# **ANGLICAN PARISH OF KAPITI**

25 OCTOBER 2020

Attending Roman Catholic primary schools, All Saints day always had my children abuzz as they annually dressed up as a Saint. One year Sereana asked if we could find some information about St Megan so we went online to look. She is the patron saint of torture victims. There is no information on who she was and how she came to be regarded as a saint. But there was a lot about her medal which is the size of an old five cent coin and 'would make a lovely confirmation gift'. I became a bit jaded about it all, and I have to admit the exercise became rather depressing. There were all kinds of 'catholic' saints for all kinds of things (St Aidan for Bad Eyes, St Julia for poverty...) and it wasn't clear on whose authority they were canonised or if they actually were. My children had picked up that Saints are people who are especially holy and very close to God, the inference being that we should pray to them because they will hear us (inferring that God won't, or at least they are more sympathetic!). Treading that delicate line of denominational differentiation, I explained that Jesus died so that we all might come into a direct relationship with God ourselves. We do not, indeed must not, depend on any person, dead or alive, priest, saint or ordinary person to stand between us and God or pray in our place because we do not think that we are good enough or holy enough to be heard by God. Jesus makes us right with God. Through faith in Jesus we become God's own children with equal rights of inheritance, equal access to the Father - both to be heard by him and to hear from him. What is more, when the Bible speaks of saints it means every believer who is dedicated to God, so we ourselves have been numbered with the saints as those who are being sanctified (made holy).

From as early as the late third century the Christian church had a day to honour Martyrs of the faith and by the eighth century this had grown to encompass All the Saints, known or unknown who have witnessed to their faith in Jesus Christ. As we commemorate this feast day today may we each remember the heroes of the faith we know of, but let's also be aware that we are all saints in the making and commit to living lives worthy of our calling.

A special welcome to all who are visiting with us today.

We are family, we are disciples, we care for the last, the lost and the least.

Readings	1 November	8 November
First Testament	Revelations 7:9-end	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Epistle	1 John 3:1-3	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel	Matthew 5:1-12	Matthew 25:1-13

### **Sentence and Collect for the Day**

**Sentence:** "Taste and see how gracious the Lord is: happy are those who find refuge in the most High." (Ps 34:8)

**Collect:** Eternal God, you have always taken men and women of every nation, age and colour and made them saints; like them transformed, like them baptised in Jesus' name, take us to share your glory; for the love of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen** 

#### <u>Lectionary Readings for Sunday 1 November 2020</u> <u>All Saints Day—White</u>

**Psalm 34:1-10** The Lord delivers us from all our fears, and rescues us from all troubles and afflictions.

**Revelation 7:9-17** A revelation of the throne of heaven, and the 'scroll of seven seals' opened by the Lamb of God. Between the opening of the sixth and seventh seals a multitude robed in white gathers from every nation, tribe, language and people to worship God. Christ will shelter them as a shepherd, shielding them from hunger, thirst and tribulation.

I John 3:1-3 We are children of God, born of the Spirit through our faith and love for Jesus the Son of God, and living in his power. When he is revealed in his full glory we will be like him, and will be purified through hope in him.

**Matthew 5:1-12** Early in his ministry Jesus chooses twelve disciples as he teaches, preaches and heals throughout Galilee. The 'sermon on the mount' promises God's blessing especially on the dispossessed of our society – on the meek, the poor, the humble, the sufferer, the merciful and the persecuted.

Chris Durrant

**Parish Daily Prayer Services** are offered both morning and evening. You can join this prayer group by using the Zoom links below:

Morning Prayer: 8am Mon to Fri

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/703543297?pwd=VIVVeEUvWHA0Qzc2KzJFaDhTYnZsdz09

or use meeting ID is 703 543 297. Password: 6NpsHP

**Evening Prayer** https://movementonline.org.nz/evening-prayer

Monday—Saturday at 9pm

Zoom Meeting ID: 211-936-7784 Password: prayers

### **Notices**

#### **Christmas Boxes**

It's that time of the year when you are invited to cover and fill shoe boxes that will go to children in need. This year all our shoe boxes will go to NZ children and many locally. If you would like to contribute to this appeal, please cover a shoe box in Christmas paper or decorate it colourfully. Choose an age and gender of child you want to provide for and over the next month fill it with: Something for personal cares (eg nice soap and face cloth, toothbrush and tooth paste, hair brush and ties, comb and moisturiser, something for school (journal, coloured pens or pencils erasers, notebook), something to wear (socks, tee shirt, singlets, hat) and something to love (small soft toy, matchbox toy, balls, bubbles, craft kits, toys). Please do not include any food items or any toys that encourage war or violence (no guns, knives, swords, war toys). Please get these to the office as soon as possible. Deadline November 16.

#### "0" Birthday celebrations:

On November 29th we'll be celebrating with all those parishioners who have had or are having an "0" birthday or anniversary this year during the service. Please give your name to Vickie in the Parish Office, so that we can acknowledge your special achievement.

#### **Small Jars Wanted**

If you have any small jars available which is needed for making lemon honey please hand to church office.

# Advanced Notice Twilight Christmas Fair

Mark your dairies now for our annual Twilight Christmas Fair Friday 4th December 5.30-7pm

(please note the date change)

Start collecting items to donate. There will be crafts preserves, sweets, cakes and biscuits, plants, Christmas gifts, a re-gifting table and Hot Food. As with the Food Fair earlier in the year we will put out an order form for pre-ordering meals for the freezer. Volunteers to help on the day, and to make items and dishes for the fair are most welcome. Contact the office.

#### **Parish Office**

The church office will be closed this coming Friday 6 November.

# **Diocesan Ordination Service Celebration**

10am 21 November at the Wellington Cathedral of St Paul. Adrian Tofts and Guy and Summer Benton are among those being ordained. All welcome.

#### **Working Bee**

Saturday 7 November 9-12 for St Paul's Gardens. Many hands make light work!



#### **Advanced Notice**

Parish **AGM** part 1 Reports and Budget Sunday 29 November 11am at St Paul's following a 9.30am combined congregations worship. Note: No other morning service on this Sunday

#### **Healing Meeting**

Mark your diaries—There will be a Healing Meeting with Bishop Ellie Wednesday 18 November

## Manaaki Tātou

With this in mind, there will be a **Parish Newcomer's lunch** at St Paul's in the Parish Hall **today** 12pm. This an opportunity for folk who are new to Kapiti Anglican to come along and meet some of our parishioners and church leaders, hear a bit more about the Parish and its life and ask questions. The following week there will be a **Shared lunch for all parishioners** who would like to participate on 8<sup>th</sup> November, Parish Foyer 12pm

This Week		
Tuesday	9.30 am Playgroup—St Paul's Parish Hall	
Wednesday	9.30 am Playgroup—St Paul's Parish Hall 3.30pm 4+ More—St Paul's Parish Hall	
Thursday	9.30 am Playgroup—St Paul's Parish Hall	
Friday	10.45 am Prayer group—St Paul's Lounge 12.00 pm Eucharist—St Paul's Church	

<u>PARISH PRAYER CHAIN:</u> Contact Marion Henderson via email on: <u>marionhenderson@xtra.co.nz</u> or phone 905 1171

#### **Parish Directory** Vicar: Ven. Julie Rokotakala vicar@kapitianglican.org.nz 021 118 3657 bjbonifant@gmail.com St Mark's: Rev. John & Barbara Bonifant (04) 905 3301 St Peter's: Rev. Lynda Wards (04) 234 1170 lyndawardsnz@gmail.com Children and Families: Rev Fiona Thomson 021 442 676 fee@xtra.co.nz Parish Pastoral Care /Prayer/Rosters: (04) 234 1170 lyndawardsnz@gmail.com Rev Lynda Wards Home Groups: Kathleen Fleck kathleen.fleck@xtra.co.nz (04) 298 5630 emjaycee59@gmail.com Wardens: Sheridan David & Mary Cropp (04) 904 7300 treasurer@kapitianglican.org.nz Treasurer: Paul Bull (04) 904 7300 Parish Administration: Vickie Riceman (04) 904 7300 office@kapitianglican.org.nz

www.kapitianglican.org.nz

Library—https://kapitianglicans.libib.com/

Parish Office open: 9am-12pm Tues to Fri Tel: 04 904 7300