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Staff Team:

Vicar: Rev Eric Kyte w: 464 0240 m: 021 713 021 e: eric@callsouth.org.nz
Administrator: Margaret McLanachan office: 464 0240 e: st.johns.roslyn@xtra.co.nz
Deacon: Rev Pauline Johnson m: 027 472 7091 e: paulineajohnson@gmail.com
Curate/Deacon: Rev Lisa Barlow m: 027 721 4120 e: lisa.a.barlow@gmail.com

Availability: Pastoral staff are available at all times except for their days off which are:
Eric— Friday;

Ministry Leaders:

Children's Church: Mark Wilson 464 0240
St John's Mini Musicmakers: Sarah Kyte 464 0240
AAW Afternoon Group: Verna Rutherford 476 3975
AAW Evening Group: Margaret McLanachan 453 0131
Mission Motivator: Vin Maffey 476 2231
Organist/Choir Director: Alan Edwards 477 2865
Parish Recorder: Sue Cathro 4554604
Verger: Brian Tegg 476 4505

Vestry 2020/2021

Vicar's Warden: Ethan Evans 021 081 38059
People's Warden: Melanie Cornish 0272 390 501
Treasurer: Heidi Schwellnus 464 0113
Other Members Rev Lisa Barlow 02772 14120
David Finlay 021 145 4065
Alan Firth 464 0272
Margaret McLanachan 021 216 9640
Verna Rutherford 476 3975
Phil White 467 6120
Synod Reps: Melanie Cornish 0272 390 501 Dr Paul Tankard 479 2869

Dates for Your Diary

6th May 9.15am Mini Music Makers begins
9th May **Parish shared lunch**
11th May 7.30pm Evening AAW meet
13th May 2pm Afternoon AAW meet



THE PARISH OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ROSLYN

News May 2021

Vicar:

Rev Eric Kyte
021 713 021
Office: 464 0240

Parish Office

Administrator: Margaret McLanachan
e: st.johns.roslyn@xtra.co.nz
w: www.stjohnsroslyn.org.nz
p: 464 0240

The Vicar writes;

Looking back, looking forwards . . .

As I write we are still in the season of Easter. A period during which, as Christians we spend time coming to terms with the reality not only of the death of Jesus, but of his resurrection. Reading the gospels we read of a community experiencing the entire gamut of emotions from shock and terror, especially in Mark, to untrammelled joy in John, from the doubt of some of the disciples in Matthew, to Jesus' commission to look to the future in Luke. All of Life is compressed into those three days.

I wonder how this Easter season is playing itself out in our lives, collectively and individually. Certainly we can look back to a special celebration of Holy Week. The joy and intimacy of eating together and foot washing, especially the spontaneous involvement of our younger members, before gathering round a small table for an informal communion.

Then to walk through the Cross of Good Friday, a service that in all my years of being a Christian was the only one I can recall in which every person present sought prayer for release, for healing, for a new touch of the Spirit. Someone commented afterwards that it was 'a service I shall remember for the rest of my life'. Certainly we all need such times, markers on the Way of following Jesus, and that simple act of walking from the darkness of the church through the Cross towards the brightly lit altar provided such a marker for several people . . . and then to wait . . .

The end of daylight saving blessed us with a bright sunlit morning to welcome the Christ light into church before enjoying breakfast together ahead of our Easter morning Eucharists . . . so many things, so many moments. Again people touched, and more prayer and anointing, and healing.

At a personal level with my family, I couldn't ignore the resonance of everyone falling to the ground in the presence of Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane as with a few folk we watched my daughter Hannah and her husband Ben speak with calm

Sunday Services at St John's

May 2nd	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
	10.00am	Choral Eucharist
May 9th	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Choral Eucharist
	6.00pm	Evening Service
May 16th	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Choral Eucharist
	7.00pm	Choral Evensong
May 23rd	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
	10.00am	Choral Eucharist
	6.00pm	Evening Service
May 30th	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
	10.00am	Choral Eucharist
	6.00pm	Evening Service

During the Week at St John's

Wednesdays

10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea in the Lounge

Thursdays

9.15am Mini Music Makers

7.30pm Choir practice

Association of Anglican Women (AAW)

11th May- Evening AAW Group meet at 7.30pm for a 'fun night'

13th May- Afternoon AAW Group meet at 2.00pm. Speaker Dean Tony Curtis



LESLIE GROVES SOCIETY UPDATE



The Financial Year for the Leslie Groves Society is the 31st March of each year.

