

St John the Baptist Anglican Church

Newsletter November 2019

47 Church Street, Northcote 0627

09 480 7568 / sjbanglican@gmail.com / www.stjohnsanglican.org.nz



A note from Stan...

Advent

The word Advent is derived from the Latin word *adventus* meaning 'coming.' As early as the 4th and 5th centuries, history records Advent as the time of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany.

By the 6th century Roman Christians had tied Advent to the second coming of Christ in the future. It was not until the Middle Ages that the season of Advent was also linked to Christ's first coming at Christmas.

Today, the season of Advent lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas. At that time the European tradition of the new Christian year begins with the 12-day celebration of Christmastide, from Christmas Eve until Epiphany on the 6 January.

The two central themes of Advent are remembrance and anticipation – the first two Sundays look forward to Christ's second coming while the last two look back to remember Christ's first coming. Our scripture readings may contain passages about Christ's return in judgement, Old Testament passages about the expectation of the coming of the Messiah and New Testament pieces about the announcement of Christ's arrival by John the Baptist.

While Advent is certainly a time of celebration and anticipation of Christ's birth, it is more than that. It is only in the shadow of Advent that the miracle of Christmas can be fully understood and appreciated, and it is only in the light of Christmas that Christian life makes any sense. It is between the fulfilled promise of Christ's first coming and the yet-to-be-fulfilled promise of his second coming that faith has become Advent faith, the expectation of future revelation. The promise for the church is Jesus Christ; he has

come, and he will come again... this is the essence of Advent.

We want to explore this Advent phenomenon further at the Church of St John the Baptist. Marc Bos and I will host four studies over consecutive Sunday evenings.

The theme of each study will be a prelude to a Sunday of Advent as follows:

Sunday 24 November Hope, Expectation, Preparation

Sunday 1 December Righteousness, Fulfilment

Sunday 8 December Love, Peace and the Presence of the Lord

Sunday 15 December Justice, Joy, Salvation

The sessions will be held in the church from 5:30 to 7:00pm followed by a meal in the foyer. Combined with these will also be similar themes for our Wednesday morning prayers, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

You are warmly invited to attend, participate and explore our themes as we prepare for Christmas.

Kindly,
Stan



In and around St John

Sunday Services: 8am, 9.30am, Eucharist.

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.

Hall and St Jude's Room Users

Babysitting Club – one Saturday per month – 4pm-9.30pm (hall and kitchen).

The Korean Yewon Church: Sunday, 9.30am-5pm (hall), 9am-11am (St Jude's Room).

Target Training – Wednesday, 4pm-9.30pm (St Jude's Room).

Positive Balance Yoga - Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 6pm-8.30pm, in term time (hall and kitchen).

Weight Watchers – Thursday, 5.30pm-7.30pm (foyer).

Jumping Beans – Wednesday, 8.30am-1pm in term time (hall and kitchen).

St Thomas – Syrian Church – Sunday, 1pm-4pm (Chapel, foyer and St Jude's Room).

Al Anon family support group – Sunday, 3pm-5pm (St Jude's Room).

Scottish Country Dance - Wednesday 7.30pm – 10pm throughout the year (hall and kitchen).

English Folk Dance - 2nd Friday of each month, 7.30pm-10pm (hall and kitchen).

Early English Dance – 4th Friday of each month, 7pm-10pm (hall and kitchen).

Soccer for Tots – Saturday, 8.30am-10.30am during term time (hall and kitchen).

Northcote Steps – Friday, 7pm-10pm throughout the year (St Jude's Room).

Kaipatiki Community Facilities Trust – Preschool Play – Tuesday, 9am-1.30pm from 14th May (hall and kitchen).

Book Club – Wednesday, 7pm-9pm (foyer and small kitchen).

Essentrics Breast Cancer Support/rehab exercise Class – Thursday, 10am.

If you'd like to book the church, hall or St Jude's room, please email Jansyl Andrews at sjbanglican@gmail.com

Readings for the month

November 3 All Saints' Day

Reading: Daniel 7: 1-3, 15-18

Epistle: Ephesians 1: 11-23

Gospel: Luke 6: 20-31

November 10 – 32nd Ordinary Sunday

Reading: Hagg 1: 15b-2: 9

Epistle: 2 Thess 2: 1-5, 13-17

Gospel: Luke 20: 27-38

November 17 33rd Ordinary Sunday

Reading: Isaiah 65: 17-25

Epistle: 2 Thess 3: 6-13

Gospel: Luke 21: 5-19

November 24 Christ the King

Reading: Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Epistle: Colossians 1: 11-20

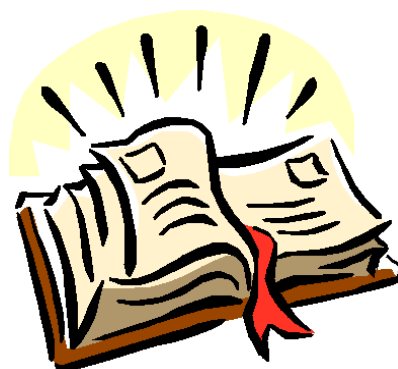
Gospel: Luke 23: 33-43

December 1 Advent 1

Reading: Isaiah 2: 1-5

Epistle: Romans 13: 11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24: 36-44



PASTORAL CARE REPORT

October is the month when St. Francis' Day is observed on the 4th. This year I was specifically rostered to take the Northbridge Service on Thursday 03rd, Regency's on Friday 04th. Shoal Bay Villa was Thursday 10th, and in between I served as Locum Priest on Sunday 06th.



