

St John the Baptist Anglican Church

Newsletter July 2017

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A note from Stan...

Mid-year greetings to you all. Yes, we are half way through the calendar year already, and plans are already beginning to form for the end of the year.

Mid-year, in particular the month of June heralds a number of celebrations for a group of faiths around the world (including New Zealand). Over the period 27 May – 25 June, Muslims have been observing Ramadan, a time of spiritual renewal and fasting. It was during this time of the year that Mohammad received the first revelations of the kor-an. On the 25 June Muslims celebrated Aidilfitri (or Eid al-Fitr in Arabic), the feast to break the fast. For the past month Muslims have not contemplated a meal or drink during the hours of light. It can be a very tiring process.

At the beginning of June, Jews celebrated Shavuot, the harvest festival that gives thanks for the first fruits. It is also a time for renewal and contemplation as this period marks the time when Moses received the Torah (the laws) on Mt Sinai.

At the same time as Shavuot, we observed Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles of Jesus. It is also considered to be the birthday of the church and the beginning of Christian mission.

And then there is the winter solstice, for us the shortest day of the year. Very soon, Matariki will occur, marking the beginning of a new year for Maori.

There is so much renewal to celebrate, regardless of faith! In our service sheet for the first Sunday of July, I gave thanks for the positive things in our lives – family, friends, Anglican mission overseas. I would like to add these observances of faith that give the worshipper time to reflect, to recharge, renew and re-arm for another year. Whether we address God as Allah, Yahweh or Father, may we be thankful for the opportunity to pray, to commit, to serve, to love and share our faith with others at this mid-point of our year.

Kindly, **Stan Pilbrow**

PATRONAL FESTIVAL THANKS

Thank you to all our parishioners who provided such a wonderful spread for Sunday's Patronal Festival – you certainly made it a feast and warmly welcomed the visitors. Thank you all for the willing offers of help on the day, it was much appreciated. Sally made a delicious 'birthday' cake and though she was not there to see it, we had expert cutters in Colin Couch and Max (Shirley and Richard's grandson). Thanks too to our Sunday School children and their teachers who added so much lustre to the day!

Barbara (Catering convenor) and Rosemary (Catering committee)



In and around St John

Sunday Services: 8am, 9.30am, Eucharist.

5pm (study/discussion group). All welcome, come as and when able.

Fourth-Sunday School: 4th Sunday of the month at 9.30am

Evening Women's Fellowship: 7.30pm 2nd Tuesday of the month

Men's Supper & Bible Group: 7.30-9pm twice a month on a Wednesday. Check the weekly service sheet for each venue.

Next Garage Sale: 14th October

Hall Users

Rowe Dance - ballet classes for 3-8 year olds on Monday 2.45-4.30pm, Wednesday 3.45-5.30pm and Thursday 3.30-4.30pm in term time.

Rowe Dance - dancing for adults, Friday 10-11am.

Rowe Dance - Personal tuition by arrangement.

Joy Russ Dance - Monday 8.30-9.30pm.

Positive Balance Yoga - Mon, Tues 6-8.30pm, Thurs 5.45-8.15pm in term time.

Weight Watchers - meet in St Jude's Room weekly, Tuesday 5.30-7.30pm.

Jumping Beans - Wednesday 9am-1pm in term time.

Scottish Country Dance - Wednesday 7.30pm - 10pm throughout the year.

Northcote Steps - meet in the St Jude's Room, Friday 7-10pm throughout the year.

Soccer for Tots - Sat 9am - 1pm during term time

Northern Performing Arts - Saturday 4-8pm.

English Folk Dance - 2nd Friday of each month, 7-10pm

Early English Dance - 4th Friday of each month, 7.30 - 10pm

AlAnon family support group - 3-5pm first Sun of each month.

The Korean Yaewon Church: Sunday 10am-5pm (hall), 1.40pm-3pm (St Jude's Room).

Plus occasional use by...

Northcote Residents Association

Northcote/Birkenhead Boat Owners Association

St Thomas, Syrian Church.

Readings for the month

July 2 Ordinary 13

Reading: Genesis 22: 1-14

Epistle: Romans 6: 12-23

Gospel: Matthew 10: 40-42

July 9 Ordinary 14

Reading: Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Epistle: Romans 7: 15-25a

Gospel: Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

July 16 Ordinary 15

Reading: Genesis 25: 19-34

Epistle: Romans 8: 1-11

Gospel: Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

July 23 Ordinary 16

Reading: Genesis 28: 10-19a

Epistle: Romans 8: 12-25

Gospel: Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

July 30 Ordinary 17

Reading: Genesis 29: 15-28

Epistle: Romans 8: 26-39

Gospel: Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

August 6 Transfiguration of the Beloved Son

Reading: Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14

Epistle: 2 Peter 1: 16-19

Gospel: Luke 9: 28b-36



PASTORAL CARE REPORT

Another month in this role has passed and where has it gone!! Two Sundays I also served as Locum Priest, the second of those being followed by the morning tea for Hospice. That was wonderful fellowship and an important part of the pastoral outreach from the Parish. Thank you to Barbara McIlroy and the Fellowship Group.

I made a number of visits to North Shore Hospital as winter ills, chills, and spills took their toll. Other regular visiting and Home Communion continue.