At this time last year, the poor financial performance over the previous 12 months had been of significant concern!

The Board of Leslie Groves was advised at its April meeting that a surplus of some \$200,000 above that anticipated had been achieved for the 2020/2021 financial year. This in spite of all of the COVID challenges and some significant increases in staff, upgrades and equipment replacement!

While a surplus of some \$600,000 for a "Not for Profit" organisation might appear to be excessive - we, and other "Not for Profit" providers of Aged Care, do not receive any "capital" funding from the SDHD/Government. Just that for Operational costs!

We therefore have to provide for major alterations and upgrades, extensions of services, both in delivery and residency, from such surpluses, loans and donors.

With the loans provided for the Wakari Hospital site being paid off and some \$1.4 million in reserves, we are now able to consider an extension to the Taiari Ward which will provide five additional secure dementia beds. While this might seem to be somewhat inconsequential, there is a substantial and growing waiting list in Otago/Southland and Nationally for what are known as D6 (Secure) Dementia beds

Furthermore, there is a growing need to provide Day Care services to an increasing number of home resident persons with early onset of dementia.

With the agreement of St. John's Vestry this service is to be relocated to the Hettie Robinson Lounge and associated facilities from May17th as the venue for our Day Care Programme, thus enabling an increase in the number of participants.

However, with this increase in numbers we anticipate that we will need volunteers to drive our second vehicle to collect and return those attending.

Details as to how St. John's Parishioners and others can assist in this further outreach will be provided in the Pew Sheet and June Parish Magazine.

Brian Tegg

Board Chairman

0274135400

A Note from the Recorder

I hope by now, that those of you who made a donation to St John's for the 2020 – 2021 financial year, have your receipts. They are available in the lounge on Sundays, and during the week they can be picked up from Margaret in the office. If you do not have one and believe that you should, please get in touch with me.

If you are new to the Parish, or if you would like to be a part of the regular donors by **envelope**, please let me know. I can enrol you at any time and supply envelopes for weekly, monthly, or annual donations.

If **direct crediting** appeals to you, especially as bank cheques will be phased out in the next few months, please get in touch and I can send you the appropriate form for you to fill in and take to your bank. The details on this form can also be used if you wish to set up a direct credit yourself. This is becoming a very popular way of making donations to the Parish.

I am happy to answer any questions you might have, and any discussions are completely confidential.

My contact details are below.

Sue Cathro, Recorder.

Phone: 455 4604

Mobile: 022 171 5513

Email: b.s.cathro@xtra.co.nz

Address: 46c Kenmure Road, Belleknowes, Dunedin 9011

From the Registers:

April 24th

Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

Tessa Elizabeth Barlow and Benjamin Hunter Lovelock



authority, faith and love at the funeral of their daughter whose presence they had enjoyed for such a brief time. A powerful reminder that this story of the death and resurrection of Jesus, central to our faith is indeed central to all of existence. It is the Core of all human life, and (if we remember that magical moment a few years ago when a chorus of fantails sang on Good Friday from our Oak tree) of Creation itself; this Story is the beating heart of all existence

Looking ahead, Pentecost awaits. The resonances coincide in the hearts and mind of the disciples as they themselves become the vessels of that story. Not mere tellers of a tale, but embodying the reality of this Life that fills everything in their life together.

May this Easter season not be a vain repetition, rather might we Know deep within and amongst ourselves that Life which was from the Beginning and walk as children of Light and Life. Following Jesus to enter the Kingdom of God.

