



# Parish Prayer Walk.



**Season of Creation  
September/October  
2021**

## The purpose of this Prayer Walk.

The Parish of St. Heliers covers a wide distance, and we benefit from our position on the shores of the Waitematā Harbour and the Tāmaki River.

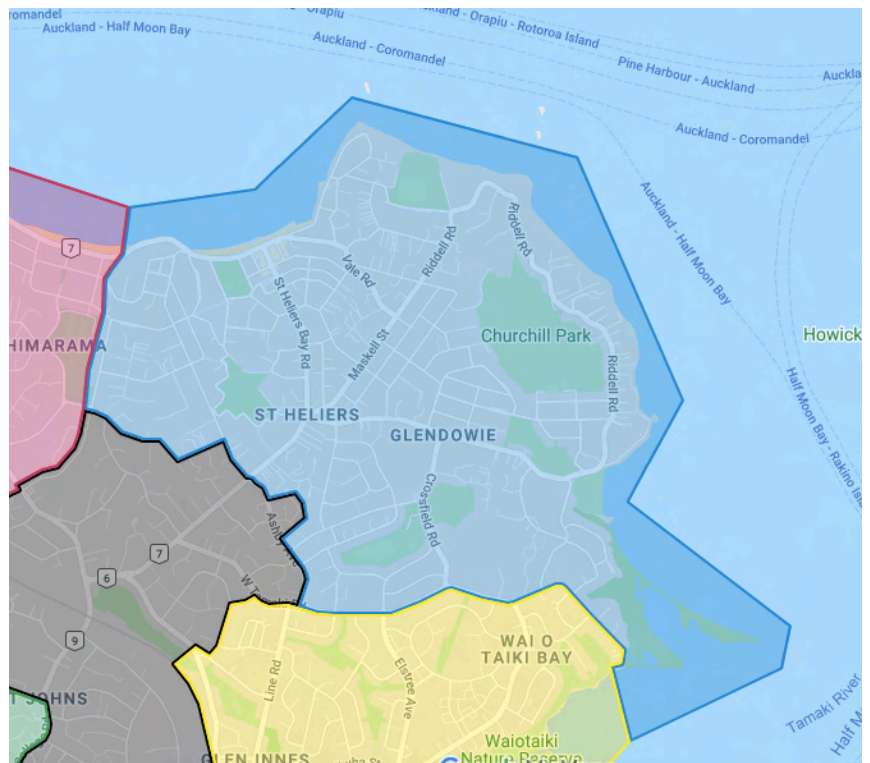
In the Diocesan records, the parish boundaries are recorded as, *“From a point on the Kohimarama Beach at the outfall of the creek east of Sage Road, by the said creek in a southerly direction to Melanesia Road; thence by Melanesia Road, to a point two chains west of Allum Street; thence by a line two chains west of and parallel to Allum Street to a point opposite the intersection of Allum Street and Towai Street; thence by a direct line to the northern point of Tarawera Terrace; thence by the northern side of Tarawera Terrace to Long Drive; thence by the western side of Long Drive to St Heliers Bay Road; thence by the eastern side of Ashby Avenue to West Tamaki Road and across that road to its southern side; thence easterly by the southern side of West Tamaki Road to the point where it meets tide water; thence by the shore line of the Tamaki River and the Waitemata Harbour to the point on the Kohimarama Beach at the outfall of the creek east of Sage Road, the point of commencement.”*

By walking around the parish boundary, we can enjoy God’s creation, hear the sounds, and see the activity of those who live here. As it says in Psalm 19, “The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.” And so, speak with God as you walk and listen to what God may have to say to you.

As we walk, we can also pray for those who live in the houses we pass.

There are stations in our walk where we can stop and give thanks to God and pray for certain things. You are encouraged to pray for whatever is in your heart or mind, and also to offer specific prayers for the suggestions in this booklet.

