



**Weekly Newsletter**  
**Sunday 31 May 2015**

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

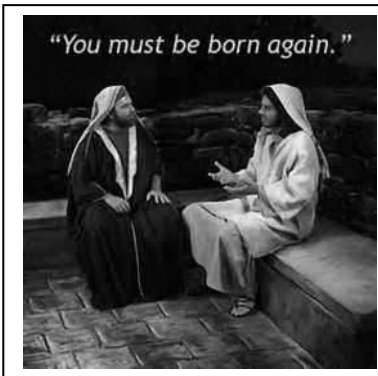
A very warm welcome is extended  
to all visitors to St Johns

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

**Today's Theme:**

**Focus Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8**

**Other Readings: John 3:1-17**



On Trinity Sunday we consider God's nature and activity as Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Inviting us into truthful and loving relationship with God and neighbour, God calls us to lives of purpose. The scripture readings speak to us about different ways faithful people hear and respond to God's call.

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him." In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked.

"Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." "How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven--the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

## **NEXT WEEK: Sunday Worship: 31 May 2015**

**Theme: What we Hear**

**Focus Scripture: 1 Samuel 8:4-11, 16-20**

**Other Readings:** Psalm 138; 2 Corinthians 4:13 – 5:1; Mark 4:45-51

**Prayer points:** Give thanks for an increase in the numbers attending Mainly Music. Please pray for: Youth Band for more band members please; Ian Pinel and his recent cancer diagnosis. Pray for the beginning of a new start for our Children and Youth Leader – Sonja and family. Judy Qiu needs rental accommodation, please.

### **NOTICES:-**

**OUR HOUSE :** Tomorrow is the first Monday of the month and we have a major issue with trees/leaves blocking drains. We will be having a full working bee from 9am trimming and pruning trees as it is a public holiday. If you have any questions please contact Alan.

**Holiday Programme Leader:** Please pray for a leader for our School Holiday Programme. Shirley and William have been carrying this role but are unable to for much longer. Sonja has not enough hours to fulfill this role so we can't ask it of her, although she can offer support. We can probably manage to arrange cover for this coming July but the September – October one will be very difficult.

**Visit to Ian Pinel.** Lorraine is asking Ian if we can come and visit him. If he agrees, I have 4 seats in my car – so if you would like to go please let Lorraine know. When we have a day and time I'll contact you. First come, first seated!! Thanks L

**Trade Aid Stall this Sunday After** church today, there will be a stall selling a range of Trade Aid's products including coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and dried fruits.

**Girls' Brigade Fundraiser: Oxford Pies:** The girls are selling homemade Kiwi pies and pastries. The group gets \$1.50 from each item ordered. Choose from:

5 pack lunch pies (\$10.50 for five)

6 pack Lamingtons: \$5.50

5 pack sausage rolls (\$8.50)

Family sized pies \$7.30 each.

Flavours: Mince, Mince & Cheese, Curry Mince, Steak, Steak & Cheese, Bacon & Egg, Creamy Vege, Apple, Apple Crumble, Apricot, Lemon Curd

Give orders to Lorraine or email Julie Dickey: [juliedickey@ews.net.nz](mailto:juliedickey@ews.net.nz)

## APRIL FINANCE REPORT TO CONGREGATION – THE FINANCE TEAM

### NOTES

1. Giving in April was below budget but other income made up the deficit
2. Giving for Special purposes has amounted to over \$10,000 so far this year. This has met the costs of the chairs for the upstairs hall and enabled us to start to build p a fund to cover the costs of the Children and Youth Leader. We have enough to cover about 4 months and beyond this we are praying for more giving – otherwise we shall draw upon our reserves.
3. A bequest to come from the estate of Ron Ashton of \$10000 will add to our reserves. We miss you Ron and thank you.

### THANKYOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT AND PRAISE THE LORD!

|                         | APRIL 2015 |        | YEAR TO DATE (10 MONTHS) |        |
|-------------------------|------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|
|                         | ACTUAL     | BUDGET | ACTUAL                   | BUDGET |
| <u>INCOME</u>           |            |        |                          |        |
| OFFERINGS               | 6829       | 7644   | 82887                    | 79332  |
| SPECIAL GIVING          | -          | 208    | 10380                    | 2080   |
| OTHER INCOME            | 8443       | 6240   | 72604                    | 65160  |
| <u>TOTAL INCOME</u>     | 15271      | 13883  | 165870                   | 146572 |
| <u>EXPENSES</u>         |            |        |                          |        |
| REGULAR/NORMAL          | 15294      | 14106  | 153163                   | 144462 |
| SPECIAL PROJECTS        |            | 82     | 6425                     | 836    |
| <u>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</u> | (23)       | (305)  | 6282                     | 1274   |

**Sunday 14 June** Michael Bell Organist 2.30pm – 4pm St Columba Church 480 Ti rakau Drive.  
Door sales \$10. There is a flyer on the column in the foyer for more information.

**Real Life:** - This Sunday night (31st May) 730pm Newstalk ZB John's guest will be founder and CEO of *ecostore*, **Malcolm Rands**.