Amen

Eric

Afternoon AAW



Our April meeting on 8th, as Melanie was unable to come and speak to us, was another fun quiz with all sorts of challenges, which seemed to be enjoyed by all. We have booked her for our July meeting, so she will be talking to us about her job with recycling and the things we need to know about what we can and can't recycle. This could be quite interesting so if you are interested please feel free to come along, but more of that later.

Our May meeting speaker is Dean Tony Curtis, who as some of us know, speaks very well. This will be at 2pm on Thursday 13th May. If you are interested please feel free to come and visit us.

If our programmes appeal to you, come and see if you like us. If you are free on the second Thursday of each month at 2.00 pm, please feel free to join us. For further information my phone number is 476 3975, or text me on 027 238 6893. However, please stay safe, stay well, and stay in contact with one another.

Verna Rutherford [Leader]

AGM reflections and ponderings a month on . . .

Annual General Meetings exist due to our status as a registered charity, they are a statutory necessity should we wish to remain a charity with all the fiscal benefits of that. For better or worse, as an Anglican church and part of the Diocese this is not something we have any choice about, although the idea that there might be another way perhaps seldom crosses our mind. (After all, 'that's what churches are', aren't they?)

AGMs provide occasions to take stock and to give thanks. ***And I wish to apologise to everyone that as Chair of the meeting, I failed in that respect this year.***

We have a great deal for which to be thankful, for everything that we have received in so many ways. Not least, or perhaps most for the many small things which often pass un-noticed. For those who serve purely out of love and without any notice or public accolades.

Churches can sometimes be a bit like the world . . . people may work in clean environments and never meet or give thanks for the person who cleans it. (They might even assume that their work is more significant than that of the cleaner . . . but is this so in the Kingdom of God?) One of the features of life in the Kingdom of God is that its focus is on those whom the world doesn't see. Perhaps this is why we call it 'The Kingdom of 'God''?

Speaking for myself, and I'd love to engage in wider conversation with others who might find this an interesting idea; I think the focus on Ministers in churches, 'making sure we have the right Vicar', the right people at the top, and the like is contrary to our faith, however accustomed we have become to it.

The world looks for 'leadership', the right person at the top, and trained by the world we can feel insecure if we cannot put our focus on such a person or group, but in the Kingdom the greatest person is the one who is unnoticed and washing feet. The Vicar is an irrelevance insofar as they are 'public' figures . . . (As I write this coming Sunday is 'Good shepherd Sunday', and we hear the words of Jesus who contrasts himself with 'hired hands', never an easy read for those in paid ministry)

So it is right at AGMs to give thanks for all of that often unnoticed ministry – for those who welcome and make teas and lead the prayers (although each of these are somewhat 'public'). Perhaps those who as an act of loving service put flowers in church better fit the bill? Or those who 'merely drop in on an neighbour in need'. They provide the warp and weft of our parish life, our context, and fundamentally our context is God, who is unseen. The unseen are closer to God . . .

As St Paul says, 'we look not to things seen, for the things that are seen are passing away, rather we look to things unseen, for the things that are unseen are eternal'.

A Church Fair?

Hello everyone. Last year, due to Covid restrictions on our activity we were forced to cancel our fair. There is no question this was the appropriate action but we are in a much more hopeful time now, still being vigilant but able to see more possibilities. St John's Roslyn has always run a great fair. It would be fair to say that both our parishioners and the surrounding community have come to expect this event. My own experience of St John's had a lot to do with helping at the fair well before I joined the congregation. I will always remember being 'loved' into our church. Things have changed substantially in regard to the number of willing hands of late as we age as a body, All the same, things still get done with a larger workload for the willing hands and the addition of new ones. My observation is that we have always been able to find a role for every willing person, regardless of age or ability. That says volumes about our Christian ethos in my opinion, we are about enabling folk to find their potential in diverse ways. When I heard that there may be the possibility that 2021 could see another missed year I started to wonder if I could be the catalyst to get the ball rolling. It is my feeling that there is a good heart for a fair in our congregation. I am also sure I will have the utmost degree of cooperation from those who have been involved in the fabric in the past. There are elements I think we can take as fairly solid, things we have always done well. The way I see it we would have to play to our strengths and put our efforts into those. There well may be ideas that come forward for new directions, things we have rarely considered. So, that is about all I can say at present except that I am, with your able contributions, willing to do everything I can to make it happen. **On Sunday the 23rd of May** there will be a meeting following the 10 am service. I hope people will get their drink and join us in the Hettie Robinson Lounge. I just want to see the level of enthusiasm there is and hear your ideas. If you are reading this and want to put your name and/or ideas forward but know now you can't make this meeting please let Margaret in the office know so that a list can be prepared.

