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Eric— Friday;

Ministry Leaders:

Children's Church: Sarah Kyte 464 0240
St John's Mini Musicmakers: Sarah Kyte 464 0240
AAW Afternoon Group: Verna Rutherford 476 3975
AAW Evening Group Sec: Bev Aitken 476 3807
Mission Motivator: Vin Maffey 476 2231
Organist/Choir Director: Alan Edwards 477 2865
Parish Recorder: Sue Cathro 4554604
Verger: Brian Tegg 476 4505

Vestry 2017/2018

Vicar's Warden: Fraser Richardson 466 7046
People's Warden: Jane Musgrave 484 7179
Treasurer: Heidi Schwellnus 464 0113
Other Members Alan Firth 464 0272 Verna Rutherford 476 3975
A.J. Visagie 027 412 8113 Phil White 467 6120
Lorraine Young 473 9130
Synod Reps: Trish Franklin 021 279-8343 and Paul Tankard 479 2869
Secretary: Margaret McLanachan 453 0131

Dates for Your Diary

9th December Advent Pageant - Parish shared lunch
16th December Parish breakfast - Nine Lessons & Carols
24th December 5.00pm Crib service
Christmas service details can be found elsewhere in this magazine



THE PARISH OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ROSLYN

News December 2018

Vicar:

Rev Eric Kyte
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The Vicar Writes . . .

Advent - a forgotten season?

Recently, I received in the post a book containing a series of sermons for the Advent Season.

(I was so thrilled with it, I immediately sent a copy to a dear friend - all Good things are to be shared)

Yet as I have been reading it, I cannot help considering how Advent has become 'the season that disappears' in the Church's year. Shops of course have no time for it, and oh how The Economy shapes our perceptions in this Age. There is no money to be made in merchandising for an event the timing of which even Jesus himself knew not . . . yet it is in many ways the season of the Church Year which sets us up, which positions our hearts and souls and minds and strength for what is to come. Getting ready not for Christmas, but for Christ Himself.

Advent Orients us towards Christ Jesus' coming to us - it gives us a direction in which to be looking, and a Hope anchored in the deepest past, and the remotest future - the Alpha and The Omega, the Beginning and the End - made present to us in Jesus Christ. As Christians we are perhaps above all 'an Advent people', the summation of our faith. For it is the Incarnate One (Christmas), who suffers and dies (Holy Week) to Rise Again (Easter), pouring out his Spirit on us (Pentecost) - it is This Jesus who is the One Coming to us.

As I said on Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday of the Church year, having heard the entirety of the Gospel through the Church Year, we have seen the Truth of all things in Christ, and having seen, we fix the eye of our heart upon Him as we await his Coming, from the beginning of the Church Year.

We do this in and through the Eucharist - the ministry of the Word and the Sacrament. Therefore I offer for your contemplation in this season the words of a great hymn of the Eucharist, based on possibly the earliest known liturgy of the Church and before that the words of the prophet Habakuk

Sunday Services at St John's

December	2	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
		10.00am	Choral Eucharist, Youth, Children's Church
		7.00pm	Lord's Prayer
December	9	8.00am	Holy Communion (NZPB)
		10.00am	Advent Pageant
		7.00pm	Lord's Prayer
December	16	8.00am	Holy Communion (NZPB)
		10.00am	Nine Lessons and Carols
December	23	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
		10.00am	Choral Eucharist
December	24	5.00pm	Crib service
		11.00pm	Carol singing
		11.30pm	Christmas Choral Eucharist
December	25	9.30am	Christmas Family Service

Wednesday services resume at 10.00am on Wednesday 23rd January 2019.

