



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 13 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.

Today's Theme: 'Extravagant Love'

Focus Scripture: John 12:1-8

Readings: Isaiah 43: 16-21, Psalm 126: 1-3



Isaiah invites us to consider the possibilities of God's new and gracious actions in our midst. The psalmist sounds our continuing hopes and prayers for God's restorative grace. And at the feet of Jesus, and at the table where he eats, Mary and Mary both minister to Jesus. In what ways do we find ourselves recipients, and providers, of God's Love?

Jesus Anointed at Bethany

1 Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. 2 Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honour. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. 3 Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. 4 But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, 5 "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." 6 He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. 7 "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. 8 You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

NEXT WEEK: Sunday 20 March 2016

Next week's theme: Palm Sunday

Focus Scripture: Luke 19:28-40

Other Readings: John 12:12-13, Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

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. Brenda Ryan with ongoing health issues. Margaret Morrison with her recurring illness. Jacques (Sonja's partner) with his badly infected knee after surgery.

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 13 –Study 3. "Just Jesus" Led by Murray Sheard.

Sunday March 20: Study 4. "Being 'in' the world but not 'of' the world."

These 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 these study discussions, please take home a study booklet to prepare for the discussions - and bring it with you on the day.

Special Easter Services

Thursday 24th March at 7pm is our **Maundy Thursday** Service

Friday 25th 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 recent winner of Senior NZer of the year, **John Russell**.

'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 20th 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 22nd 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