During the 9.30 a.m. Yusef, the Guide Dog Puppy being walked by Joy Leonard, was commissioned for his future role and Blessed. *"Yusef, be warmed with God's spirit and feel Christ's compassion as you prepare for your role guiding a person afflicted by blindness. May God, our Creator, Preserver, Defender, bless you and your human training walker, Joy, this day and for ever. Amen."* A photograph taken by Mike Patterson follows.



Much of my work in the Parish is behind the scenes and the monthly newsletter report can be repetitive simply saying visits including to the Hospital. This month three parts of my business came together. At Northbridge I was accompanied by a lady I meet on my pamphlet delivery run, Jean-Anne, and her dog Jet who demonstrated eating some treats. Dippy (cat) remained in his cage and added his meow to the hymns. Dippy is blind and has arthritis, as does Jet. The accompanying photograph shows him lying on his special mat.



At Regency I took Seren who in cat years is 92. She has some of the same health issues as the Rest Home and Hospital residents. They enjoyed hearing her story, and she made a special visit to bed bound Ken Holmes. It is lovely to have the photograph of him cuddling Seren. Ken died a fortnight later and I attended his Funeral on 25 October.



At Shoal Bay Villa I was joined by the Glenfield Veterinary Clinic Nurse, Julie, and its dog Lilly. Chloe (cat) stayed in her cage.





Under The Privacy Act, we can only publish photographs in which all people visible have given their permission for it to be in the Newsletter. Those included do comply.

The Wednesday Morning Prayer, visits to North Shore Hospital, and folks at home including communions continued as usual. On Sunday 27th I served again as Locum Priest.

Vivienne Hill (The Reverend)

EVENING WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our last (which is unbelievable!) meeting for the year is on Tuesday 12 November and it is our AGM. We will meet at 7pm for a Communion service and this will be followed by the business part of the AGM. We will finish with supper so will everyone please bring a small plate of festive food to share. Hopefully everyone will be there so that we can enjoy each other's company.



Photo taken at last month's meeting with speaker, Anmar TaufEEK.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Vicarage porch repairs and windows done. Painting quotes being sought for the vicarage.

Garage sale was great. Well done everybody. Very nearly \$3500 clear after paying for the rubbish bin. Thanks to St Thomas and Yewon churches for their support.

Envelope and cash donations still down but hall and St Jude's room hire is \$4000 above budget for the year.

Special thanks. Jean Holm has gifted St Johns a significant amount in her will.

MEN'S SUPPER & BIBLE READING GROUP



Calling all MEN. - Calling all MEN!!

Come and join in with two meetings in NOVEMBER – on Wednesdays 13th and 27th November. These are an evening of chatting, life stories, good discussion and a great supper which we'll all bring and share.

Wednesday 13th November. 7.30 - 9pm

Meet at Peter White's home - 2/2 Milton Rd, Northcote Point.

Stan P is going to share with us about some "Items on his Bucket List". These stories are always interesting so we're looking forward to that!

We'll all chat about things that we discover or rediscover about *The Jesus I never knew* It's a DVD we are talking about.

And we'll round off the evening with some Fabulous Food.

Wednesday 27th November 7.30 - 9pm

We will meet at Peter White's home - 2/2 Milton Rd, Northcote Point.

- Stephen B is going to tell us something of his early life. Now that'll be something different.
- And we'll chat about *The Jesus I never knew* DVD
- Then we'll enjoy a great supper together. And we'll chat some more!

It's a great "Blokes" evening. So, if you haven't been before, you're most welcome. Just bring some delicious, delectable supper to share! Just call, Peter White 419 4380 or Richard Lewis - 4199 026 for any further details.

A GIFT FOR BISHOP JIM

You will be aware by now that Bishop Jim is to take medical retirement. There will be a Eucharist service on Advent Sunday at 3pm. It is the intention of the Diocese to purchase a piece of New Zealand art to mark and remember his ministry. All ministry units have been invited to contribute towards this gift. We will do so at our next Vestry meeting. If you would like to contribute personally, you may do so by placing your donation in an envelope and dropping it in to the Office. We will collect the donations together locally, and make one deposit into the Diocese account.

