



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 6 March 2016

**"Being the Gospel to all
People"**

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

Morning tea is offered after the service today, so please stay and enjoy.

Today's Theme: 'Returning to God'

Focus Scripture: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Readings: Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21



Background:-

God's forgiving love embraces everyone. The youngest, the oldest, the wanderers, the dutiful, the sinful, the just: all are offered a welcome that can make everything new. This week's focus scripture is a story of rebellions and returning, and of a love that reconciles, puts us back together, in spite of ourselves. We are challenged to live generously among those we might consider family.

Luke 15:1-3 (NIV)

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

15 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ Then Jesus told them this parable:

Luke 15:11-32

NEXT WEEK: Sunday 13 March 2016

Next week's theme: 'Extravagant Love'

Focus Scripture: Psalm 126: 1-3

Other Readings: Isaiah 43: 16-21 John 12:1-8

Prayer points: Please pray for: Little Cubs Kindy for more children (thanks because they have had 3 new enrolments, but need at least 12 more children. Brenda Ryan with ongoing health issues. Margaret Morrison with her recurring illness. Jacques (Sonja's partner) with his badly infected knee after surgery.

Our house: Monday Morning 9:30 am gather to hear what tasks are needed to be accomplished for our house – God's place to receive a little loving attention. Yes it might be weeding, rubbish removal or window cleaning or Whatever Alan's list says! (Yes it may be all inside jobs if raining!)

Lenten Thoughts: "Living Simply"

During this time of Lent we will be holding 2 after-church discussions using the book "Living Simply – Studies in Learning to live as Jesus did" as our resource.

The dates for these are

Sunday March 13 –Study 3. "Just Jesus" This will be led by the author of the book, Murray Sheard.

Sunday March 20: Study 4. "Being 'in' the world but not 'of' the world."

These will be followed by a light lunch. For catering purposes please let Jeannine, Lorraine, Liz or Mavis know if you are staying for lunch.

If you would like to join us for these study discussions, please take home a study booklet to prepare for the discussions - and bring it with you on the day.

Blokes Brekkie – Saturday 12th March 8am. All males college age and over. At St Johns (245 Bucklands Beach Road) gold coin donation.

Real life with John Cowan and Newstalk ZB 730pm Sunday nights, John Cowan's guest this Sunday night Ian Smith, cricket player and commentator.

ROSTERS Over the months of June July August and September we will be on average 8 people down every week for the rosters. If you would be able to help in all areas of the rosters, Reading, Intersessions, Communion Serving, Projector, Ushering, Welcome Desk and more could you please contact me as soon as possible so I am able to place you with another member for a couple weeks of training. Thank you very much Jeannine.

Entertainment books We are going to try and sell these again this year. Can I please have an expression of interest in the new 2016/2017 books which will be available after 7 April. Thank you Jeannine

Tamaki Sports Academy offers mentoring, coaching, and work experience to South Auckland youth who have dropped out of the mainstream school system but show some sporting talent. A major fundraiser for the academy, and an excellent source of work experience for our members, is the free metal collection service we offer. We will pick up any old metal - computers, whiteware, roofing iron, metal piping, venetian blinds, batteries, car panels, cars, metal shelving, filing cabinets, machinery, lawnmowers, engines, and so on. If you do have any metal rubbish to get rid of, we are keen to pick it up for you. It is a win-win for both of us. Thank you to everyone in advance, and to those who have donated metal to us previously. Many thanks Tricia Ph 027 5105890 09 2760328

Inspirational TV: In the month of March 2016 we experience Easter. Easter is the season of new life. We cast off the old and look to the new. Easter invites us to break out of our shell and take a fresh look at the world around us. This month's videos are:

- Luke 15: 1-3, 11,32 The lost son
- John 8: 1-11 The woman caught in adultery
- Luke 23: 13-23 Jesus is sentenced to death
- John 20: 1-9 The empty tomb

www.Inspirationaltv.net.nz