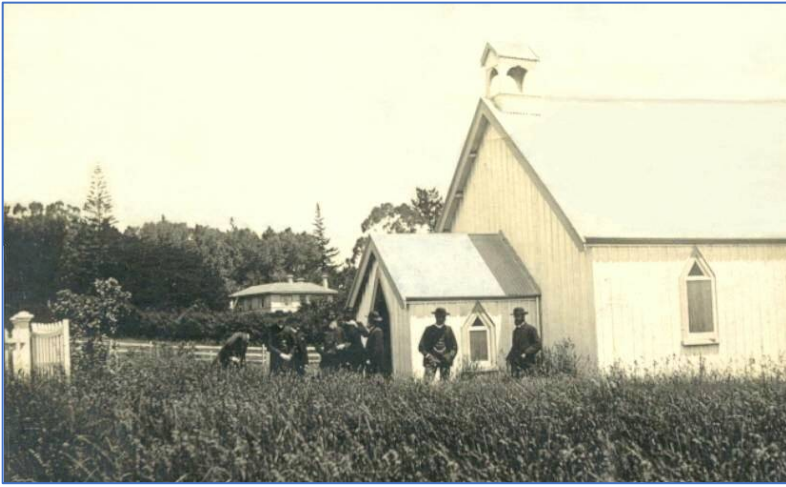
The whole walk is around 11 kilometres in total and you may wish to set aside a day and walk the whole journey or pick to walk specific sections at various times. Take your time. It’s not a race.



## Station 1: Old St. Philip's.

We pray for those who have gone before us and on whose shoulders we stand.

*Start on the Corner of St. Heliers Bay Road and Paunui Street.*



The original St. Philip's was consecrated on Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> of October 1898. Bishop William Cowie presided and preached at the service to a congregation of 120. In his sermon, the Bishop, "spoke of the importance of public worship." (NZ Herald, October 10, 1898).

As you stand outside the old site, turn in a circle and take in the views of the new St. Philip's, the village, and the waterfront.

Imagine those who have walked past this spot in the past. Think about those who established this village, who lived, worked, and grew here.

Give thanks for those who have come before us, who faithfully worshipped God here (in this parish), and whose vision and dedication led to the establishment of a Church building.

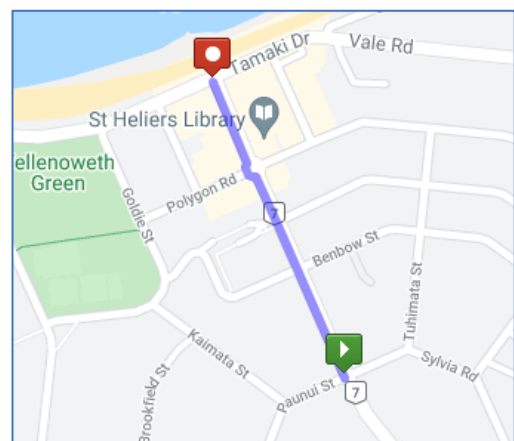
Maybe, remember those who we met in our parish and who have moved out of the area or who have died. Give thanks to God for them.

Remember also those who have been special to you, in your life, and who have died. Give thanks to God for their lives and examples, and the gift that they were to you.

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*Everlasting God, Your messengers have carried the good news of Christ to the ends of the earth; grant that we, who remember and benefit from the builders of Your Church in this parish, may know the truth of the gospel in our hearts and build well on the foundations they have laid; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*Now head down St. Heliers Bay Road to the waterfront.*





## Station 2: The War Memorial

We pray for our village and for peace.

Arrive at the intersection of St. Heliers Bay Road and Tāmaki Drive.



St Heliers Bay wharf (foreground) and St Heliers Bay Road (centre) with St Heliers Bay hotel (right). Martha Knaggs standing on the wharf. 1890s. Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections 7-A3172

In 1882 a wharf 450m long was built out into deep water to allow a specially built ferry, Tongariro, to bring prospective land purchasers. A regular ferry service was introduced in 1901 and continued until 1926 when the wharf became unsafe and was demolished in 1930.

The Memorial Seats were installed in 2003. These seats acknowledge the sacrifice made by the Eastern Bays Community.

As you stand by the memorial, overlooking the harbour where the wharf once stood, take the opportunity to turn around and look at the village and the businesses here.

Imagine those who have stood in that spot, or walked past. Observe those who have established businesses here and what goods and services they offer to support our lifestyles.

