

## Weekly Newsletter Sunday 08 February 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: "Ongoing and Sustaining Ministry"

Focus Scripture: Mark 1:29-39

Other Readings: Isaiah 40:21-31, Psalm 147:1-11, 20c, 1 Corinthians 9:16-23



**Background**: God, who lifts up and heals, is revealed in Jesus. This week's scripture readings suggest reaching out to God through prayer and reflection as we strive to keep our focus for ministry. Sustained and restored by faith, we are able to serve in fresh and vital ways.

## Mark 1:29-39 (NIV) Jesus Heals Many

<sup>29</sup> As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. <sup>30</sup> Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. <sup>31</sup> So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. <sup>32</sup> That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. <sup>33</sup> The whole town gathered at the door, <sup>34</sup> and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

Jesus Prays in a Solitary Place <sup>35</sup> Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. <sup>36</sup> Simon and his companions went to look for him, <sup>37</sup> and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" <sup>38</sup> Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." <sup>39</sup> So he travelled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

**NEXT WEEK: Sunday Worship: 15 February 2015** 

Theme: "Pass it On"

Focus Scripture: Mark 9:2-9

Other Readings: 2 kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:106; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

**Prayer points**: Please pray for: School and University children returning to school. Ron

Ashton, Margaret Morrison.

**Ash Wednesday Service:** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February will be Ash Wednesday this year. We will mark the beginning of Lent with a worship service at 7:00 pm.

Ash Wednesday is a time when we are invited to stay with the betrayals of our hopes for ourselves – the moments when we failed to hold to our commitment to the Christ who walks ahead of us on the way. We contrast the moments when we cheered on the godliness in the world as on Palm Sunday and the times when we failed to do that. We see and touch the ashes of those hopes as we acknowledge and grieve our profound humanness.

**Church Picnic: Sunday 22 February:** There will be a church picnic at the home of Peter and Jan Hancock, 1 Orangewood Drive, Northpark on Sunday, 22 February. Everyone is welcome. More details will follow later.

**Youth Group**. Has started on Friday nights. This group is aimed for those at Intermediate School or College. We meet weekly for bible study, games and outings. For further information ring Ian 5341380.

**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH AT KITCHENETTE,** Next to Westpac in Highland Park. 12 noon, on Tues 3 March. Bring your friends. Delicious Middle Eastern food or counter food at reasonable prices. Sign up on Clip board in Foyer. Loas Toung

**MENS GROUP,** The men's group has been moved to Thursday nights at the home of Ray Lewis, 1/57 Mellons Bay Rd, at 7.00 pm. All men welcome. Any queries, phone Bob 021 0633292

**Girls Brigade...** will recommence on Tuesday 10th February. 6pm to 7.45pm. Please pray for new leaders to come forward in the early part of 2015 to develop a new leadership team for our Girls' Brigade Contact Julie Dickey 535 5814 0274 925659 or juliedickey@ews.net.nz

**Prayer Chain** – If you would like to be added to the prayer chain please call me in the office 5342305 or email <a href="mailto:office@stjohnsbb.org.nz">office@stjohnsbb.org.nz</a> and I will add you before re printing the new updated version next week. Thank you Jeannine

Real Life: 730pm Sundays on Newstalk ZB

**Inspirational TV**: Visit Inspirational TV at www.inspirational tv.net for this week's message.

**Church House** If you haven't seen we have started a maintenance project to the church house with gardens and new fences. Thank you for your continued support with donations to enable this to happen. We are nearly finished with a large thank you to Alex, William and Marsden for their able bodied assistance.

**Offerings:** - I am just starting the process in preparation for the end of the financial year and would like to know if anyone has any spare envelopes they are no longer using that I can reissue. If you would prefer to have envelopes on a different cycle ie fortnightly instead of weekly please let me know, or if anyone would like more information on giving by Direct Credit instead of the envelope system please contact Jeannine in the office.

**Thank you** A very large thank you for your prayers of support in recent times for my Uncle Peter with his cancer. On Thursday last week he was given the all clear. Our family as you can imagine are overwhelmed with joy of this news. Thank you again Jeannine.

