



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 27 April 2014

“Being the Gospel to all People”

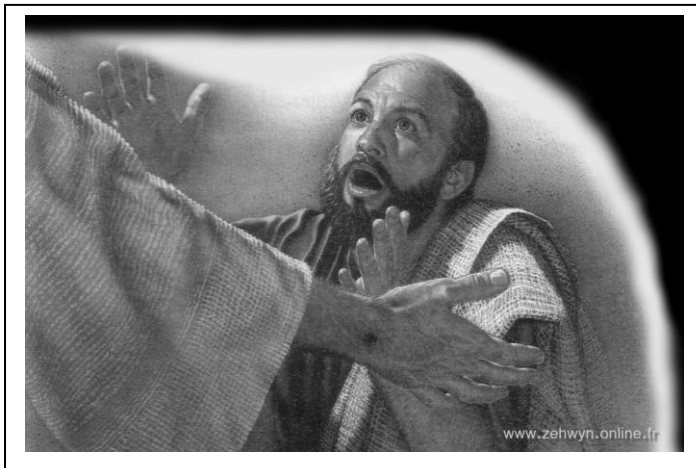
A very warm welcome is extended
to all visitors to St Johns.

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

Today's theme: Wounded Hands

Focus Scripture John 20:19-31

Other Readings: , Acts 2:12a, 22-32, 1Peter 1:3-9



Thomas joins the ranks of those who recognize divinity in Jesus: Simon Peter (Matt 16:13ff), Martha (John 11:27), and the Roman centurion (Matt 27:54); yet he is most frequently remembered for his doubts. Maybe that is because we sympathize with him: at times we too have more questions than answers, more doubts than certainty. There is something refreshing in the courage of Thomas to give his doubts voice.

John 20:19-29 Jesus Appears to His Disciples ¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

Jesus Appears to Thomas ²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus^[a]), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.” ²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” ²⁸ Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

NEXT WEEK: Sunday Worship: 4 May 2014

Theme: Companions on the Road

Focus Scripture: Luke 24:13-35

Other Readings: Acts 2:14a, 36-41, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, 1 Peter 1:17-23

Prayer Points: Please pray for: George Morrison with more recent complications from his surgery; Ray Chisholm with his illness; Jeannine's uncle with cancer treatment continuing this week, John Ding as he recovers from a Cleft-palate operation.

CHURCH NOTICES AND EVENTS:

Men's Group: The group is now meeting on Monday nights (7.00 – 9.00 pm) at 1/57 Mellons Bay Rd. We meet for a chat, a cup of tea or coffee, prayer and bible study. We are beginning the year with an exciting study of Book of Acts. Any new members are welcome. If you have any queries, please contact Bob Williamson, Ian Dittmer or Alan Vickers.

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Leprosy Mission Boxes are due in please, bring them in for Joan Jones.

Farewell to Brian and Janetta Mandeno. It is with sadness we must say farewell to Janetta and Brian as they move to Fielding for Brian to take up a new appointment within the IRD. Brian and Janetta we will miss you greatly as you both have accepted senior Church leadership roles and served so faithfully. Thank you for the ministries you have so generously shared with us, whether it has been in Team Leadership (Leadership, Exec for Brian, Nominating and Worship for Janetta and that's just the last 10 years...!) or whether leading us on Sunday's or in Prayer Rooms or retreat days or working bees... we will miss your warm smiles, jokes, pastoral care and spiritual wisdom. Our prayers go with you for safe settling of Auckland affairs and fast re-settlement in Fielding / Palmerston North. Brian will be re-locating the first week-end in May and Janetta will follow as soon as she can. Lorraine

Mainly Music Team would like to share that Grace Corbett has stepped down from leading Mainly Music after 7 years. She has accepted part-time employment which precludes her from being available for us. We want to say THANK YOU to her, it has been a fantastic time of fun and sharing the Gospel with a pinch of worry for flavour ☺. Go well Grace and return soon please. So we have a prayer request for a new member of the MMTeam, and just maybe a new presenter please.

Sunday May 18th is our turn to enable patients at **Middlemore Hospital** to attend the weekly Chapel service. If you are able to help with this ministry please let Lorraine know, we need a few extra's as we can usually count on a couple of Youth Band members helping but they are our musicians @ St Johns this Sunday.

Real Life: This Sunday night (27th April) John Cowan's guest will be British tenor singing sensation, Paul Potts.

Sunday 11th May: Rev Prince Devanandar will be our guest. He will be our preacher and as the Methodist Churches Mission and Ecumenical Secretary will receive our financial gift towards this project.

**Methodist Mission and Ecumenical
Special Appeal 2014**

Upgrade the Sea Ambulance

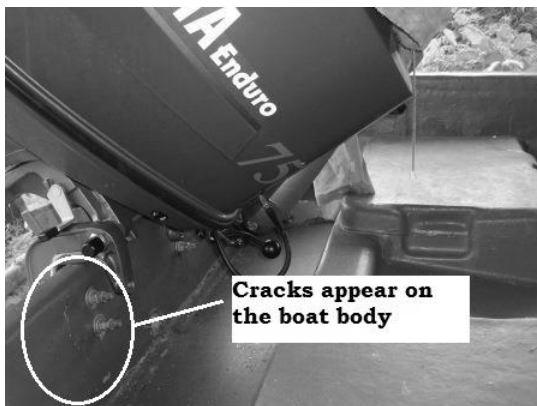
Helena Goldie Hospital, Munda, Solomon Islands



Dr. Graham Longbottom in his email stated the needs of Helena Goldie Hospital: Repair of damaged sea ambulance with improvement of canoe shed with slipway, winches and simple solar power system.

Estimated cost SB\$250,000 (NZ \$ 42,000)

Jesus Christ's mission: "I have come that they may have life and that in abundance."



Our mission is to assist people to have life in its abundance. The Sea Ambulance is the only way of transferring patients for advanced medical treatment in the nearest provincial hospital in Gizo. It takes 1 hour and 30 minutes by sea ambulance in normal condition.

Our support from New Zealand will be of help to improve this facility. With your contribution to the fund you can be a participant in this mission.

Joseph Nolan Concert: 4.00 pm Sunday 11 May 2014

Joseph Nolan is the organist of St George's Cathedral, Perth Australia. He performing at a concert at Pitt St Methodist Church, 78 Pitt St Auckland. The concert includes: Bach: *Chaconne*. Widor: *Symphony No 5* Noel Rawsthorne: *Dance Suite*. Admission by programme \$30 at the door. Concessions: \$20 AOA members. Children free with a paying adult.

JOHN 20:19-31 Poor Thomas...He's makes one mistake and it blows his whole reputation.

