



Weekly Newsletter Sunday 24 November

“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: “Christ Our King”

Focus Scripture: Colossians 1:11-20

Other readings: Jeremiah 23:1-6



How does Christ's kingship differ from earthly kingship? When the letter was written to the church in Colossae, images of Caesar, head of the Roman Empire and widely proclaimed to be divine, abounded in statues and on coins. In this passage, the writer, identified as Paul, boldly claims that God dwells not in Caesar but in Jesus. Whereas Rome maintained peace, Pax Romana, through brute force, such as the frequent execution of political trouble-makers, Jesus brings peace through self-sacrifice (the blood of the cross). Jesus is no mere cult hero, Paul claims, but the embodiment of the wisdom involved in creating the universe. Caesar may provide an image of a political empire, but Jesus offers an image of the invisible God. Considered one of the earliest Christian hymns, this passage provides an alternative vision to Pax Romana, proclaiming that Christ fully embodies God's benevolence, wisdom, and peace.

Colossians 1:11-20 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

May you be strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience, with joy giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the saints' inheritance in the light. He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation; because by Him everything was created, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and by Him all things hold together. He is also the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He might come to have first place in everything. For God was pleased [to have] all His fullness dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile everything to Himself by making peace through the blood of His cross -- whether things on earth or things in heaven.

NEXT WEEK: 1 December

Theme: ""

Focus Scripture:

Other readings:

Prayer Points: Please pray for: Avril and her knee replacement's healing; 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 after a hip replacement, she is now in the recovery ward 24 at Middlemore hospital.

CHURCH NOTICES AND EVENTS:

Leadership Team Notice for the congregation concerning the process of Ministry Extension. This notice is given by Joan Rutherford as People's Warden and Alan Vickers as Session Clerk.

The Northern Presbytery Council approved the 2 recommendations from the Ministry Review committee: That the Ministry of Rev Lorraine Francis be extended for up to 5 years at St Johns; and that St Johns Co Operating Parish have the Methodist Church of New Zealand as the Coordinating Partner for the next 5 years.

Leadership Team is calling a congregational meeting on Sunday 1st December 2013, to ask the congregation to accept Mr Bob Williamson as our nomination for the position of Presbytery Elder.

THE GIFT – Live concert on the big screen. Hayley will be there. 21st December 6.30pm @St Johns. Any queries please see Alan Vickers

4eva@6: This Sunday 24th November at 6 pm the Haigh's and the Speers will be sharing their experiences in Israel as they walked in Jesus' footsteps. All welcome for worship, discussion and dessert.

Our Web site is up and running – go on line and have a look www.stjohnsbb.org.nz Let us know what you think!

Prayer Room 2013: "Listen - God is Calling" - this is the title of our prayer weekend on the Weekend of Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December. Come along and focus on praying for our church and our families and friends for the coming festive season. A signup sheet will be available soon and will be posted in the foyer so that you can choose your time. This will be a very small and simply decorated prayer area in the Worship room. If you are interested in helping us build the space or contribute in any way, contact me 021-1194446 - Janetta

Church Decoration for Advent: A group of us are meeting at 6pm on Wednesday 4th December to decorate the church for our Advent/Christmas season. All are welcome, just turn up on the night, many hands make light work. We will more than likely have a break for pizza, so that we still have some energy to get the creative juices flowing. We will remind you all nearer the time through another notice and also during "Our Life Together" – Janetta

Special Request from the Middlemore Hospital Chaplain Can we supply a Chaplaincy Team on Sunday 29 December to help transport patients to Worship please. We need a keyboardist, wheelchair operators and warm friendly smiles... Please contact Lorraine **ASAP**, if you know you will be around and able to help in this ministry. Thank you Lorraine

CHURCH TV : This week on www.anglicantv.net "Early relief in the Philippines, a reminder of people's generosity in other people's time of need;

REAL LIFE: This Sunday night (17th November) John Cowan's guest will be This Sunday night on Real Life (24-11-13), John Cowan's guest will be kiwi inventor of the Martin Jetpack, **Glenn Martin**

Food in Schools Bill Nov. 13th ! 'Feed the Kids' bill for breakfast and lunch in low decile schools came to Parliament on 13th November. We have 270,000 in poverty and 100,000 going to school hungry. Milk and Weetbix, and Kidscan reach about 27,000 kids. This bill is about healthy food for breakfast and lunch for all children in low income schools

Actions:

Let Betsan know of your interest or support betsan@publicquestions.org.nz

Look at the website <http://feedthekids.org.nz/>

- Email your MP and ask them to support for the bill to the first reading. This is a practical way to 'Let Children Live and Learn'

Betsan Martin Methodist Public Issues Email: betsan@publicquestions.org.nz Ph. (04) 473 2627

The Handel Consort & Quire will sing Palestrina's Mass Tu es Petrus on today, **Sunday 17th November, 6pm** in what was the chapel of the beautiful Star-of-the-Sea in Howick.

Previously a convent/orphanage/school, the Star-of-the-Sea is now used as a venue for Howick Children's and Youth Theatre and other events.

The intimate chapel comprised of rendered brick has a lovely warm resonant acoustic, very suitable for this type of music. We will also sing a few Christmas carols to add variety and provide a taste of our Christmas concerts which are fast approaching!

If you have not been to this special venue before then here is a fantastic opportunity!

The beautiful historic building is set up on a hill overlooking the sea and has spectacular views out over the ocean. Entry is only \$25 (or \$20 if you pre-pay) Email inverted_mordent@hotmail.com for more information.

Memorial Service for Rev John McKinlay to be held on Sat 30 November. Details on the column in the foyer.

Christian World Service Philippines Typhoon Appeal. Flyer and further details on the column in the Foyer.