



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 16 December 2018

**"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: 'Collide with a Promise Kept'

Focus Scripture: Luke 3:1-18

Other Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7



John the Baptist Prepares the Way 1 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene— 2 during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. 3 He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. 5 Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. 6 And all people will see God's salvation.' " 7 John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. 9 The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." 10 "What should we do then?" the crowd asked. 11 John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same." 12 Even tax collectors came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?" 13 "Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them. 14 Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?" He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely—be content with your pay." 15 The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. 16 John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." 18 And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

Next Sunday: 23 December 2018

Next week's theme: 'Welcoming the Goodness of God through Lessons and Carols.'

Focus Scripture: Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

Other Readings: Micah 5:2-5; Luke 1:47-55 or Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10

Prayer points for: Brenda Ryan and Mary Hall for good health. For the families of both Loas Toungh 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.



Carol Singing

Sunday 16th December

1pm Avril Rule's, 7b Waller Ave., Bucklands Beach

2pm Highlands Retirement Village lounge, 49 Aberfeldy Avenue.

If you require transport please meet in the **Church carpark at 12.55 pm.**

Wednesday 19th December

7pm Bruce McLaren Retirement Village lounge, 795 Chapel Road.

Please bring your friends and family – these occasions are fun events.

Supper will be served after singing at Bruce McLaren.

Please drive carefully!

If you require any further information please ring Judy

27 48534 or 021 1057 6327

Christmas Services @ St Johns

Blue Service Sunday 16th

@ 7:30 pm

Lessons and Carols Sunday 23rd

@ 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Family 24th

@ 7pm

Christmas Eve Carols and

Communion 24th from 10:30 pm

Christmas Day

@ 9:30 am





ROSTERS

Christmas Services 2018 and January 2019

Your assistance is needed for the smooth running of services over the festive season and summer holidays.

Please see the sheets in the foyer and write your name on the extra services where you would be available and willing to serve.

Thank you

Ministerial Vacancy, the First Step.

The Leadership Team met with the Church Partners on Tuesday night, the 11th 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.

Kindy 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 Kindy 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

LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22 When mixing metaphors, always remember to add wet ingredients to dry.



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
PO Box 39 278, Howick Website: www.stjohnsbb.org.nz
Lorraine: minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz Shania: 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 Warden	Felicity Vincer	535 5883
Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	274 8534
Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	274 8534

Ministry Groups:

Bucklands Beach Rest Home: 3rd 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 (16 December)	Next Week's Helpers (23 Dec)
Liturgist: Preacher:	Rev Lorraine Francis, Joshua Wong	Alan Vickers, Shania Qiu
Keyboard	Rahil John	Joan Williamson
Projector	Marsden Cheong	Alison Stanton
Sound Desk	Ian Dittmer	William Francis-Dittmer
Reader	Trevor Haigh	To be arranged
Intercessor	Mavis Haigh	To be arranged
HC set up	Rev Lorraine Francis	N/A
HC Serving team	Derek Speer, Bob Corbett, Alan Vickers, Ian Dittmer Bob Williamson	N/A
Prayer ministry		
Welcome Desk	Joan Rutherford	Joan Rutherford
Ushers	Trevor and Mavis Haigh	Dick and Judy McDonald
Counters	Trevor Haigh, Grace Li	Dick McDonald, Li Ying Zhang
Morning Tea	Uraiwan Jolly, Nessie Crawford	Sue Chang, Sha Sha Kang
Flowers	St Johns	St Johns