Thanking you in anticipation of a good turnout,
Craig McLanachan.

Greetings everyone

On Saturday April 24th Tessa our daughter was married here at St John's to Ben Lovelock. What a day! It is now such a blur but as I ponder on the beauty of it all moments come back into my mind. There is something so special when you have most of your favourite people in one room at one time.

Human friendship is a precious and sacred thing which I value increasingly as I get older. The love shared amongst each other on Saturday was tangible, joyful and so comforting.

The source of this love being our holy God.

I had a mother's natural anxiety about her only daughter being married. So soon? So quickly? Is he the right man? Will he love her deeply enough? Will he treasure her? I knew deep deep down he was the right man. Ben is a gentle, loving, and so very kind soul and most importantly he loves Jesus.

However what struck me over and over again during the day was the blessing of God on Tessa and Ben and our two families. I could feel the pleasure of God in and through the service, the afternoon tea, the reception, the dancing, the speeches. I could feel God's smile radiating over us all.

Why did I worry I asked myself? The Creator of the universe who intimately knows our every need would be holding all this together. A God who blesses. A God who is ever present. A God who seeks after us. A lesson again to give my anxieties over to Jesus and trust once again that he holds all our lives in his hands.

There were many people there friends and whanau who do not profess a Christian faith. I have been contacted by a few of them with comments such as "That is the most beautiful wedding I have ever been to." Another said "The feeling in that church service was staggering." This struck me as he is a man who does not think highly of the Church. Staggering!

I thought Yes the God we follow is staggering. Staggering because God turns upside down our whole purpose in life. God staggers us with the sacrificial love of Jesus God staggers us with an awareness that we are called for a higher purpose than to just exist looking after ourselves alone. Staggering because in the person of Jesus Christ we see what God is like. In Jesus we see the character of God in whose image we are made. Staggering because our deepest belonging is met in worshipping God and God alone.

It was a beautiful God filled day. I am grateful. Life has not always been easy for our wee whanau. Yet God has remained every faithful, ever present, ever loving. I saw the culmination of all that this past weekend in seeing our lovely Tessa married.

P.S. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the support from you the parishioners of St John's. The greenery, flowers, baking, practical kitchen support and most of all the excitement that so many of you shared with me about the wedding. It was lovely and I appreciate you all.

Jesus notices the unseen and says it is far more worthwhile than the things seen, when he notices the woman in the crowd who touches him and stops in his apparently urgent visit to the dying daughter of an important person. He notices the widow who puts her mite in the temple treasury, when everyone else has their eyes on those who put in large amounts.

As we have explored during Lent, we are called to seek the Kingdom of God, within us and amongst us. Hidden treasure for which we give up everything. Jesus gives us many many ways to make this journey of exploration and discovery of eternal life – our task should we so choose is to embark upon it . . .

Vestry has embarked on a new way of carrying out our duties which entails us spending a Saturday morning together every couple of months, to pray and to listen and to explore. I wonder if others would care to join us . . . after all, leaving it with Vestry is again just leaving it with 'the leaders'?

Thoughts? Thoughts about how we can share our thoughts in a helpful way?

