



**Weekly Newsletter**  
**Sunday 20 March 2016**

**"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.

**Theme : "Palm Sunday"**

**Focus Scripture:** Luke 19:28-40

**Other Readings:** Philippians 2:5-11



The heart of the Palm Sunday celebration

this year is God coming to God's people in faithfulness and love. Jesus enters Jerusalem as the one who will suffer, the doorway to his passion; and in his suffering invites people into God's grace and presence. And this arrival of God will not be resisted or stopped. It can only be received and enjoyed. And so the whole crowd of the disciples joyfully praise God. Note that only Luke includes the Pharisees' plea for Jesus to ask the crowds to be silent, and Jesus' response that if the people were to stop singing, the stones would cry out.

**Luke 19:28-40 Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King**

28 After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. 29 As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 30 "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. 31 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say, 'The Lord needs it.'"

32 Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. 33 As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" 34 They replied, "The Lord needs it." 35 They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. 36 As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

37 When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: 38 "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" 40 "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

## **NEXT WEEK: Sunday 27 March 2016**

**Next week's theme:**

**Focus Scripture:** John 20:1-18

**Other Readings:** Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Acts 10:34-43

**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. Margaret Morrison with her recurring illness.

### **Lenten Thoughts: "Living Simply"**

During this time of Lent we will be holding 2 after-church discussions using the book "Living Simply – Studies in Learning to live as Jesus did" as our resource.

The date for these are

**TODAY Sunday March 20** – Study 4. "Being 'in' the world but not 'of' the world."

Led by Murray Sheard.

This will be followed by a light lunch. For catering purposes please let Jeannine, Lorraine, Liz or Mavis know if you are staying for lunch.

If you would like to join us for the study discussions, please take a study booklet to prepare for the discussions.

## **Special Easter Services**

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm is our **Maundy Thursday Service**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 9:30 am is our **Good Friday Service**

**ROSTERS** Over the months of June July August and September we will be on average 8 people down every week for the rosters. If you would be able to help in all areas of the rosters, Reading, Intersessions, Communion Serving, Projector, Ushering, Welcome Desk and more could you please contact me as soon as possible so I am able to place you with another member for a couple weeks of training. Thank you very much Jeannine.

**Entertainment books** We are going to try and sell these again this year. Can I please have an expression of interest in the new 2016/2017 books which will be available after 7 April. Thank you Jeannine

## **Income Tax Receipts**

After the end of March we will be issuing receipts to enable persons who give through Envelopes or by Direct Credit to claim their Income Tax rebate.

If you are not in the system and missing out on the rebate please talk to Bob Williamson or Brannie Ma as we can help you qualify for the rebate you are entitled to. Thanks Bob

**Real life** with John Cowan and Newstalk ZB 730pm Sunday nights, John Cowan's guest this Sunday night will be Nadia Lim

**'the organ is dancing'** Kemp English (International Concert Organist) performs Bach, Lefébure-Wely, Takle, Joplin & more. St Columba Church, 480 Ti Rakau Dr, Botany  
**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2:30 pm.** Adults \$20 / Students \$10 / Children free. See foyer column for more details.

**Daytime Concert Series: 3 tenors & a Soprano *Reunited*.** Howick Picton Centre Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 11 am. Performing best hits from the past including: O Sole Mio, My Way, Nessun Dorma, Come back to Sorrento, and The Donkey Serenade as well as some new favourites! See foyer column for more details.

**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 09 2760328

**Inspirational TV:** In the month of March 2016 we experience Easter. Easter is the season of new life. We cast off the old and look to the new. Easter invites us to break out of our shell and take a fresh look at the world around us. This month's videos are:

- Luke 15: 1-3, 11,32 The lost son
- John 8: 1-11 The woman caught in adultery
- Luke 23: 13-23 Jesus is sentenced to death
- John 20: 1-9 The empty tomb

[www.Inspirationaltv.net.nz](http://www.Inspirationaltv.net.nz)

