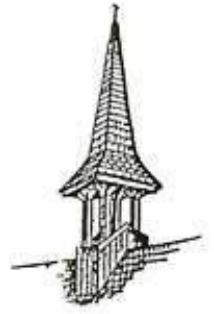


St John the Baptist Anglican Church

Newsletter March 2015

47 Church Street, Northcote 0627

09 480 7568 / office@stjohnsanglican.org.nz / www.stjohnsanglican.org.nz



Cate's Cogitations

Well, schools are back and Lent is here, along with month 3 2015. Goodness me when did all that time pass? Speaking of time passing, February marked seven years since my induction here at St Johns, I'm not sure where the time has gone.

As Ash Wednesday approached, the day we're marked with ashes, in symbolic act and with words invited to "Remember we are but dust and to dust we shall return," reminded of our mortality, I found myself thinking of all the people over that seven years who are no longer with us. There was of course sadness, for each in their own way had enriched my life and I missed their living presence. But, curiously I realised my remembering of them meant that they continued to be with me. Although there was pain at the separation from them, I wouldn't prefer to have not had them part of my life.

Lent, a time we more intentionally take time to pause, listen for, notice and learn how we can respond to God, is part of the pattern of this Christian way of moving and being in the world. It is part of what we call tradition. In days gone by, Lent was the time of final preparation for those wanting to join the community of faith through baptism at Easter. It was also a time of repentance for those who, by their actions had separated themselves from the faith community and wished to be reunited. It became a time when those within the faith community also recognised their own need to be renewed in faith and turn from ways of acting that separated them from God and one another. There was a sense that those within the faith community wanted to support those seeking to be part of them again, identifying with them, strengthened those preparing to belong, to belong again and the community as a whole.

We travel Lent in time, this time, which is true. Tradition joins us to those saints gone before us, those unnamed faithful followers, beyond number throngs before our knowing, as well as those we've known and still love. This Lent, as did Christ we turn our face to Jerusalem, our hearts to God we join with all faithful disciples gone before us. The faithful witness of their

continuing presence in our lives strengthens and sustains us, for we know we travel as community with all the saints who journey this way.

Rhythms of community life are not just confined to religious tradition. They're also in the concrete structure of our parish life. In keeping with the tradition of this parish the last Sunday in March, (March 29), Palm Sunday is the day on which we hold our AGM.

Hearing and confirming reports about the parish life is part of the business of the AGM as well as election of the Vestry, People's Warden and affirmation of the Vicar's Warden. Although we've yet to confirm how many of current Vestry will stand again, there is always room for new faces and energy. So, if you've thought about it or wondered a bit, you'd be more than welcome.

After four years Matthew has decided to relinquish the People Warden role so we need someone willing to take this on. It's not as arduous as you imagine!! If you're wondering whether it might be your thing and would like to know more, please talk to Matthew or myself for starters. As you will know from last year, Laurie decided, after many years, to step down from his role as Treasurer. Doug Dempster offered to fulfil the duties of this role, in addition to being Vicar's Warden and for this I'm really grateful. In effect it does mean, though, that the Treasurer role is still vacant. It is a requirement of a parish/ministry unit to have a Treasurer. If you have skills/ experience in this area and would be willing to undertake this task for St Johns please speak to Doug or myself.

As some of you will be aware we've had a number of requests to increase the frequency of Sunday school sessions. We're a little challenged with personnel to organise this so we've decided to adapt the form of the 9.30am service on the second Sunday of the month. The service will have a looser framework, be more conversational, include an activity, perhaps the acting out of a biblical story and child friendly songs. It will be a bit of fun along with some learning time together.

So AGM at the end of March, Easter at the beginning of April then almost immediately the first Garage Sale of the year – just a few things in the calendar!!!

For those of you who don't know, Natalie who puts this newsletter together will be a married woman by the time this issue comes out. She and Michael will be married on Saturday February 28th. It's generous of her to fit the newsletter into her marriage prep. I'm not sure how many of us would have done that. Congratulations to Natalie and Michael (and of course Austin who'll doubtless enjoy both celebrations and happy parents!!!).

Lenten blessings to you all

Cate

In and around St Johns

Sunday Services: 8.00am, 9.30am and 5pm

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

Wednesday services: 1st Wednesday of the month, 10.00am

Selwyn Centre: Wednesday 9.30am – 12noon in the St Jude's Room

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

Craft Group: Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesday 1.30pm in the St Jude's Room

Next Garage Sale: 18 April 2015

Hall Users

Positive Balance Yoga - Mon, Tues, Thurs evenings, 5.45pm – 7pm or 7pm -- 8.15pm in term time

Rowe Dance - ballet classes for 3-8 year olds on Mon morning and Wed afternoon in term time.

Jumping Beans - Tues 9am – 12pm in term time

Singing tuition (Claire Martin) Tues, St Jude's Room

Scottish Country Dance - Wed 7.30pm – 10pm in term time

Place for children minded by **Barnados** care givers – Thurs morning, fortnightly in term time

Alcoholics Anonymous support group – each Fri

English Folk Dance - 2nd Fri each month, 7.30 – 10pm

Early English Dance - last Fri each month, 7.30 – 10pm

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

AlAnon family support group – the afternoon of the first Sun of each month.