During the Week at St John's

Wednesdays

- 7.45am Meditation Group meets in the Hettie Robinson Lounge
- 10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea in the Lounge

Thursdays

- 9.15am St John's Church Mini Musicmakers (*during term time*)
- 7.30pm Choir practice

Association of Anglican Women (AAW)

13th December Afternoon AAW Group meets at 12noon for lunch



Afternoon AAW

On the 8th of November we began our meeting with Vicar Eric celebrating Holy Communion. While we cleared up following that the New Zealand President of AAW was invited to speak to us. Part of our focus for the meeting was our AGM, where none of our office bearers changed but Denise Duncan was added to our committee. Denise then spoke to us about growing and selling flowers overseas while she and her husband lived in New Plymouth. She told us of the amazing amount of work involved in this business. Our meeting finished with our usual afternoon tea.

On 13th December St Barnabas Home will bring enough of the two course dinner for the 18 of us who have signed up for it as our way of having our usual end of year dinner, but without having to find somewhere with very close and plentiful parking! This will conclude our program for this year until we begin again in February 2019.

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.

Verna Rutherford [Leader]



Children's Church

We are rapidly approaching the end of another year at Children's Church, we've looked at many Old Testament characters - Moses, Ruth, Hannah, Samson and others, and there are still some for us to find out about next year :-)

During November the Pathfinders have been doing a little preparation for Advent - so watch out for the results of their hard work up in the Foyer :-)

The first weekend in December will have a bit of a Party at Children's Church to celebrate the end of the year, and then December 9th will be the Pageant! Yes, after a break last year, the pageant is back, looking a little different and involving folks from our whole church family :-)

A really big Thank you is due to all those who help with our Children's church - your willingness to be part of this important ministry is much appreciated.

Hope all our youngsters and their parents have a good holiday :-)

Sarah

Evening AAW

The evening AAW group held their AGM 13 November combined with the end of year function.

Vicar Eric Kyte lead the devotions taken from the AAW booklet. Eric spoke about the relevance of the reading of Matthew to the traditional Themes of Advent, The Four Last things, death, judgement, heaven and hell.

Eric conducted the meeting. It was agreed that the same format of shared leadership would continue in 2019 and the committee members were

Available for the following year with the power to co-opt.

Christine Aitken announced that in 2019 NZAAW will have special events to celebrate 50 years. St John's will host a dinner on 2nd March.

The evening followed with a Christmas Quiz, a reading of Penelope Keith's Twelve days of Christmas, and singing of Christmas Carols and songs.

Eric blessed a box of new clothing for younger children, to be delivered to AFC.

A festive supper followed.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday 12 February. We look forward to welcoming some new faces.

Blessings to all.

Bev



From the Registers

Rest in peace:

13th October George Ronald Moore (Ron)

21st November Jeffrey Jane Aitken (Lee)

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descending
Comes our homage to demand.*

*King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
In the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.*

*Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
Comes the powers of hell to vanquish
As the darkness clears away.*

*At His feet the six winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Lord Most High!*

This is the One we contemplate in the Christmas season - 'veiled in flesh, the God-head See!'

And the Word was made flesh and dwelt amongst us - and we have seen his Glory, the glory as of the only begotten Son of the Father, full of Grace and Truth - John 1:14

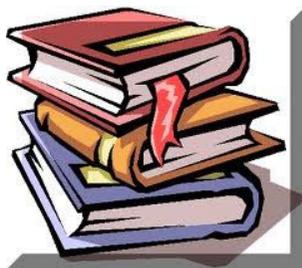
Sarah, myself and the whole family wish our St John's Parish whanau every Good thing this Christmas season as we celebrate this great feast of the Church Year.

