



Weekly Newsletter Sunday 27 October

“Being the Gospel to all People”

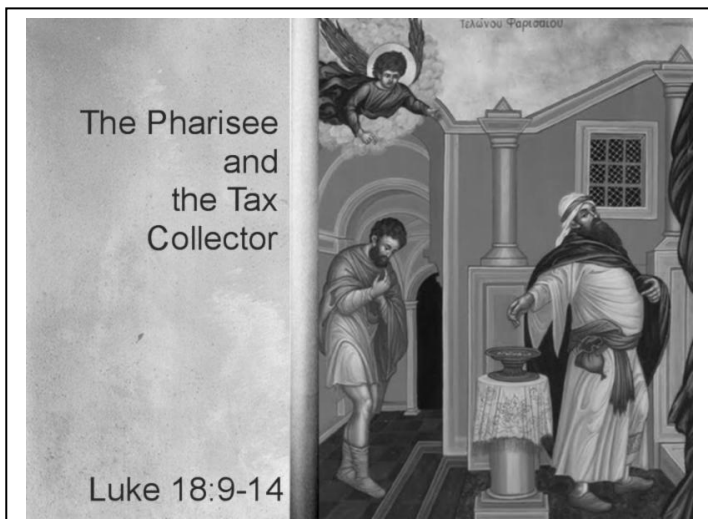
A very warm welcome is extended to all visitors to St Johns.

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

Today's theme: “No Distance Too Great”

Focus Scripture: Luke 18: 9-14

Other readings: Psalm 65



We are invited to hear ourselves in the words of the Pharisee and the tax collector and to ask ourselves if we aren't both of these examples. The last verse introduces the idea of being "justified." Justification by faith, as the apostle Paul writes, comes through God's merciful acts not through well-lived lives or earnest prayers. Consider the list of those held in contempt: what negative comparisons do we make in our personal lives and church communities or larger society?

If no distance is too great for God to bridge, what parts of your life or community do you want to bring together?

The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector: Luke 18:9-14 (HCSB).

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and looked down on everyone else: "Two men went up to the temple complex to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee took his stand and was praying like this: 'God, I thank You that I'm not like other people --greedy, unrighteous, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of everything I get.' "But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even raise his eyes to heaven but kept striking his chest and saying, 'God, turn Your wrath from me --a sinner! ' I tell you, this one went down to his house justified rather than the other; because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

NEXT WEEK: 3 November

Theme: "The Strength of Our Witness"

Focus Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

Other readings: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalm 119: 137-144; 2 Thessalonians 1: 1-4, 11-12

Prayer Points: Please pray for: Avril and her knee replacement's healing; Sheila as she recovers from her shoulder operation; our monthly finances which were short last month; the freshly elected Leadership Team; George Morrison as he recovers from the removal of a growth on his kidney; Reece, Jeannine's Husband recovering from knee surgery; Jack (from Youth Band) VarnDell's family on the death of his Grandpa in the UK.

CHURCH NOTICES AND EVENTS:

Leadership Team Notice for the congregation concerning the process of Ministry Extension: Active members of the parish are encouraged to express their views on the extension of Lorraine's ministry to the Leadership Team in the 2 weeks before the review (29 October – 3 November.) See the hand out on the Church Foyer desk. An informal meeting of the congregation and Leadership Team will be held immediately after the morning service on Sunday 3rd November for the congregation to express their views in a group situation.

Notice is hereby given that there will be a special meeting of the Leadership Team on Sunday 3rd November at 6pm and a further special meeting of the Leadership Team and the Review Team at 7pm. This notice is given by Joan Rutherford as People's Warden and Alan Vickers as Session Clerk.

Thank you so much to the fantastic team around Peter Hancock for the Honouring Age celebrations last Sunday. It was exciting to be part of a faith family that can honour its more mature members in this way. It was an honour to be part of a faith family with members who offered this ministry service with a smile. Peter, for your attention to all the important details which included taking home the dirty dishes – we thank you.

4eva@6 on Sunday night You are invited to join the Youth Band in worship at 6pm, then to hear from our 3 speakers from TIM (Training In Mission), we then close worship to share desert together! The speakers are Abishek, Thangboi and Deepak who are in New Zealand through Council For World Mission and the PCANZ and come from India. We have invited them to join us for Sunday Morning Worship and then to share in the evening.

Leprosy Mission Boxes are due in please, bring them in and Joan Jones will pass them on.

Our Web site is up and running – go on line and have a look www.stjohnsbb.org.nz Let us know what you think! A huge thank you to Steven Chaplin who designed and made it an original Stjohnsbb site - well done.

GIRLS BRIGADE: CHRISTMAS Inspiration Evening: 7 pm, 14 November 2013: Join us for an enjoyable fundraising evening for our Area of Girls Brigade. Get yourself prepared for Christmas by the Christmas Heirloom Company Demonstration night at 24 Marua Rd Ellerslie. Tickets \$15 each – includes nibbles. Please order your tickets by 27 September. For tickets, contact Julie Dickey: 5355814 or 0274925659 or email: juliedickey@ews.net.nz For a ride please talk to Lorraine on Sunday's.

Prayer Room 2013

"Listen - God is Calling" - this is the title of our prayer weekend on the Weekend of Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December. Come along and focus on praying for our church and our families and friends for the coming festive season. A sign up sheet will be available soon and will be posted in the foyer so that you can choose your time. This will be a very small and simply decorated prayer area in the Worship room....if you are interested in helping us build the space or contribute in any way, I will have a meeting after worship next Sunday 11th November, or contact me 021-1194446 - Janetta

Church Decoration for Advent

A group of us are meeting at 6pm on Wednesday 4th December to decorate the church for our Advent/Christmas season. All are welcome, just turn up on the night, many hands make light work. We will more than likely have a

break for pizza, so that we still have some energy to get the creative juices flowing. We will remind you all nearer the time through another notice and also during "Our Life Together" - Janetta

Countdown Cutlery Stamps if anyone is not collecting these for themselves William F-D and Paul are collecting them for the purchase of cutlery for flatting next year. Your donation can be an expression of gratitude as described above in today's bible reading from Luke 17: 11-19 (see on the front page of this newsletter).

"Donations of stamps can be given to William or Lorraine on Sunday and Jeannine in the office during the week. Thank you.

Clendon Christian Pre-School notice. Tessa has started work here as an early Childhood Teacher and would like any donations we can offer please... So any old clothing, plastic-ware, ice-cream tubs, plastic lids, anything they can use for art activities, even any old furniture etc. There is a box in the Church foyer or ring Tessa on her mobile 0211949334.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL? *Selwyn's Vision – Let's finish what history started* is the project under way to complete and consecrate our cathedral. Dean Jo Kelly-Moore would like to extend a warm invitation for people to join her for a Project tour at Holy Trinity Cathedral on the following dates: 25 September, 10 & 12 October. If you are interested in attending or finding more out about the project please phone 3039506, or email campaign@holy-trinity.org.nz, or view the website: www.holy-trinity.org.nz

Christmas mailing dates		International mailing dates:	
Domestic mailing dates		International deadlines:	
Domestic deadlines	Send by		
Standard post	Thursday 19 December		Monday 2 December
Standard parcel			Monday 9 December
Tracked parcel			Friday 13 December
FastPost	Monday 23 December		
Courier parcel			Monday 16 December
Courier & Signature parcel			

Luke 18:9-14 **Comment:** — But God does have caller ID, you can count on that.

