



## Weekly Newsletter Sunday 22 September

**“Being the Gospel to all People”**

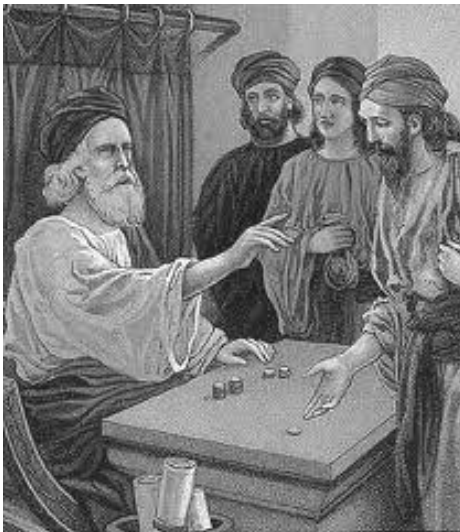
A very warm welcome is extended to all visitors to St Johns.

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

**Today's theme:** “Faith is about doing”

**Focus Scripture:** Luke 16:1-13

**Other readings:** Jeremiah 8:18 -22, 9:1



Luke's recounting of the Parable of the Shrewd Manager is a difficult one to make sense of, and a rough one to apply. But, at the heart of all of the readings this week is the idea of inappropriate grace, and releasing our inappropriate devotion to money – which opens the doors to moments of both amusement and seriousness.

May this week's worship teach us to be people of scandalous grace and generosity.

### **Luke 16:1-8 (NIV)**

Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.' "The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg-- I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.' "So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' "'Eight hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied. "The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred.' "Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?' "'A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied. "He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.' "The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light.

**NEXT WEEK:** 29 September

**Theme:** "New Directions"

**Focus Scripture:** Luke 16:19-31

**Other readings:** Jeremiah 32:1-3, 6-15; Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16, 1 Timothy 6:6-19

**Prayer Points:** Please pray for Avril and her knee replacement's healing; our monthly finances as we are very short this month, the freshly elected Leadership Team,

## **CHURCH NOTICES AND EVENTS:**

**AGM 2013** The AGM will be today 22 September after the service. The AGM Reports are available this Sunday, please – one per member or family. Thank you.

**Nominating Team Report:** We would offer the congregation the following nominations to be considered for the Leadership Team 2013-2014.

Standing again: People's Warden Joan Rutherford; Anglican Synod Representatives: David Hall and David B Dickey;

Current Members: Alan Vickers, Grace Corbett, Uraiwan Jolly, Joshua Wong, Shania Qiu, Sue Zang.

New Position for consideration for the Session Clerk is Alan Vickers.

New Position for consideration for Leadership Team are Andrew Winstone and Christo John.

Belonging to the Leadership Team but not for voting are: Vicars Warden Felicity Vincer; Staff: Jeannine Melville and myself.

We have not filled the elected position for the Presbyterian Elder – we will continue to search and will bring a name forward when appropriate. Thank you Lorraine, Janetta, William, Joan, Ray and Loas.

**Morning Tea** this morning is a special offering from our Mandarin Fellowship as we celebrate the New Moon Festival. Thank you to all who have made it so special and may the Lord of all new beginnings be with us all.

**HOLIDAY PROGRAMME:** 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: 02775466103

**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 (22nd Sept) on Real Life, John Cowan's guest will be

**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

**GIRLS BRIGADE: CHRISTMAS INSPIRATION EVENING: 7 pm, 14 November 2013:** Join us for an enjoyable fundraising evening for our Area of Girls Brigade. Get yourself prepared for Christmas by the Christmas Heirloom Company Demonstration night at 24 Marua Rd Ellerlie. Tickets \$15 each – includes nibbles. Please order your tickets by 27 September. For tickets, contact Julie Dickey: 5355814 or 0274925659 or email: [juliedickey@ews.net.nz](mailto:juliedickey@ews.net.nz)

**WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL?** *Selwyn's Vision – Let's finish what history started* is the project under way to complete and consecrate our cathedral. Dean Jo Kelly-Moore would like to extend a warm invitation for people to join her for a Project tour at Holy Trinity Cathedral on the following dates: 25 September, 10 & 12 October. If you are interested in attending or finding more out about the project please phone 3039506, or email [campaign@holy-trinity.org.nz](mailto:campaign@holy-trinity.org.nz), or view the website: [www.holy-trinity.org.nz](http://www.holy-trinity.org.nz)

**RABBITS NEED A NEW HOME:** Due to unforeseen circumstances, Claudia Burt, whose daughter attended our last Holiday Programme, has 2 rabbits which need a new home. A hutch and run can also be purchased. For details see: <http://www.trademe.co.nz/pets-animals/rabbits-guinea-pigs/rabbits/auction-636526083.htm>.

**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 Tounng

**CHURCH TV:** This week on [www.anglicantv.net](http://www.anglicantv.net) there are reflections on when and how to speak up about matters that concern us.

**This Sunday night (22nd Sep) on Real Life,** John Cowan's guest will be the Mayor of Carterton, **Ron Mark.**

**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 5344804.

**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 ph 09 2760328