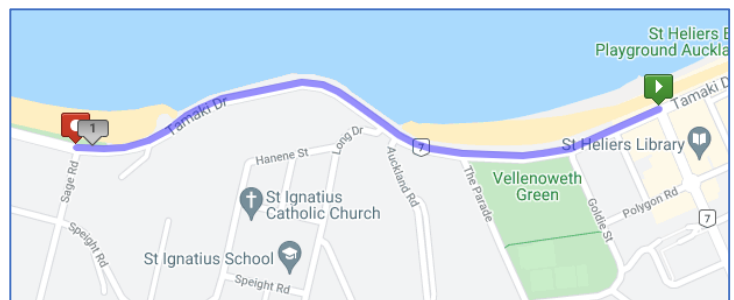
Give thanks for our village, for the businesses that provide and support our lives here and pray that they may continue to serve and flourish.

Give thanks for those who serve us and provide for our comfort in any way. Give thanks for the armed forces, for the police, for fire fighters, for doctors and health professionals, and for all front line services.

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*God of life and peace, we give You thanks for those who, following Your example, care for and protect us. We pray for our village and for the life it provides us all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Now head to Kohimarama, along Tāmaki Drive, to the corner of Sage Road.



## Station Three: Corner of Sage Road

We pray, giving thanks for our neighbouring Parish of St. Andrew's Kohimarama.

*Arrive at the intersection of Sage Road and Tāmaki Drive.*



*Our Neighbours, the Melanesian Martyrs' Church of  
St. Andrew, Kohimarama.*

Since, 1855, there has been a church of St. Andrew's. Originally it was attached to the Melanesian Mission School in Mission Bay. In 1955, a wooden building was erected on the current site.

St. Andrew's is a church dedicated to the memory of the martyrs of the Melanesian Mission, including Bishop John Coleridge Patteson, the first Bishop of Melanesia who was martyred in 1871, on the island of Nukapu.

As you stand at the intersection, look towards Kohimarama. Think of our neighbours, the parish family there, their mission in Kohimarama, and their clergy.

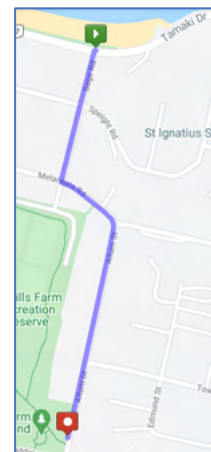
Also, give thanks for our province's part in the establishing and continuing support of God's mission in Melanesia. This mission began with Bishop Selwyn and continues to today. Give thanks and pray for Archbishop Leonard, the staff and students at Bishop Patteson Theological College in Kohimarama, Solomon Islands, and for the work of the Melanesian Board of Missions.

Also, pray for the estimated 200,000 Anglicans in Melanesia, their needs and their mission.

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*God of the southern isles and seas, we remember with thanksgiving Your servant John Patteson, whose life was taken by those for whom he would freely have given it. We pray for the parish life of St. Andrew's and ask that You grant them, and us, the same courage in extending Your gospel and a readiness to share our life with others, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.*

*Now head along Sage Road, Melanesia Road, and Allum St, towards Madills Farm .*



## Station Four: Madills Farm

We pray, giving thanks for those who provide food and for those who go without.

*Arrive at the intersection of Allum Street and Baddeley Avenue.*



*Looking south west by south showing Madills Farm, 1931.  
Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections 4-4257*

Before European settlers arrived in New Zealand, the Madills Farm area was known as *Waipara ra* which meant duck water.

In 1919 a Mr William Madill, a local farmer, was granted a 21-year lease of a 119 acre block estate from the Melanesian Mission Board.

Madill surrendered part of the land back to the Trust in 1920 as they had decided to subdivide the land near the beach. He farmed the remainder until 1944.

As you stand at the intersection, look across Madills Farm and imagine the land as a productive farm.

Also look at the recreation facilities now, the playground where families play, the sports fields where much exercise is taken, and the walking path, where dogs are walked.

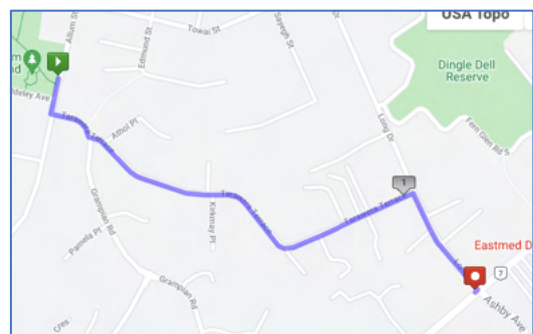
Give thanks to God for farmers and orchardists, and for all those who provide the staples of life which we need and enjoy. Give thanks for God's bounty and provision and for giving us each day our daily bread.