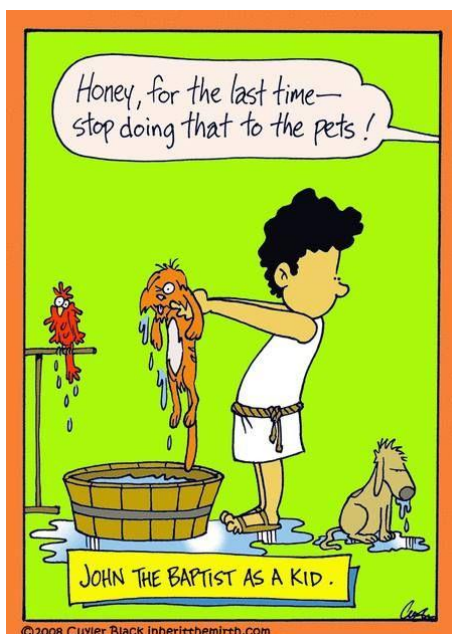
The weekly Morning Prayer time in the Chapel at 10am also continued until 14th June then on 21st June changed to Midday Prayer at 12 noon. It was encouraging that people not able to come at the earlier time attended.

After the Patronal Festival I did my best to ensure people not able to attend were taken a piece of the cake.

On Thursday 29th June I teamed up with a Veterinary Nurse from Glenfield Clinic and we visited Shoal Bay Villa with a cat and two dogs. The Villa is delighted with this activity which is planned for three times in the year.

Work on updating the Parish Roll continues. It is a slow process.

Vivienne Hill (The Reverend)



WOMEN'S EVENING FELLOWSHIP

We had a really good visit this month from the CEO of the NZ Leprosy Mission and look forward now to our next Fellowship meeting which is on the 11th July in the St Jude's room at 7.30pm.



This is the annual book club evening and is always fascinating to hear what others are reading! Bring some info about a book you have enjoyed (or not) and tell us about it. Barbara McIlroy will run the meeting with Pru Giles. Any questions to them please. We finish with a delicious supper as always. All members very welcome. Next month, August 8th, is our annual dinner in the church foyer. So mark this in your diaries, please!

Thank you all, Rosemary.

MEN'S SUPPERS IN JULY

The first gathering will be on **12th July**, at Don Joseph's home, 38 Sunnybrae Rd Northcote.

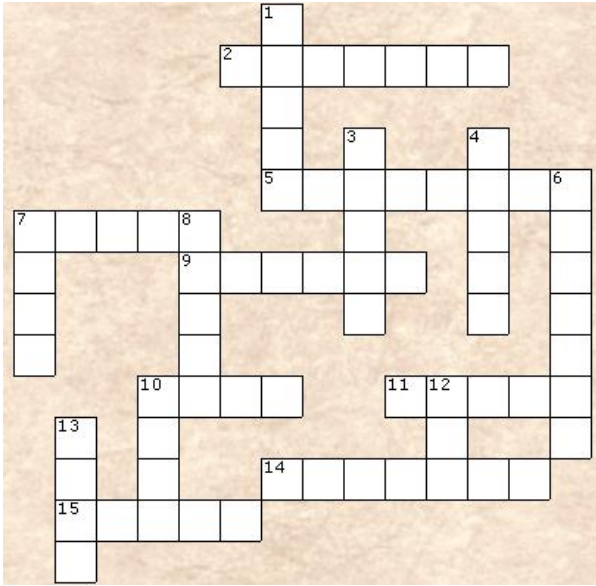
The second gathering is on the **26th July**, at Peter White's home, 14 Vincent Rd, Northcote Point.

It's not a late night - **7.30 - 9pm**.

If you haven't been to one of our Men's Suppers, then July would be a great start. We just love them. Great companionship, great chats, some good laughs, some great 'stories', great sharing, and great Bible readings. Currently we are learning about prayers in the Bible - what can we learn? And then we finish off with some really great suppers. (just bring a plate of shareable supper)

Any questions or queries, phone Peter (419 4380) or Richard (4199 026.). Come and join us for a Men-Only night out?



CROSSWORD: ANIMALS IN THE BIBLE**ACROSS**

- 2 Food of John the Baptist
 5 Therefore do not fear; you are of more value than many __
 7 Daniel was thrown into a den of __
 9 Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous __
 10 As the __ pants for streams of water, so I long for you, O God.
 11 First bird released by Noah
 14 Before the __ crows, you will disown me three times!
 15 Most frequently mentioned animal in the Bible

DOWN

- 1 Jesus' parable of the sheep and __
 3 It is easier for a __ to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God
 4 White animal in Revelation
 6 Eden tempter
 7 The __ of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
 8 Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before __
 10 The Holy Spirit appeared at Jesus' baptism as this animal
 12 Industrious insect of Proverbs
 13 Jesus fed 5000 with two __ and five loaves of bread

Your newsletter is prepared by Natalie. You can contact Natalie by emailing her at sjbanglican@gmail.com. The newsletter is published on the first Sunday of the month and the deadline for submissions is the previous Tuesday.

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Wardens

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Synod Representatives

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Richard Lewis 419 9026

Recorder

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Women's Fellowship

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Men's Supper and Bible reading group

Peter White 419 4380

Catering Committee

Barbara McIlroy 418 4117

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ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD