



Weekly Newsletter Sunday 8 September

“Being the Gospel to all People”

A very warm welcome is extended to all visitors to St Johns.

Morning tea and lunch are offered after the service today, so please stay and enjoy some time with us.

Today's theme: “Faith is about Decision”

Focus Scripture: Luke 14: 25-33

Other readings: Jeremiah 18: 1-11



There are many kinds of costly loving that are needed in our city, in business, in our country, and in our world. As Christians we learn to love our brothers and sisters in this congregation, and that can often be very hard. For some the main concern is to love parents and neighbours. We are given a side choice of ways and places to love, but whatever kind of loving we commit ourselves to engage in will be always be costly.

Luke 14:25-33 (NIV): Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters--yes, even his own life--he cannot be my disciple. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' "Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.

NEXT WEEK: September 15
Theme: "Faith is about God in Christ"
Focus Scripture: Luke 15:1-10
Other readings: Jeremiah 4:11-22;
Psalm 14: 1;
Timothy 1: 12-17

CHURCH NOTICES AND EVENTS:

AGM: The AGM will be Sunday 22 September after the service. Thank you.

ANNUAL REPORT 2012 – 2013:

To all of you who lead/are responsible for ministries at St Johns this is a message for you. Yes, it's that time again! **Annual Report time.** The reports of what your groups have done in the year ended 30 June are now needed so that we can put together the record for this year. Can you please get them into the church office by **Friday 30 August** – by **email** please if at all possible – so that the work of collating can begin.



If you have any photos of events during the year we would be grateful for them too. Many thanks in anticipation, Liz and Derek

HOLIDAY PROGRAM: The programme is from September 30 – 4 October. Because this coincides with the Youth studying for their exams we will need extra people to help. Can you do it? If you can, contact Shirley Snoad: 027 7546 6103

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS: -last call. This is the final week for these books. Any unsold must be returned. Please ask friends and family.

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY will be Sunday September 29th. This is an annual event where we at St Johns, are invited to reflect on what the Lord has done for us, and respond with thanksgiving through a financial donation. This year our donations will be set aside into what we are calling the 'Heating Replacement Fund'. We recognise that all the heating in the Church facilities needs replacement and although we have begun to do this in the Kindy and Offices, but the Hall and Worship rooms are waiting. As is our tradition we take 10% of the dedicated total on Sunday 29 September and donate it to charity. If you would like to make a confidential donation via internet banking please credit your donation to our special bank account 01 0166 0135407 25, with the reference of thanksgiving.

REAL LIFE: This Sunday night (8th Sept) on Real Life, John Cowan's guest will be former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Dame Jenny Shipley.

SUNDAY 29th SERVICE: I would like to dramatise one of the Bible readings. It is not huge but I will need 3 people to each carry a basket / something light forward and then to say a few lines – If you can help please let me know thanks Lorraine

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF DR DOUGLAS MEWS:

Sunday, 15 September: St Patrick's Cathedral, Wyndham St, Auckland City

11.00 am: Mass featuring compositions by Dr Douglas Mews, conducted by his son, Douglas Mews.

2.00 pm: Organ Recital - Douglas Mews. Free Entry. Exit by donation.

Car parking in Wilson's Carpark: Hobson St: \$2.

AGEING AND SPIRITUALITY ONE DAY CONFERENCE:

Those in, or within a stone's throw of, Auckland may be interested in knowing about this conference that the Selwyn Centre for Ageing and Spirituality is organising. The flyer is on the column in the foyer.

If you would like to go please see Lorraine.

GREETING CARDS:

I now have greeting cards for sale at \$2.00 each. They depict a photo of one of Jan Hancock's Mosaics, photos of Joy Rzoska's garden, and a Friendship card. Blank inside for your message. All proceeds to St. Johns. If these sell well, more will be available.

Thanks, Loas Toung

CHURCH TV: Knowing where we have come from is a starting point for our values for the future. This week on www.anglicantv.net – a traditional view of our New Zealand history.

BIG FAIR BAKE:

Choose your favourite recipe and bake it using at least 2 fair trade ingredients.

Photograph it and complete an entry on the Big Fair Bake website:

www.bigfairbake.org.nz between 27th August and 10th September.

1 Grand Prize: Milly's baking set worth \$1100 plus Fairtrade goodies.

5 Runner-up Prizes: Milly's baking set worth \$170 plus Fairtrade goodies.

If you have any questions, see Ray.

TRADE AID STALL OPEN THIS SUNDAY:

Thanks to those who purchased goods last week. Total sales were \$54.

ASSISTANCE NEEDED: A family who have just moved to New Zealand and are starting over would appreciate any good quality used items that you may not need (furniture, whiteware etc.) If you can help, please contact Shirley Snoad on 534 4804.