Shore Stitchers - 3rd Sun each month 11am – 3pm

Monthly public health clinic in the St Jude's Room to administer **BCG injections**

Readings for the month

March 1 Lent 2

First Reading: Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

Second Reading: Romans 4: 13-25

Gospel: Mark 8: 31-38

March 8 Lent 3

First Reading: Exodus 20: 1-7

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9: 18-25

Gospel: John 2: 13-22

March 15 Lent 4

First Reading: Numbers 21: 4-9

Second Reading: Ephesians 2: 1-10

Gospel: John 3: 14-21

March 22 Lent 5

First Reading: Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Second Reading: Hebrews 5: 5-10

Gospel: John 12: 20-33

March 29 Palm Sunday

First Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Second Reading: Philippians 2: 5-11

Gospel: Mark 15: 1-39

April 5 Easter Day

First Reading: Isaiah 25: 6-9

Second Reading: Acts 10: 34-43

Gospel: John 20: 1-18

ST JOHNS WOMENS' FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday March 10, 7.30pm in the St Jude's room. Peter Mundell, the speaker for the evening, addresses the topic 'Personality is the capacity for Fellowship.' All welcome, especially new members.

SELWYN CENTRE

Selwyn Centre meets in St Jude's Room Wednesdays 9.30 -12. On March 4th we're exploring 'school memories'. Those interested in attending a 4-week course from Aged Concern about Nutrition for Seniors, please contact Louise 419-2034 or d.louise@xtra.co.nz.

PALM CROSSES

Friday 27th March, 10am in the St Jude's Room, we will be making Palm Crosses. Please come along to help and bring your own scissors.

We will have hot cross buns and coffee/tea when we have finished. A lot of fun and won't take long if we have a good number to help.

Any queries, please phone Pru 489 1998

FOOD BANK

Our bank is continuing to fill thank you. On or about 1 April a good contribution will be made from us to the Salvation Army.

The need for food parcels is not diminishing. Unless there's an enormous turnaround between the haves and have-not's, everything will stay as is. I cannot envisage a politically led change to ensure all people are helped to become equal, so our food bank, like all the others, will stay a necessity.

I have not made a "needs now please" list for our bank but I am quite certain all regular givers will know what our food bank requires on a constant basis. Next month I will try to include a suggestion list. Is Food Bank on your shopping list please?

Regards, Matthew Davies

CHURCH MAINTENANCE

On a recent Saturday (the 21st), Colin and I were completing the painting the 'Ladies' walls. About half way through, Cate entered and carefully advised us there was to be a wedding in the church at 2pm! After a quick chat, it was decided that, to take pressure off the system (ours), the Ladies the Gents would become unisex. No complaints have been lodged as yet. I apologise to our 8 o'clockers on Sunday as the closed sign was not removed until 9 am. The walls were well and truly dry by then so all danger was passed. I hope no one was inconvenienced!

The wall paint required to complete the toilet block and kitchen has been purchased, a little experimenting with Polyurethane will be done to get matching stain throughout. The kitchen tidy up is planned to start in April assuming there are no more wedding ambushes!

Matthew Davies.

P.S. Who said a painter's life was dull?

GARAGE SALE

This will happen on **18 April at 8.30am** and it is never too early to start collecting goods. Please ask your family, friends and neighbours to share those things which they have no further need for with those people who would be able to put them to good use.

Remember we sell household goods, kitchen gadgets, bits and pieces of china, plants, cakes, pickles and jams, books, clothes and all sorts of other things. Start sorting!!!

And note the date in your diary.

Ministerial Team

Pastor: Karen Perrett

Vicar's Warden: Doug Dempster 418 1448

People's Warden: Matthew Davies 418 2790

Rosemary Saunders 489 5830

Tristan Sullivan-Vaughan 480 8064

Sue Grant 410 8070

Wendy McPherson 473 3448

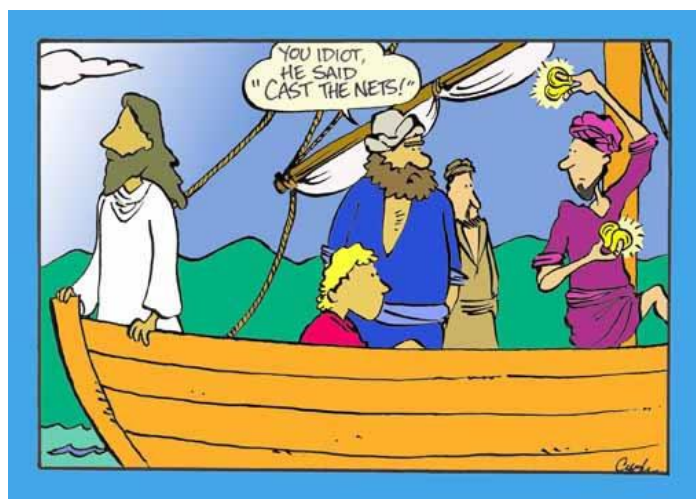
Rosemary Saunders 489 5830

Louise Collenette 419 2035

Barbara McIlroy 418 4117

Natalie Mason	480 7568
---------------	----------

Your newsletter is prepared by Natalie. You can contact Natalie on 480 7568 or you can email her at office@stjohnsanglican.org.nz. The newsletter is published on the first Sunday of the month and the deadline for submissions is the 25th of the previous month.



John the Baptist

Matt.2:17-3:4

ANGEL	BAPTIST
BELT	CHILDREN
EGYPT	DESERT
HAIR	DREAM
HEROD	GALILEE
HONEY	HEAVEN
ISAIAH	JEREMIAH
ISRAEL	JOSEPH
JOHN	KINGDOM
JUDEA	LEATHER
LIVED	LOCUSTS
LORD	NAZARETH
PATHS	PREPARE
RACHEL	PROPHET
RAMAH	REIGNING
REPENT	SPOKEN
TOWN	STRAIGHT
VOICE	WARNED
WAIST	WEEPING

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

MORE PUZZLES AT:

http://biblewordgames.com

COPYRIGHT 2015

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Solutions to last month's puzzle

