



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 2 February 2014

"Being the Gospel to all People"

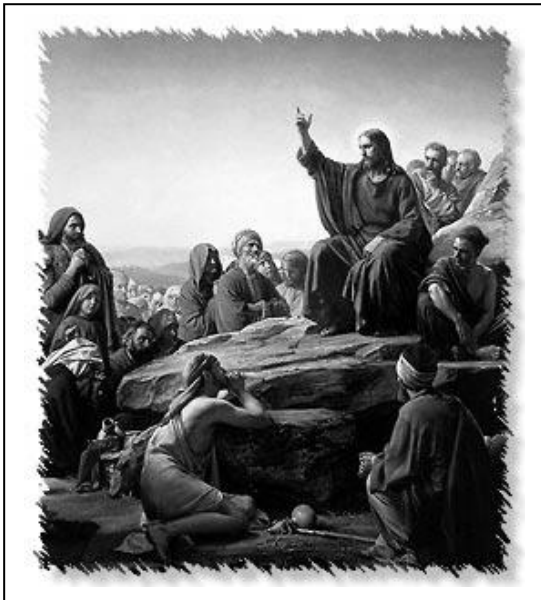
A very warm welcome is extended
to all visitors to St Johns.

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

Today's theme: "Awakening to God's Reality and Love"

Focus Scripture Matthew 5:1-12

Other Readings: Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18



The beatitudes form the first part of the Sermon on the Mount. This teaching turns our world view on its head. We have learned the ways of the world from our earliest days; that blessed are the rich, blessed are those with good retirement plans, blessed are the powerful and popular, and blessed are the young and good-looking. These passages invite us to see God's love in a new light, bend our understanding of the world around us, and take more seriously our response to God's loving welcome and liberation. What challenges do you find in trying to live according to the standards in today's readings?

Matthew 5:1-12 (NIV): The Beatitudes.

Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

NEXT WEEK:**Sunday Worship: 9 February 2014****Theme:** "Let Your Light Shine"**Focus Scripture:** Matthew 5: 13-20

Other Readings: Isaiah 58: 1-9a; Psalm 112:1-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Prayer Points: Please pray for: Sheila as she recovers from her shoulder operation; George Morrison as he recovers from the removal of a growth on his kidney; Marie Davis for her recovery with her ongoing hip issues, Steven Chaplin for a speedy recovery (shoulder/s) after being squished between a car and a bus, while riding his bike home from work, and for the car driver; Laurel Leach with her medical concerns whilst in hospital.

CHURCH NOTICES AND EVENTS:

Our House working bee at 9.30 on Monday, 3rd February for one hour followed by morning tea.

Both Lorraine and Jeannine are away the week of 10-14 February if you are available to help in the office with the phone etc on Tuesday or Thursday afternoon please contact Jeannine in the office urgently.

Update on Joy Rzoska... Joy is now living in the hospital care facility of Summerset in the Park on Flat Bush School Road. Her room number is 21. For postal address it is:- Joy Rzoska, C/o 'Summerset', 7 Flat Bush School Road, Auckland, 2016. Please call Julie if you wish to know more.

Girls' Brigade 2014... We recommence on **Tuesday 11th February** at the usual time of **6pm until 7.45pm**. Please pass this information on to families you know of who have girls.... Girls' Brigade is a ministry of St Johns Church - girls age 5 years and upwards who like mixing with other girls for fun, friendship and doing '**girly**' things like crafts, cooking, games, learning new skills as well as discovering Christian family values and receiving badges and certificates for their accomplishments are welcome to come along any Tuesday at 6pm, during school term time. Contact person:- Julie Dickey 535 5814 - 0274 925 659 - juliedickey@ews.net.nz

Church Picnic:- Sunday 16 February from Midday. The Hancock house will be open for you to bring your picnic lunch and enjoy some time together with games for the younger ones or younger ones at heart and the BBQ will be on.

Notice of Rev Marilyn Welch's commissioning as Methodist Northern Regional Superintendent on Thursday 30th January 2014 at Trinity Methodist church on the Pakuranga Highway. The service starts at 7:30pm.

Our Web site is up and running – go on line and have a look www.stjohnsbb.org.nz

TRADE AID STALL OPEN THIS SUNDAY After church today, there will be a stall selling a range of Trade Aid's products including coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and a selection of dried fruits.

State of St John's financial position at the 31/12/2013

| | Month of December 2013 | | 1 July 2013 → 31 December 2013 | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| | Actual | Budget | Actual | Budget |
| EXPENSES | 15,059.84 | 15,850.00 | 88,919.18 | 102,099.00 |
| INCOME | 13,508.21 | 14,976.00 | 93,242.62 | 95,174.00 |
| SURPLUS or (DEFICIT) | (1,551.63) | (874.00) | 4,323.44 | (6,925.00) |

Comments (December):

- **"Free Will Offerings"** for the month of December fell short of Budget by (\$900.207).
- **"Free Will Offerings"** for the six months [year to-date] are short of Budget by (\$6,461.15).
- The continuing shortfall of "Free Will Offerings" month on month this year are making the management of our cash flow difficult with the need to cover essential payments by "borrowing" \$1,000.00 from our Special Purposes Savings Roof Fund while deferring payment of an invoice of \$1,236.25 owed to one of our Partner Churches which must be paid in January.

Please continue to pray for an improvement in our immediate financial situation while continuing to give thanks to our wondrously gracious LORD for the gifts that he bestows upon us here at St Johns.