Eric

Parish Library

Well, as I write this immediately after our church fair I am even more reminded of the power of books in our lives. I sorted a few books from the fair stall that I will tell you about next month. The first book to tell you about this time is 'Remaking a Broken World', the heart of the Bible story, by Christopher Ash. I found this in a second hand bookstore in York, England. It is based on God's promise to remake his created world following the Bible story, culminating and consequent upon the return of Jesus. It is a study book, well written, convincing and logical. At the end of each chapter are sets of questions, handy for any subsequent ongoing study. Both Margaret and I were involved in the latest Cursillo three day weekend over Queen's Birthday weekend. There I organised, thanks to our local Manna bookstore, a selection of Christian books. From the interesting items there I selected the following for your attention should you wish. 'Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus' by Nabeel Quresh, the account of a devout Muslim's encounter with Christianity. Next is 'Cry The Wounded Land', by Mark Holloway. It is subtitled Conversations with God about Maori, Pakeha, and the land. Mark wrote The 'Freedom Diaries' that you may have read. The next is by well known author Bill Hybels and is 'Who are You When No One's Looking', revised and expanded edition. Another study/discussion book follows, 'The Holy Spirit', an Introduction, by John Bevere. The next three books are mostly aimed for our female readers. 'Unstoppable', by Christine Caine has the aim of helping you step into your purpose, run your race, and embracing your future. It comes with a study guide. The last two are novels by Sharon Garlough Brown, one titled 'Sensible Shoes', the other 'Two Steps Forward', (always good to to be well shod stepping out!) I really hope you find plenty of interest in these books. Happy reading!

Craig McLanachan,
Librarian.=



Parish Breakfast, 16th December

3rd Sunday of each month

Breakfast is served! **9am** in the lounge, leave your dressing gown and slippers at home.

Food provided but Koha appreciated.



Services and Activities in preparation for Christmas

2nd in Advent (9th December)

8am Holy Communion

10am Advent Pageant

Followed by shared lunch with

Wednesday 12th December

10am Eucharist

3rd in Advent (16th December)

8am Holy Communion

Parish breakfast

10am Lessons and Carols for Christmas

NO EVENSONG

4th in Advent (23rd December)

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

5.00 Crib Service with Nativity

11pm Carols and Readings

(If you have an idea for a short reading, or would like to read, or both - please let Eric know)

11.30pm FIRST COMMUNION OF CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am Christmas Family Eucharist

Third Thursday at Three Thirty . . .

Our small group for Silent Prayer will meet again on
21st February 2019

In the Hettie Robinson Lounge

We have a short reflection followed by about 45 minutes of silence

THE Parish Office will close on Friday 21st December and reopen on Monday 7th January 2019. Seasons greetings to you all from the office.

A Note from the Recorder

Although it is halfway through the financial year, it is never too late to join the regular donating system. All donations are receipted at the end of March and can be used for the rebate.

If you are new to the Parish, or if you would like to be a part of the regular donors by envelope, or direct credit, please let me know. I am happy to answer any questions you might have, and any discussions are confidential.

My contact details are below:

Sue Cathro, Parish Recorder

Phone: 455 4604

Mobile: 022 171 5513

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

Parish Shared Lunch, 9th December

A reminder that the 2nd Sunday of each month is the Parish Shared Lunch following the 10am service. Please bring along something to share and join us in the Lounge.

Wardens' Report

Vestry discussions at November meeting

Ongoing prayers

This month our prayer time at Vestry focused on St Mathew's parish in the situation they are currently experiencing. Bishop Steven reminds us that as Christians we need to be setting the example of how to love each other when there are differences of opinion, not assuming positions of righteousness. We prayed for love, hospitality and acceptance towards all those who God is already loving.

New Operations Manager at Leslie Groves

Max Reid has been appointed to the role of Operations Manager at Leslie Groves. He starts full time in the New Year. Max has worked as a Presbyterian parish minister, and in various senior roles across the social services and health sectors for twenty years. Tina Owens will return to Leslie Groves as the Chief Clinical Manager. The Board are very pleased with these appointments.

New Parish Website

The new draft parish website is very close to being finalised before we go live in early December. Once it is live, the working group will welcome comments, ideas and suggestions on items/information to change or add.

Health and Safety

We are awaiting confirmation that our revised fire evacuation scheme has been approved. Then we will hold a planned fire evacuation drill.

