



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 7 February 2016

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

A very warm welcome is
extended
to all visitors to St John's

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

Today's Theme: Fully Alive

Focus Scripture: Luke 9:28-36

Readings: Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36 (NIV)

The Transfiguration

²⁸ About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. ²⁹ As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. ³¹ They spoke about his departure,^[a] which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. ³² Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. ³³ As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.)

³⁴ While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

BACKGROUND

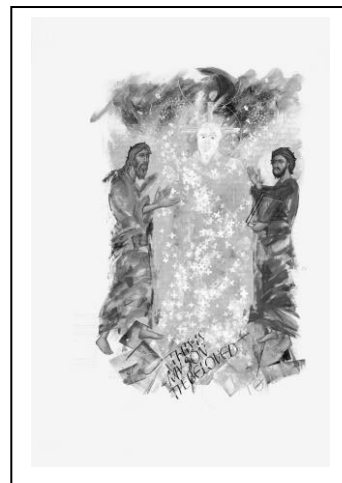
Fully Alive St. Irenaeus, one of the earliest theologians in the life of the church, once wrote, "the glory of God is humanity fully alive." It's not so much that one causes the other – that our being alive makes God glorious – but rather that the two dance together. When we are fully alive, we are filled with God, and God is in turn glorified. Surely Moses experiences this as he came down from the mountaintop with God's rules of life; God's glory is celebrated in Psalm 99; and the glory of God is seen in Christ. What is especially intriguing about the gospel, if we read the entire passage, is the realization that God is glorified when we are in the midst of "mountaintop" experiences, and yet we are fully alive – and God is glorified – when we have come down from the mountain, and are responding to human needs in our daily living.

NEXT WEEK: Sunday 14 February 2016

Next week's theme: "Sharing Bread on Our Journey"

Focus Scripture: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

**Other Readings: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13;
Luke 4:1-13**



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. Our church family and their safe travels during the Christmas and New Year Holidays.

Youth - started this week. Friday 5th at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Finishing at 9.00 pm. This week we will have games and lots of ice-cream. Bring a cake if you can to go with the ice-cream. Contact Ian 021-2831810 for more information

FROM THE FINANCE TEAM This newsletter has the latest summary of our financial position. Giving is down on budget and on last year and we are trying to reduce expenses where possible. Please prayerfully consider your giving to the Lords work in this place. **DISHWASHER** The dishwasher in the foyer kitchen has expired but some wonderful and anonymous person has donated the funds to buy a new and improved model. Thank you!

BEQUESTS. We are benefitting from 2 bequests this year from long-term members who have moved on to glory. We miss them but are grateful for their final act of support. Making provision in your will to donate to St Johns Church is a way to continue to support the community you have served. If you need information on how this can be done speak to Bob Williamson.

Prayers please. It was with a great deal of sadness this week that I accepted Joan Williamson's resignation from our Sunday keyboard ministry. Joan is an inspired musician, whose ministry to us through music has been greatly loved and appreciated. Thank you Joan for being such a wonderful music ministry leader for us and blessings as you enjoy your 'retirement' from regular Sunday playing.

Thank you all for prayers and an answering spirit from Peter and Jan. Jan is now available for the first two weeks of February. Youth Band are being called into 'being' for 2016. Please keep them and this year's Leaders in your prayers, we need more singers and have abundant space for guitarists (bass / acoustic...) plus. Lorraine

Movie Premier February on Shine TV (Freeview Satellite channel 25 Sky Channel 201 Free online www.shinetv.vo.nz) **Saul the road to Damascus**, The epic biblical movie brings to life one of Christianity's most notable figures Saul of Tarsus. Friday 19 February 830pm

Is this for you? Our St Johns Girls Brigade Company – officially called the 1st Bucklands Beach Girls Brigade Company, needs leaders if it is to continue its ministry. Our Captain, Julie Dickey is no longer able to actively lead the company but would be delighted to be involved in a consultative, supportive role. Unless we of St Johns can supply leaders we will have to place the company into recess followed by closure after 1 year if no activity progresses in 2016. Is this something you might pick up and be one of the 2/3 new leaders to plan & run the sessions, with guidance from Julie? Lorraine

Can you help please? We need a couple of people to be available for the morning tea ministry after Sunday morning worship. You may be assigned to a team, but we also need a few people to 'fill-in' when a regular server is not able to do it. So – can you help? ☺

Can you help please? We need more St Johns Team members to run Mainly Music this year. Wednesday mornings 9:30 to 11 am the Team prepare the room, set up, run the musical programme, serve morning tea and clean up. We love mixing with the parents and caregivers and the pre-school children. It is a joy and delight to serve with this Team; you would be most welcome :-) Lorraine

Shrove Tuesday...All are warmly invited to our Family Friendly Shrove Tuesday Celebration! Pancake eating contest, pancake in the pan races and loads more fun! 6pm at the Church. Contact Sonja (more details to follow)

Ash Wednesday service offered please check column in the foyer for flyer with more details.

Bucklands Beach Co-operating Parish Finance summary 6 months to 31 December 2015

	Actual	Budget	Last Year	Notes
Income				
Giving	46991		53252	50676 1.
Rents	42617		42320	34792
Total income	93842		102258	93535
Expenditure				
Staff	58734		58601	48260
Total expense	99579		104765	86033 2.
Surplus/(Deficit)	(5738)		(2507)	7502

Notes- Reasons for (deficit) against budget

1. Thanksgiving (1610), Envelopes (3717)
2. **Repairs & maintenance (3646)**