WELCOME, BABY GETHIN

Gill has given us permission to print the attached photo of her and new grandson Gethin who was born on Thursday 24 October 2019. Mum Anna and baby are both well. We offer Anna and the family our congratulations, prayers and blessings at Gethin's safe arrival.



ROFFEY FAMILY ADVENTURE

The Roffey family had a whirlwind adventure to Texas, Mexico City and California over the school holidays! We flew to Houston and visited the Johnson Space Center before driving to Austin where we caught up with our friend, Jennifer, who flew from New York to be with us for 24 hours (Austin loved seeing all the signs with his name on them!). Our next stop was San Antonio where we loved the River Walk (and Legoland!), followed by a night just outside of Houston with friends.



The main purpose of our trip was to visit my great Auntie Marcelle in Mexico City (she is Lebanese but has lived here for 50 years), so that is where we spent the following six nights. We stayed in her apartment which is full of expensive and breakable things (!). Marcelle is 92 years old and absolutely incredible! As

well as spending plenty of quality time with her and her partner, Alex, we also climbed the pyramids in Teotihuacan and were given a tour of the military base by Marcelle and Alex's driver/helper, Nazario. He lives and works on the base and was so good to us. We spent time with his family, as well, and they cooked us traditional Mexican food. We also visited a fun park called Granjas las Americas and fed squirrels in Bosque de Chapultepec.



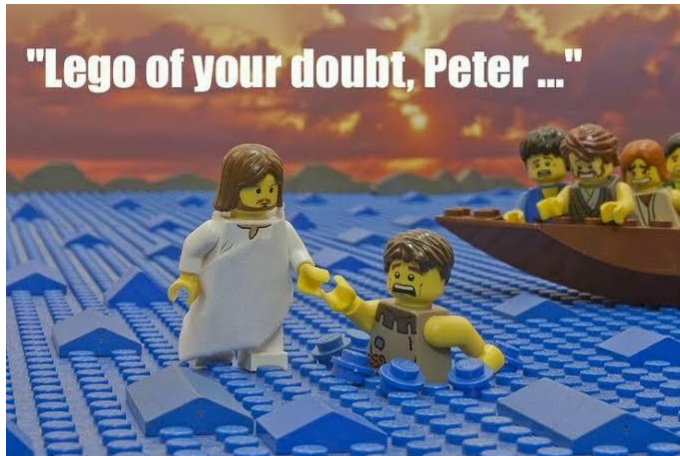
The last few days of our holiday were spent in California - two nights in Anaheim and one night in Santa Monica. We had so much fun at Disneyland (especially Michael!) and Jennifer joined us once again from New York (for another brief 24 hours!). In Santa Monica, we enjoyed the beach, the rides on the pier and dinner at Bubba Gump! On our last day, we went to La Brea Tar Pits (a bit grim but fascinating!) and also the Petersen Automotive Museum.

So there you have it, a quick rundown of our very exciting and full on holiday... and this explains why last month's newsletter, plus a few service sheets in Sept/Oct, were all done in advance.



FIND ST JOHN'S ON FACEBOOK!

Just go to www.facebook.com and search:
@AnglicanChurchNorthcotePoint

**Amen!**

Q: Why do they say 'Amen' at the end of a prayer instead of 'Awomen'?

A: The same reason they sing Hymns instead of Hers!

Going Down!!

As the storm raged, the captain realized his ship was sinking fast. He called out, "Anyone here know how to pray?" One man stepped forward. "Aye, Captain, I know how to pray." "Good," said the captain, "you pray while the rest of us put on our life jackets - we're one short."

The Monkey

One day the zoo-keeper noticed that the monkey was reading two books - the Bible and Darwin's The Origin of Species. In surprise he asked the ape, "Why are you reading both those books?" "Well," said the monkey, "I just wanted to know if I was my brother's keeper or my keeper's brother."

How long did Cain hate his brother?

A. As long as he was Abel.

At what time of day was Adam created?

A. A little before Eve.

Contacts**Vicar:**

Rev Stan Pillbrow 480 7568

Wardens

Vicar's Warden: Marc Bos 0274978090

People's Warden: Karen Perrett 418 3715

Pastoral Care:

Rev Vivienne Hill 441-4325

Synod Representatives

Peter Mundell 418 1443

Doug Dempster 418 1448

Fourth Sunday School

Karen Perrett 418 3715

Hall Hire

Jansyl Andrews 027 217 2627

Recorder

Wendy McPherson 473 3448

Women's Fellowship

Rosemary Saunders 489 5830

Men's Supper and Bible reading group

Peter White 419 4380

Catering Committee

Barbara McIlroy 418 4117

Office Admin, Newsletter and Website

Natalie Roffey 0226074376

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.

This Newsletter is sent to all email addresses as provided for the Parish Roll. If you do not wish to receive this communication by email, please write to sjbanglican@gmail.com.