Advent events

Our Advent events begin with a pre-Advent event on Friday 30th November in the early evening before Advent Sunday on 2nd December. Other key events include the Pageant on Sunday 9th December and the Nine Lessons and Carols on 16th December- both at 10am. On Christmas Eve, there will be a Crib Service at 6pm and carols and first communion service, starting at 11pm.

We would like to take this opportunity to offer you and those you love a Blessed Christmas and restful New Year!

Fraser & Jane

Vicar's and People's Wardens

Mission News

Introducing New Mission Partner: Hannah Gennard:-

“Kia Ora!

My journey towards overseas mission began as a child when my family and I visited an Operation Mobilisation ship that was moored near to where we lived.

After looking around the ship and hearing about life on board from people working there, I told my mum “When I grow up I would like to be a missionary!”

I first visited Fiji in 2015. As I visited villages and special needs’ schools I began praying and exploring the possibility of doing a short term mission assignment. I’d just completed my degree in Early Childhood but I knew I would have to work two years in an early childhood setting in order to get my registration. During this time, I have continued to feel the passion for overseas mission, and to explore where my experience as an Early Childhood Teacher could be used overseas. Earlier this year I approached NZCMS with a view to them supporting my desire to do short term work in a Kindergarten in Fiji.

Since beginning my journey with NZCMS I’ve felt a peace which I believe is a real confirmation that God is calling me to serve in Fiji. They’ve provided me with the logistical, spiritual and personal support needed to take the next step in serving God on mission overseas. Therefore, from January 2019, I’ll be partnering with NZCMS as an intern volunteering as an early childhood teacher at St Christopher's Kindergarten in Suva. As I prepare for this new season please pray for:

- A continued sense of God's call and peace as my time overseas gets closer
- A sense of his peace and presence as I settle into a new country and a new role

And the knowledge and assurance that God is with me

Hannah Gennard”

NEWS OF OTHER MISSION PARTNERS:

Anthony & Anne McCormick: (Cambodia)

November has been a very busy month for us both. Anne is hosting a team from the USA and also has some occupational therapy students from Australia at the same time. She is also assisting with the Handa Academy on their arts and crafts programme a few mornings in the month. Anthony has had two trainings for a local NGO each a week long and one week apart and scheduled around the Water Festival holiday week. Please pray for energy and focus for them both in the busy time.



Liz: Education, Pakistan:

Give thanks for the chances to reconnect with people around the country as I returned from my time of deputation in New Zealand. Please pray for hostel funding proposals for 2019 which have been sent, that they will be received with favour; for the hostel students staff and programmes; for the follow-up of contacts for running the inter-personal skills training events (SYIS)

John & Mary (Jake and Rach) (Preparing for ministry in South Asia)

We have found a house which is good news although it is further from town than expected which will make daily life a bit harder. But we are delighted to have some stability for the first time in a year. Please pray that we will all settle into new routines and that we’ll be welcomed into this new neighbourhood. Along with language learning, John will spend the next year researching the strengths ‘Coaching’ can have in this part of the world. Along with a handful of individuals, I’ve already identified a progressive business, a large NGO and a paradigm shifting school that I can work with. Praise God for opening doors and pray that we’ll be able to see emerging leaders growing in confidence as they discover how God has wired them.

Kate Bennett: (Church Planting, Spain)

An exciting new forum is beginning called La Plaza that aims to build and strengthen relationships between church leaders, missionaries and other planters to see church multiplication in the region. La Plaza serves as a way for churches to support each other by equipping, training and sharing resources that promote and encourage church planting. Please give thanks and pray for the initial stages of La Plaza beginning here. Pray too that it will be formed in a way that is appropriate to the regions’ specific context and needs.

Christmas & Holiday Greetings:

Please continue to pray for missions and for all mission partners throughout the Christmas and New Year holiday periods. Thank you for your continuing support as always. Christmas Blessings from all at NZCMS and the Anglican Missions Board.

Vin Maffey, *Parish Mission Motivator.*