

# St John the Baptist Anglican Church

## Newsletter

47 Church Street, Northcote 0627

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### Cate's Cogitations

Well here we are the beginning of the secular year, many people back to work and not long until school starts (for all you grandparents minding grandchildren), so you can relax and put your feet up. It seems a curious irony to write that in light of it being the end of NZ's (only) long holiday season. I do hope for those of you who've had time away that you've managed some relax time, perhaps had chance to connect and catch up with extended family. I'm aware there's been a few of you who've unfortunately suffered illness or injury that's cut your 'away from home' time short, something we'd all rather avoid. Yet also I've heard tell of thankfulness for the sustaining support of family and friends and for the blessing of ready access to excellent medical care. Thank you to all of you who've had and taken time to care for each other during what can be challenging and difficult times.

Christmas services were truly a celebration of the season, there were a few surprises including the (unexpected) arrival of my dog just in time for receiving communion on Christmas Day!! I thoroughly enjoyed the children's service on Christmas Eve and am hugely grateful to Karen and Shirley for the ministry they provide to our young people. Thanks also to the parents and support crew who provided transport, encouragement, props and interventions as necessary to make sure the children were able and ready to participate. It's wonderful to see the children grow in confidence and sense of belonging at St Johns.

In welcoming these youngsters as part of St Johns I'm conscious that this will change the dynamic of our community - just as a family unit changes with the arrival of a new child. I look forward to exploring with you how we can actively seek to incorporate our youngsters and enable and encourage them to express with integrity their encounter of God in the world in ways that may be quite different from those to which we're accustomed. I'd like to think this is a journey of discovery we can take together. I've often heard it

expressed in church that change is unaccustomed and not much welcomed. Yet curiously, outside of church, in order to remain in connection and relationship with children and grandchildren and simply to keep pace with news and the technology required we prove we're more than ready and quite adept at change. I wonder why the difference.

And so to this new year of potential and possibilities, as many of you will know Easter is later this year than we've had in a while. Ash Wednesday falls on March 5<sup>th</sup> and Easter the weekend of April 18 - 20<sup>th</sup> so we've a bit of time to get used to the idea of Lent and Easter before they begin. We hope in February to have a small occasion to mark the refurbishment of the bell tower, with one thing and another time seems to pass and suddenly future planned dates are upon us, but we will keep you updated on this.

May you keep well and continue to enjoy this still balmy weather of summer.

With every blessing

Cate

### Food Bank

In my last report for the Newsletter, I advised that Fiona Doolan, Rosemary Saunders and I made up sixteen Christmas boxes and six Christmas bags with your wonderful donations which were delivered very promptly by Hine.

My premonition that further donations would be given proved correct as a further three boxes and four bags were made ready and were again picked up by Hine.

Thank you everyone for your generosity which enabled a total of twenty nine households to sample some Christmas joy.

By Matthew Davies

## Church Maintenance

Twenty wonderful souls braved the doubtful weather (and got wet!) on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December in answer to our pew leaflet invitation to take part in the pre-Christmas grounds tidy up.

Thank you all for working so unflinchingly – don't the grounds look so much better!

Mary Devlyn's call to a delicious morning tea was timed to perfection as we just got inside before the heavens opened!

It was great to work together proving the point about many hands.

By Matthew Davies

P.S. Advance notice is hereby given of another invitation to a growth cut-back of greenery in the church grounds in February. Please pray for fine weather!

## In and around St Johns

**Sunday Services:** 8.00am and 9.30am

**Wednesday services:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month, 10.00am.

**Selwyn Centre:** Meets from 9.30am – 12noon every Wednesday in the St Jude's Room.

**Garden Tidy-Up:** 9am onwards on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February

**Evening Women's Fellowship:** 7.30pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month

**Sunday School 4th Sunday of the month 9.30am**

**Selwyn Centre Special Event – Tour of the Port**  
9.30am onwards 11 February

**This week the Selwyn Centre will be meeting on a Tuesday instead of Wednesday**

We will meet at St Johns Church and then go into the city for a free tour of the Port.

- Meet at St Johns on Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of February at 9.30am
- Catch the bus in to the city (those of you who have one, bring your Gold card along.

Everyone else, you will need to purchase a bus ticket)

- Walk to where the Tour begins at Pier 4, Ferry Terminus, Quay Street
- The tour is from approximately 11am to 12noon
- Walk to the food court at Queens arcade to have lunch (you would need to buy your own but you are welcome to bring something from home if you want)
- Catch the bus to return to St Johns at around 2pm

**Ash Wednesday service:** 10.00am and 7.00pm 5<sup>th</sup> March

**AGM:** 30<sup>th</sup> March

## Contacts

### Ministerial Team

Priest: Cate Thorn 480 7568

Pastor: Karen Ward 021 232 7205

### Wardens

Vicar's Warden: Doug Dempster 418 1448

People's Warden: Matthew Davies 418 2790

### Synod Representatives

Rosemary Saunders 489 5830

Tristan Sullivan-Vaughan 480 8064

### Treasurer

Laurie Myers 480 8163

### Hall Hire

Sue Grant 410 8070

### Recorder

Wendy McPherson 473 3448

### Women's Fellowship

Rosemary Saunders 4895830

### Selwyn Centre

Shireen Tresslor 440 9194

### Catering Committee

Barbara McIlroy 418 4117

### Office Admin, Newsletter and Website

Shireen Tresslor 480 7568

## AGM

The AGM will be held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March. If you have a report to present, please forward them to Shireen in the office before the 9<sup>th</sup> of March by email ([office@stjohnsanglican.org.nz](mailto:office@stjohnsanglican.org.nz)). The reports will be circulated through the parish in the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> March.

## Readings for the month

### February 2 Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

First Reading: Malachi 3: 1-5

Second Reading: Hebrews 2: 14-18

Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40

### February 9 Ordinary 5

First Reading: Isaiah 58: 1-12

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2: 1-16

Gospel: Matthew 5: 13-20

### February 16 Ordinary 6

First Reading: Sirach 15: 15-20

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3: 1-9

Gospel: Matthew 5: 21-37

### February 23 Ordinary 7

First Reading: Leviticus 19: 1-2, 9-18

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3: 10-11, 16-23

Gospel: Matthew 5: 38-48

## The Parish Roll

We are in the process of updating the Parish Roll. All the rolls in circulation have been collated and a printout is on the table at the back of the Church. Please have a look at it. Make sure your name is on the roll with correct address, telephone numbers and email address. Please also add the names of any children who attend church with you writing **(G)** alongside their names if they are grandchildren. If you have a minute to spare, have a look through the roll for any names that shouldn't be on the roll - people who are now deceased or have moved on. Please cross out any errors, write in any corrections and mark a ✓ in the last column to let us know you've had a look!

## The Website

Pictures from the wonderful Christmas Play will be up on the website shortly – look out for them!

Sermons are now up on the Website for you to have a look at and reflect on. On the main "Welcome" page, there is a "Sermons" box on the right hand side. Sermons are organised by month.

*Your newsletter is prepared by Shireen. You can contact Shireen on 440 9194 / 021 052 4044 or you can email her at [shireen.tresslor@hwr counselling.co.nz](mailto:shireen.tresslor@hwr counselling.co.nz). The newsletter is published on the first Sunday of the month and the deadline for submissions is the 25<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.*

## Christmas Play

We do hope you enjoyed the Christmas Play as much as we did. What a memorable performance by all - and after only 4 rehearsals too!! Thanks to all parents who made the time to bring the children to rehearsals and also a special thanks to each one of our talented performers.

**For the young 'uns – something to colour in**

**The Presentation of Jesus at the Temple**

