



**Weekly Newsletter**  
**Sunday 06 January 2019**

**“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.

**This week's theme: 'Consumed by the Fire of a Star'**

**Focus Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12**

**Other Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7,10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12**



### **The Magi Visit the Messiah**

**2** After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ...

<sup>9</sup> After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

<sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

<sup>11</sup> On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

<sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

**Next Sunday: 13 January 2019**

**Next week's theme: 'Remembering God's Promises'**

**Focus Scripture: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

**Other Readings: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17**

**Prayer points for:** Brenda Ryan and Mary Hall for good health. For the families of both Loas Toun and Joyce Leach as they mourn the loss of a loved one. For two people, one to be our Presbyterian representative and another to be our second Anglican representative. Prayer for both St Johns and Lorraine (and family) as we move into this time of change.

### **Ministerial Vacancy, the First Step.**

The Leadership Team met with the Church Partners on Tuesday night, the 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. Of the eleven members, ten were able to attend and following briefings from the three Partner Church Representatives a vote was held to determine our **Coordinating Partner** (to be called Appointing Partner after July 2019) from now on.

The result was a substantial majority vote for the **Anglican** Church to take this role. In due course Archdeacon Michael Berry will take up the management role for the Anglican Church. As a consequence his responsibility will include guidance in the process for appointment of a minister, overseeing the daily running of the church, as well as offering pulpit supply on Sundays. He may appoint someone on his behalf.

Although the Anglican Church now has the role of overseeing the vacancy, it does not confine the selection of a future appointee to come from that denomination. St Johns can broaden its outlook to find the best considered candidate from any of the three partner Churches and beyond.

If you have any questions please ask any member of the Leadership Team.



On Sunday 6th of January we will be baptising the following people from our Mandarin congregation: Sofia Liu, Mei Xiang Chen, Sha Sha Kang, Xiang Bing Zhang, Li Xing Pan and welcoming them into Church membership.

It has been a blessing to accept them as Baptismal candidates, to see their determination to become one in Christ, their nervousness as they recognise the level of commitment and the joy of their excitement. Pray for them as they begin this faith journey. Lorraine



**Picnic Lunch January 6<sup>th</sup>** at Music Point to join with our Mandarin brothers and sisters. So no lunch at Church, but at a picnic at Music Point together :) following morning worship.

### Kindergarten Playground update

Over the Christmas period we will be re-covering the downstairs playground black matting with an artificial grass. We are installing a drain along the edge of the concrete pathway. We will be removing the fixed climbing equipment. We are negotiating with the kindergarten about a plan to create a seating area and bark ground cover of 4.3 by 4.4m around the base of Beryl's Tree. Lorraine

### Hall Kitchen Update

We have a tiler coming in early January to install splashback tiles around the stoves. This is the last of the renovations, leaving only the task of finding suitable large plates to replace our light brown speckled ones. The Light brown plates are too big for the bottom draw of the dishwasher, so we are replacing them.

### The Francis-Dittmers are leaving

Lorraine's last day with us will be Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February. The combined service will be followed by our farewell to Lorraine and family, and a shared lunch to follow. It is fourteen and a half years since they joined us, we have enjoyed significant participation of the family in our church life.

In recognition of the service to St Johns, a presentation will be offered to Lorraine on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February. If you would like to contribute towards a gift, please make a donation in a plain envelope with Lorraine written on the outside, and place in the offering or deliver to the church office.

Thank you. Alan Vickers, Session Clerk



Sunday Services: English / Mandarin & Children's Ministry 9:30a.m.  
Office Hours: 9:30am – 3:00pm, Tuesday – Friday  
Phone: 534 2305, Fax: 534 6355, Email: [office@stjohnsbb.org.nz](mailto:office@stjohnsbb.org.nz)  
PO Box 39 278, Howick Website: [www.stjohnsbb.org.nz](http://www.stjohnsbb.org.nz)  
Lorraine: [minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz](mailto:minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz) Shania: [shaniaqiu@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:shaniaqiu@yahoo.co.nz)

Minister	Rev. Lorraine Francis	534 1380
Mandarin Lay Pastor	Shania Qiu	5328127
Administrator	Alison Stanton	534 2305
Session Clerk	Alan Vickers	533 3790
People's Warden	Julie Dickey	535 5814
Minister's	Felicity Vincer	535 5883
Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	274 8534
Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	274 8534

### Ministry Groups:

**Bucklands Beach Rest Home:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday's of the month, 11:00am

**Children's Church (Preschool, Primary & Intermediate):** Sundays, 9:30am

**Home Groups:** No home group at this time please contact Rev Lorraine Francis

**Men's Group:** Thursday nights 7:30pm in the Worship Room; contact Alan Vickers ph: 533 3790

**Mainly Music:** Wednesdays, 10:00am (Term Time)

**Music Ministry:** Thursdays, 7.30pm; Wednesdays 7:30pm

**Young Adults / Youth on Sundays:** Contact Joshua 021 0473565

	This Week's Helpers (06 January )	Next Week's Helpers (13 January)
Preacher	Rev Lorraine Francis	Rev Lorraine Francis
Keyboard	Rahil John	Joan Williamson
Projector	Savesh John	Marsden Cheong
Sound Desk	Jamie Corbett	Ian Dittmer
Reader	David Hall	Felicity Vincer
Intercessor	Ian Dittmer	Bob Williamson
HC set up	Alan Vickers	N/A
HC Serving team	Alan Vickers, Dave Dickey Jnr, Grace Corbett, Joan Rutherford, Shania Qiu	N/A
Prayer ministry	Joan Rutherford	Could you help?
Welcome Desk	Betty Curd	Could you help?
Ushers	Derek Speer, Jed Stanton	Bob Williamson + Could you help?
Counters	Derek Speer, Nessie Crawford	Christo John, Bob Williamson
Morning Tea	Christine Lewis, Alison Stanton	Rita Chi, Betty Curd
Flowers	St Johns	St Johns