Also, think of those in our country, and around the world, for whom life is a daily struggle and who strive to find the necessary food each day. Pray for God to use people, and to use us, to help those in need, whether they need help in mind, body, or spirit.

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*Almighty and most merciful God, we give You thanks for Your generous provision and for those who work to provide it. We also remember before You all the poor and neglected, the homeless and the destitute, the suffering and the hungry. Help us to help those who are in need and to turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this, for the love of Your Son, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*Now head up Tarawera Terrace and turn right onto Long Drive until the corner of St. Heliers Bay Road.*



## Station Five: Corner of Long Drive and St. Heliers Bay Road

We pray, giving thanks for our neighbouring Parish of St. Thomas' Tāmaki.

*Arrive at the intersection of Long Drive and St. Heliers Bay Road.*



In 1843, the 24 residents of Tāmaki were anxious to have their own place of worship. Each resident was approached for a cash or labour contribution and Bishop Selwyn offered to subsidise their donations pound for pound.

St Thomas' was built of stone in 1843, it collapsed in 1859.

Abandoned in 1864. The ruins were demolished in 1954 and it was re-built. The original ruins are still there.

As you stand at the intersection, look up St. Heliers Bay road towards St. Thomas'. Think of our neighbours, the parish family there, their mission in Tāmaki, and their clergy.

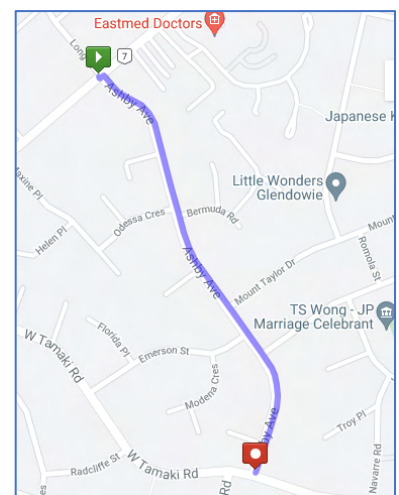
Also, as the original St. Thomas was used as a chapel for St. John's Theological College, think of the college, its staff, and the students there, all who are studying towards ordination. Pray for them all and for their discernment processes, and for the various dioceses in our province.

Also, let your mind think of St. Thomas, who was the first to exclaim, "My Lord and my God!" when he saw Jesus after His resurrection. He saw and he believed. Blessed are those who believe without seeing. (John 20:29)

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*Christ our light, thank You for the people of the parish of St. Thomas and for our parish. Like Thomas we need to see, need to touch, need to be sure before we believe. When we don't know, help us to trust; when we can't see, help us to keep on walking. Praise to You our God; You answer our prayer. Amen*

*Now head along Ashby Avenue to the corner of West Tāmaki Road.*





## Station Six: Corner of West Tamaki Road

We pray, giving thanks for our neighbouring Parish of St. Mary's Glen Innes.

*Arrive at the intersection of Ashby Avenue and West Tāmaki Road.*



Glen Innes parish began as part of the Tāmaki West parish. In the 1960's, due to the housing booms in the previous two decades, Glen Innes became part of the new Panmure Parochial District. The new church opened here in 1960.

The first church was moved onto the site from Victoria Park. It had served as a hospital for American Servicemen in the Second World War. In 1963, the parish of St. Mary's, Glen Innes, became a separate worshipping unit of its own.

From 1972 – 1980, the parish was under the care of brothers from the Society of St. Francis.

The decision was made for St. Timothy's Methodist church and St. Marys' to join as one, and the service of consecration was held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 1976. Since then, St. Mary's has been a cooperating parish.