Eric

Your Vestry for this coming year

Alan Firth

David Finlay

Heidi Schwellnus

Margaret McLanachan

Ethan Evans (Vicar's Warden)

Verna Rutherford

Paul Tankard (Synod Representative)

Melanie Cornish (People's Warden and Synod Representative)

Phil White

Lisa Barlow

Eric Kyte

Mission News

From NZCMS Communications Officer – Jarius ROBB::

“I’m often blown away by the power of prayer. Prayer is such an incredible gift that God has given us to be able to join together as one community with one heart and mind. It has always been such a privilege to be able to provide you, our prayer warriors, with a way in which we pray for our Mission Partners and for the work of NZCMS. I thank you for your patience as we’ve adjusted how we use our various print publications over the past twelve months. Many requests have needed to become more general as events for our Mission Partners change so quickly. We’ve also seen the need to invest in more online content as the world becomes more and more focussed on the digital. If 2020 has taught us anything, it’s that things change quickly and we need to learn how to adapt. But what doesn’t change will be two things - **One**, our calling to pray and **Two** - our commitment to provide you, members of the NZCMS family, with tools you can use to pray. Though the tools may change, our commitment to prayer never will. We pray that Prayer Fuel will continue to be a valuable tool to help us all participate in God’s transforming work around the world. Thank you for your faithfulness. Thank you for your passion. Let us pray!!

Jarius Robb: NZCMS Communications.”

PRAYER POINTS:

Jonathan & Tess HICKS and family (Solomon Islands)

Our new baby is due April 20th, Please pray for a smooth labour for Tess and for a great postpartum adjustment. Pray that we will be able to raise funds for our two Solomon Islands students, Father Jack and Father Alistair, to go to graduate studies in the States.

Nick & Tessa LANG (Medicine and social justice support, Uganda)

Give thanks for the positive momentum that Tessa and the team she works with are experiencing in their world working alongside the Apaa community Pray for the new relationships that are forged that they may bring hope to the situation. Give thanks for the amazing team that work alongside Nick in the Diocesan Health Centres. Pray especially for those nurses who work by themselves in remote locations providing much needed health care and also sharing the Good News with their local communities.

Rosie FYFE (NZCMS National Director) Last year Rosie relocated to Wellington for a few months following her father’s sudden death. She returned to live permanently in Christchurch at the end of March. Pray for her as she finds a sense of belonging and opportunities for service in a new city.

John & Mary (Jake & Rach)(Training and discipleship, South Asia. Currently in NZ)

We are still in the process of discerning when Jan can return to Asia. Our hearts feel torn between the safety and security of NZ and the big unknown in returning to our other home in the Himalayas – but none-the-less we feel deeply that our time there is not finished! Please pray for clarity and wisdom but most of all for trust and faith in our gracious Father. And pray that the kids will feel part of this decision to be able to ‘own’ whatever we sense as a family that we should do next. Finally pray that we will be able to have a significant impact on some ministries and leaders in our short stay here, helping them to develop and thrive.

NZCMS Support Groups: Praise God for our NZCMS Support Groups throughout New Zealand, for their faithfulness in prayer and commitment to partnering with God’s mission in the world. **(The Dunedin group normally meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Arch Matheson’s place, 25A Sheen Street, at 2.30pm.)**

New Zealand Church in 2021: Pray that the Church of New Zealand will receive a new passion for mission and that we will all continue to look outside our doors to the nations who need to know Jesus.

NZCMS Office Staff: Please pray for clear minds and high energy as our office staff do the essential “behind-the-scenes” work that keeps NZCMS running smoothly.

Vin Maffey,

Parish Mission Motivator

Evening AAW

Our April meeting was delayed for a couple of weeks so was held on 20th. We had a “Movie” night with popcorn and supper at half time. We watched ‘Miracles from Heaven’ - a true story. Many of us spent the evening in tears but it was well worth it.

Our May meeting is to be held on Tuesday 11th at 7.30pm. We are to have a fun night as a farewell to Christine Aitken before she leaves for Invercargill at the end of the month.

Margaret McLanachan (Leader)
(453 0131 or 021 216 9640)
mmclanachan98@gmail.com

