanks and praise
that the Virgin Mary heard with faith the message of the angel,
and by the power of your Holy Spirit
conceived and bore the Word made flesh.

From the warmth of her womb
to the stillness of the grave
he shared our life in human form.

In him new light has dawned upon the world
and you have become one with us
that we might become one with you
in your glorious kingdom.

Therefore earth unites with heaven to sing a new song of praise;
we too join with angels and archangels
as they proclaim your glory without end:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, most holy, in your Son, who washed his disciples' feet.
'I am among you,' he said, 'as one who serves.'

On that night before he died he took bread and gave you thanks.
He broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper, he took the cup, and gave you thanks.

He gave it to them and said:

Drink this. It is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you, shed for all,
to forgive sin; do this to remember me.

Therefore with this bread and wine we recall your goodness to us.

**God of the past and present,
we your people remember your Son.
We thank you for his cross and rising again,
we take courage from his ascension;
we look for his coming in glory
and in him we give ourselves to you.**

Send your Holy Spirit,

that we who receive Christ's body may indeed be the body of Christ,
and we who share his cup draw strength from the one true vine.

**Called to follow Christ, help us to reconcile and unite.
Called to suffer, give us hope in our calling.**

For you, the heavenly one, make all things new;
you are the beginning and the end, the last and the first.

**Praise, glory and love be yours,
this and every day, from us and all people, here and everywhere.
Amen.**

The Communion

The Lord's Prayer (*You may wish to pray the Lord's Prayer in your own language.*)

Kua ākona nei tātou e tō tātou Ariki,
ka ĭnoi tātou

As Christ teaches us we
pray

E tō mātou Matua i te rangi
Kia tapu tōu Ingoa.
Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.
Kia meatia tāu e pai ai
ki runga ki te whenua,
kia rite anō ki tō te rangi.
Hōmai ki a mātou āiane
he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.
Murua ō mātou hara,
Me mātou hoki e muru nei
i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.

Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia
whakawaia;
Engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:
Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga,
te kaha, me te korōria,
Āke ake ake. Āmine.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today
our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from
the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Christ's body was broken for us on the cross.

Christ is the bread of life.

His blood was shed for our forgiveness.

Christ is risen from the dead.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us your peace.

The Invitation

Come God's people, come to receive Christ's heavenly food.

The minister says the following to each person.

The bread of life, broken for you.

Te taro o te ora, i whatia nei mōu.

The cup of blessing, poured out for you.

Te kapu o te ora, i whakahekea nei mōu.

The communicant may respond each time: Amen / Āmine.

All are welcome to receive communion. If communion is not your tradition, we invite you to come forward for a blessing, simply put an arm across your chest and a blessing will be given.

Please come forward and kneel or stand at the altar rail to receive the bread and wine or a blessing. Please ask if you need a gluten free wafer.

In the Anglican tradition, we use the common cup, with wine of a high alcohol content, in a silver vessel, to minimise infection risks. If you do not wish to receive the wine, communion is fully valid in one kind, either bread or wine, or you may wish to simply lift the cup, to show reverence and receive spiritually.

Please note, the practice of intinction is not permitted.

If you would like to light a candle for someone you love, or to give thanks to God, please feel free to do so at the back of the cathedral.

Anthem O Virgo splendens (Anon)

Prayer After Communion

God most high,

whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh:

we thank you that in this sacrament of our redemption

you visit us with your Holy Spirit

and overshadow us by your power;

strengthen us to walk with Mary the joyful path of obedience

and so to bring forth the fruits of holiness;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing (please stand / e tū tātou)

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;
and the blessing of God almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life,
be upon you and remain with you, with those whom you love, and with
those whom you struggle to love, this day and always. **Amen**

Closing Hymn

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame.
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden, Mary,
most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!

'For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be.
All generations laud and honour thee.
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head.
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said.
'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name.'
Most highly favoured lady!
Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn;
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
'Most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!

Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

The Dismissal of the Community

Liturgist: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.

**The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.**

And we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son,
full of grace and truth.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

**The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.**

from John 1

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

Voluntary:



Cantata Vespers - Third Saturday of the month
Next Vespers: 19 April 2025 at 5.00pm

Choral Evensong - Fourth Sunday of the month
Next Evensong: 27 April 2025 at 5.00pm

Cathedral Ministry Team and Contacts

Dean: The Very Rev'd Julian Perkins (Day off - Friday)
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Giving

Bank Details: 02-0316-0268898-000

The ministry of the cathedral is paid for by our church members if you can be a part of this it greatly helps the life of the church.

Cathedral Office

Monday-Friday: 9am-3pm | (07) 839 4683 | admin@stpeter.org.nz

Cathedral Shop

Monday-Friday: 10am-2pm; Sunday: 11am-12pm | (07) 839 4683



“The Annunciation”

Icons are available to purchase at The Cathedral Shop.