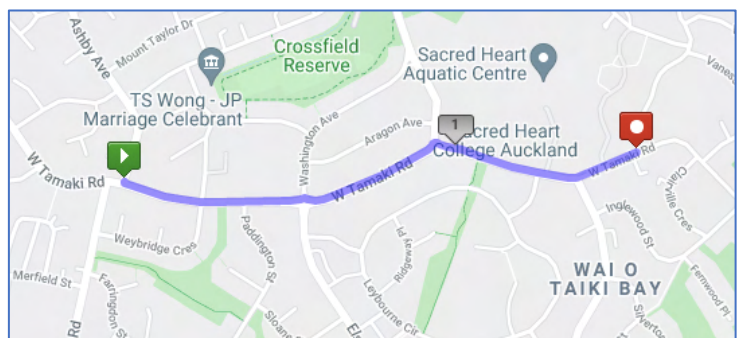
As you stand at the intersection, look across the valley towards St. Mary's. Think of our neighbours, the parish family there, their mission in Glen Innes, and their clergy.

Also, think of St. Mary, the mother of our Lord, and her obedient response to God's call on her life. Reflect on God's call to you. And pray that God continues to call you to new things and for a 'Mary-like' obedience when God's call comes.

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*Jesus, we pray for the parish of St. Mary's, and for their mission in Glen Innes. We give thanks for Mary, Your mother, and her obedience to God's call. Help all of us who believe in You to honour each other equally, whatever our gender, whatever our ability, whatever our social state may be; to the honour of Your holy name. Amen*

*Now head along West Tāmaki Road to the corner of Roberta Avenue, past Sacred Heart College.*





## Station Seven: Corner of Vanessa Crescent

We pray, giving thanks for God's creation, overlooking Tahuna Torea.

*Arrive at the intersection of Vanessa Crescent and West Tāmaki Road.*



Tahuna Torea includes a long sand bank which extends out into the Tāmaki Estuary. It also has a tidal lagoon with mangrove scrub, freshwater wetlands and regenerating native forest and scrub. The area provides a mosaic of marine, intertidal, freshwater and terrestrial habitats.

The rich, fertile soils of Tahuna Torea supported Māori gardens and the sandspit was an abundant food-gathering place.

Between 1850 and 1950, much of the land around Tahuna Torea and Wai-O-Taiki Bay was farmed by a handful of families and known as Bradley Farms. Tahuna Torea means “the gathering place of the oyster catchers”, Torea being a name which suggests the cry of the oystercatcher.

As you stand at the intersection, look out across the Tāmaki River. Think of God's creation, the magnificence of it, the freedom we have to enjoy it, and our God given role to care for and manage it responsibly.

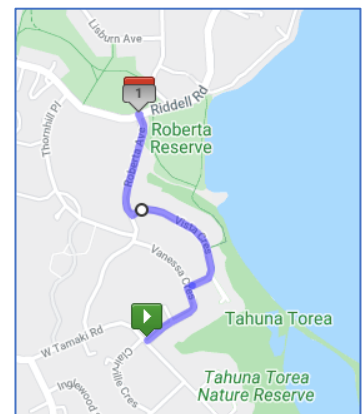
Think of other places in the world where the environment is not cared for as well and so is, therefore, hostile to life. Think of the threats to our world and our part in solving those. Ask for God's help to find new ways to steward the earth responsibly and care for future generations by doing so.

Also, meditate on our Church's fifth mark of mission, “To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.” Maybe, have the courage to ask God to inspire you to take part in that mission in new and effective ways.

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*Eternal God, whose Spirit moved over the face of the deep bringing forth light and life; by that same Spirit, renew Your creation, and restore Your image in Your people. Turn us from careless tenants to faithful stewards, and may one generation may proclaim to another the wonder of Your works; through Jesus Christ, Your living Word. Amen.*

*Now head down Vanessa Crescent, Vista Crescent, and Roberta Ave to the corner of Riddell Road and Hartland Avenue.*



## Station Eight: Corner of Riddell and Hartland.

We pray, giving thanks for God's forgiveness.

*Arrive at the intersection of Riddell Road and Hartland Avenue.*



Riddell Road swoops to the north here and this spot is (almost) the most eastern spot of our parish.

The eastern edge of Glendowie, bordering the Tāmaki River was called Tauoma, and was the Eastern edge of the area settled by Te Waiohua, the largest settlement of which was called Te Taurere (located at Taylors Hill).

The suburb of Glendowie was established in the 1920s, when George Riddell created a loop road through the area.

As you stand at the intersection, look out (across the reserve) to the Tāmaki River.

The east has much significance for us and is a repeated metaphor in the Bible.

