



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 20 April 2014

"Being the Gospel to all People"

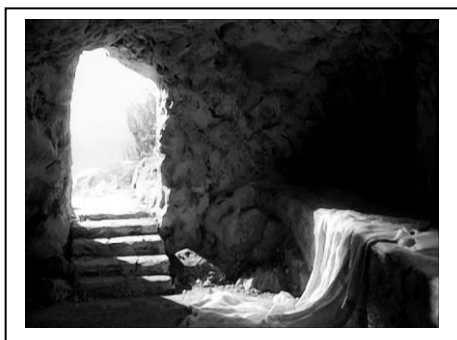
A very warm welcome is extended
to all visitors to St Johns.

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

Today's theme: "Easter Day"

Focus Scripture John 21:1-18

Other Readings: Psalm: 118:1-2, 14-24; Acts 10:34-43



The writer of the gospel of John extends the use of contrasts in telling the story of resurrection. Reading about the burial of Jesus leads us to believe that we have heard the last of Jesus, but this week's focus scripture begins not only with "the first day of the week" but "early," indeed at the first opportunity. We were left with a body in a tomb, but now find that the stone has been removed. One disciple runs fast, the other is slower; one enters with irrepressible curiosity, the other hesitates on the brink of faith. They did not know or understand, but then came to see and believe.

John 20:1-18 NIV The Empty Tomb

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)

NEXT WEEK: Sunday Worship: 27 April 2014

Theme: Wounded Hands

Focus Scripture: Psalm 16

Other Readings: Acts 2:12a, 22-32, 1Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31

Prayer Points: Please pray for: George Morrison; Ray Chisholm with Cancer; Dorothy Sinclair's recovery after ankle surgery Uraivan Jolly for a good biopsy result report. Jeannine's uncle with cancer treatment continuing this week.

CHURCH NOTICES AND EVENTS:

Offering receipts and envelopes:- There are still a few envelopes to be collected. They are in the silver box in the office.

Jeannine is away on leave next week and will return on Tuesday 29 April.

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.

Website Serving Rosters Access: Website Serving Rosters Access: We have put the monthly rosters on the website: We have put the monthly rosters on the web site, please contact Jeannine for login details to access them.

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.

Ascension Day of Reflection Bishop Jim will lead a day of study and reflection on the book 'Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church' by N.T. Wright. In this book Bishop Tom considers aspects of resurrection, heaven and what happens when we die. This seems an appropriate topic to consider together on Ascension Day. You will need to purchase the book as soon as possible as we will assume some familiarity with it.

Details: Thursday 29 May 9.00am – 4.00pm at Vaughan Park Cost: \$50 Please send registrations to Lynne Usher (Lynne.usher@aucklandanglican.org.nz)

Real Life: This Sunday night (20th April) John Cowan's guest will be author and pastor, **Erwin McManus**

Anglican TV:- This week on www.inspirationaltv.net. "A man enters town on a donkey, who is he? Find out this week on www.inspirationaltv.net

AGE CONCERN - Money Matters, is the 3rd session in the seminar series **“Navigating the Health System”** being held on Tuesday April 15th at Howick Presbyterian Church, 11 Vincent St, Howick from 10am – 12.30pm. Staff from BNZ Security and Fraud Division will cover financial abuse and fraud amongst older people, and a speaker from Senior Services (formerly WINZ) will be covering entitlements and how to access them. Morning tea included. No cost but donations always welcome. Bookings essential – to secure your place, ring the Age Concern office on 279 4331 ext 800 or email sandya@accm.org.nz.