The Garden of Eden, the symbol of God's provision, is in the East, the wind that parts the Red Sea, symbolising God's protection, comes from the East, our altar is in the East, symbolising the dawn and hope, and in Psalm 103, the psalmist states that God does not repay us for our sins, but removes them from us as far as the East is from the West (a distance that is never ending because one can never stop travelling Eastwards).

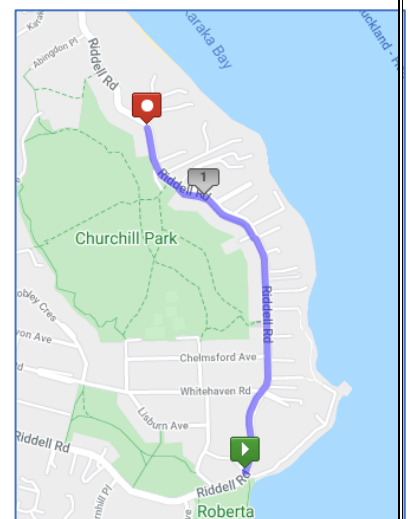
As you pause, place any situation where you may have acted ungratefully before God. Think of times when you have disappointed yourself by your actions, and ask God's forgiveness.

Give thanks to God for God's never failing, never ending love and forgiveness and ask for God to give you the strength to forgive anyone who has hurt you.

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*God of mercy, we have sinned against You and against others. We have sinned in what we have done, and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, who died for our sins, forgive us all that is past and raise us to newness of life. Amen.*

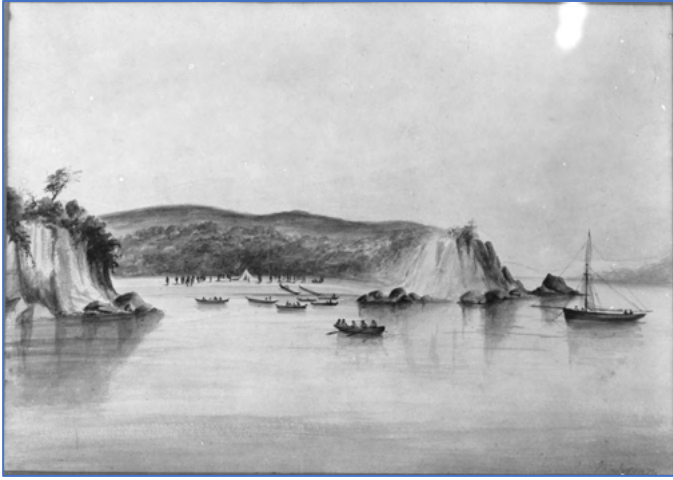
*Now head up Riddell Road until you reach Peacock Street (on your right).*



## Station Nine: Peacock Street/Karaka Bay

We pray, giving thanks for our country and for our partnership with Maori.

*Arrive at the intersection of Riddell Road and Peacock Street and (maybe) head down to Karaka Bay.*



*Watercolour painting by W Jordan of Karaka Bay, Tamaki, and the Treaty of Waitangi being signed. 1840's. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries, 4-1062*

Karaka Bay or Waiarohe ('the bay of shimmering waters') is on the western shore of the Tāmaki River mouth.

On 4 March 1840 The Treaty of Waitangi was signed at Karaka Bay, by 17 chiefs mostly from Ngāti Pāoa and Ngāti Maru.

Four months later, on 9 July 1840, another six chiefs signed the Treaty at Karaka Bay

As you stand at the top of Peacock Street, think of the feet of those who have travelled the land before you. If you're brave, head down Peacock Street to the entrance of the track. If you're really brave, walk down to the beach.

The Church in New Zealand started with the invitation of Māori to the Bay of Islands in 1814. Ngapuhi Chief Ruatara invited the Rev'd Samuel Marsden to bring the Gospel to New Zealand and the connection with Māori and the Anglican Church has continued ever since.

Māori named our church Te Hahi Mihinare, or the missionary church.

As you pause, think of that first invitation of Ruatara to Marsden and how God had placed that call on both men. Pause to meditate on the courage of past people to enter into an agreement that aimed to be an equal sharing of resources and protection. Pause to celebrate the successes that came from that treaty and acknowledge the hurts it also has caused.

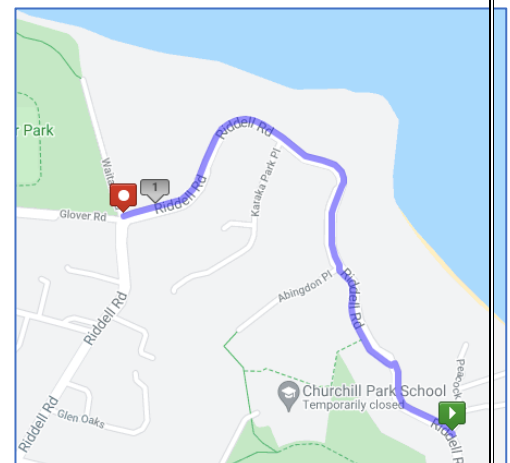
Pray for our country, for our relationships with each other, and give thanks for God calling all people together.

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*Dear God, You have called us to be Your people,  
to live in Your world and to do Your will.*

*Restore us to rightful relationships  
with one another and with You  
for You have made each of us in Your image  
and called us to love one another.*

*Now head along Riddell Road until you reach Glover Road.*





## Station Ten: Glover Park

We pray, giving thanks for our lives, our health, and asking for healing.

*Arrive at the intersection of Riddell Road and Glover Road (overlooking the Park).*



Glover Park was previously a swamp, until drained in the 1950's by Auckland Council.

It is situated on a volcanic 'explosion' crater. It offers walks of various steepness, and boasts some wonderful views of Rangitoto, Hauraki Gulf and Auckland City.

The area around Glover was named Te Pane o Horoiwi (The Head of Horoiwi). The name refers to the place where Horoiwi, one of the migrants aboard the *Tainui* waka, settled with his family in approximately the 13th century.

In 1953 half the area was drained and consolidated. In the same year the Tāmaki Ex-Servicemen's Women's Auxiliary planted trees to commemorate the men of the district who had lost their lives during World War I and II.

As you stand, overlooking the park, give thanks for areas of green that allow exercise and the promotion of good health.

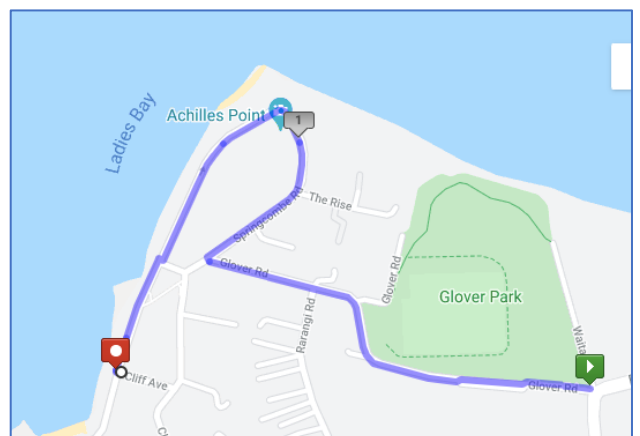
Also, give thanks for your own health and for recovery from past sicknesses and trials. If you need, lament on health challenges that you, or ones you know and love, are facing. Be bold enough to lay all your cares, fears, and laments at God's feet. God is ready to listen and answer.

Also, be bold to ask for God to heal you in whatever way God sees fit. Pray for physical healing, spiritual healing, or emotional healing. And pray that God's will will be done, and that God will grant you, or your loved ones, with the courage and strength to handle whatever comes next.

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*God of compassion, Hear the prayer we offer for all Your people. Remember in Your mercy those for whom we pray: heal the sick, raise the fallen, strengthen the fainthearted and enfold in Your love the fearful and those who have no hope. May we be renewed in Your love, and serve You as Your children in Your kingdom. Amen.*

Now head down Glover Road, turn right along Springcombe Road, and continue down Cliff Road until Cliff Avenue.



## Station Eleven: Cliff Avenue

We pray, giving thanks for St. Heliers Bay and the city of Auckland.

*Arrive at the intersection of Cliff Road and Cliff Avenue, overlooking the Bay and city.*



*Looking south west by west from the east end of St Heliers Beach, 1931.  
Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections 4-5361*

“To visit St. Heliers Bay, formerly Glen Orchard, is to become impressed with the fact that there is no other bay of equal beauty near Auckland.

It commands a charming and picturesque view of the North Shore, Rangitoto, Motutapu and Brown’s Island.

The beach is so attractive that it cannot fail to be resorted to as a fashionable watering-place. The soil is partly volcanic and is a warm rich loam which, for orchards and floriculture, leaves little to be desired.” (From the New Zealand Herald, 1882)

As you pause, look along St. Heliers Beach and take in the view, stretching up the Waitematā Harbour towards the city of Auckland. Also, look across to the North Shore and see the inner harbour settlement of Devonport and the stretch to the ‘Bays’ up to Whangaparāoa.

Give thanks for those who established our village and our city. Give thanks for the beautiful bay in which we live.

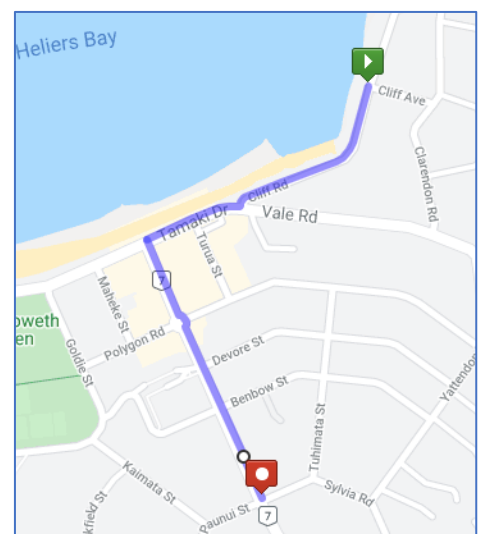
Pause to think of the industry that sustains our city, especially represented by our port. Pray for our city leaders, for the elected officials of the Ōrākei local Board, for our city councillors, and for our mayor.

Pray for our Minister of Parliament and for our Government. Give thanks that we live in a democracy where we all have a voice and all can exercise our right to vote.

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*God of life and love, we pray for those who make decisions about the resources of the earth, for those who work on the land and sea, in city and in industry, for artists, scientists and visionaries, and for those who govern us. Grant them Your wisdom. Amen*

Now, continue down Cliff Road, along Tāmaki Drive, and up St. Heliers Bay Road to St. Philip’s.



## Station Twelve: St. Philip's Anglican Church

We pray, giving thanks for our Parish, our Diocese, and our Bishop.

*Arrive at St. Philip's.*



"In the late 1950's, the Parish was able to buy the present site, previously the home of Bishop Averill and family.

A design by Mr Reynolds of Kingston, Reynolds, Thom and Alladice for a church and hall was prepared and this complex was built in 1959 – 60 for £60,000.

The new church was dedicated on 19th June 1960 by Bishop Caulton who preached to a congregation of seven hundred filling the church and the hall and spilling out into the street.

We give thanks to those who with such generosity, foresight and faith built this church on strong foundations and to the thousands who, over more than one hundred years, have rejoiced in worship at St Philip's. Now another generation looks to the future with confidence as the Church of St Philip serves St Heliers and Glendowie in its second hundred years."  
*(Text by Colin Percy, adapted)*

As you pause, look at our Church building complex. Think of our parish family, especially those with whom we meet weekly to praise God with, and those who we know are in need at this time. Pray for each one of them.

Give thanks for our Vestry. Also, give thanks for our Archdeacon and our Bishop. Pray energy, rest, and peace for them. Ask God to protect them and to guide them as they pastor our parish and our people.

Pray for our mission in this parish, and in our wider diocese, and country. Ask that we all may see places where we may be God's hands, God's people, and God's heart to those we meet.

Pray for those who we have not met yet, and whom God may be speaking to, who pass our Church every day and wonder what God has in store for them. Ask that they have the courage to continue seeking and also that may we be part of God's mission in their lives.

You may wish to collect your prayers together by praying:

*Almighty God, we pray for Your blessing on all who share in the life and work of our church and parish: in the ministry of word, prayer and sacrament; in teaching, learning together and pastoral care; in service to our Diocese Auckland, the community, and those in need. We pray for all members of our congregation, that in their life and work they may advance Your kingdom and bear witness to Your love, shown in Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



## A record of your prayers.

Sometimes, it is good to record what we pray for and also to record when God has answered those prayers. Feel free to use the table below to do just that.

Date	What I prayed for	Date God answered