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**Availability:** Eric is available every day except Friday and Lisa is available Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday

#### Ministry Leaders:

**Children's Church:** Mark Wilson 021 259 3559  
**St John's Mini Musicmakers:** Sarah Kyte 464 0240  
**AAW Afternoon Group:** Verna Rutherford 476 3975  
**AAW Evening Group:** 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 2020/2021

**Vicar's Warden:** Fraser Richardson 021 0257 7898  
**People's Warden:** Jane Musgrave 027 485 3726  
**Treasurer:** Heidi Schwellnus 464 0113  
**Other Members:** Ethan Evans 021 081 38059  
David Finlay 021 145 4065 Alan Firth 464 0272  
**Secretary:** Margaret McLanachan 453 0131 Verna Rutherford 476 3975  
Phil White 467 6120  
**Synod Reps:** Paul Tankard 479 2869 Melanie Cornish 0272 390 501

#### Dates for Your Diary

**9th July** AAW Afternoon Group meets  
**14th July** AAW Evening Group meets



THE PARISH OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ROSLYN

News July 2020

#### Vicar:

Rev Eric Kyte  
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#### Parish Office

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#### The Vicar Writes . . .

As parents of four beautiful daughters, Sarah and I are not strangers to weddings and inviting folk from far and wide to enter into our joy. The Holy Scriptures, most obviously Jesus himself, repeatedly speaks of the Kingdom of God in terms of a wedding feast. Nothing less than the joining of heaven and earth in Jesus Christ. This Wedding has an invitation to 'enter into the joy' of the Father. This in a nutshell is the Good News. But what does it mean? To enter into the Joy of the Father?

Christians of old knew this well - they spoke of the marriage of heaven and earth in quite breathtaking terms. As St Irenaeus - a third generation disciple of Jesus, via non other than our own St John - as he puts it, 'God became human in Jesus, so that [in Jesus] the human might become like God'. It is perhaps worth pondering those words. The Great Gift. Yet this is twisted in our experience, thus the cunning deception of the snake in the garden, a deadly lie disguised as The Life Giving Truth.

It was God's intention, it is God's intention, that we become like him, but not by being God, and thus taking to ourselves the role of telling the difference between Good and Evil, becoming judges . . . "judge not, lest ye be judged . . .", not 'sorting the sheep from the goats, not making distinctions amongst ourselves. To enter into Division and Disunity. This was the bitter fruit of choosing to become judges, rather than take of the fruit of the tree of Life, of Union with God and with one another, which is Love.

This True Gift, this invitation is to become Like God in his Life - which as we should all know if we pay attention to the stained glass at the 'East' end of our church, is Love. God Is Love. The gift of the gospel is to be set free from all that hinders us in becoming Love.

## Sunday Services at St John's

July	5	9.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
		10.30am	Choral Eucharist
		6.00pm	Night Prayer and Reflection
July	12	9.00am	Holy Communion (NZPB)
		10.30am	Choral Eucharist,
		6.00pm	Night Prayer and Reflection
July	19	9.00am	Holy Communion (NZPB)
		10.30am	All Age Eucharist
		7.00pm	Choral Evensong
July	26	9.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
		10.30am	Choral Eucharist, Youth, Children's Church
		6.00pm	Night Prayer and Reflection

## During the Week at St John's

### Wednesdays

- 7.45am Meditation Group meets in the Hettie Robinson Lounge - **T.B.A.**
- 10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea in the Lounge

### Thursdays

- 9.15am St John's Church Mini Musicmakers
- 7.30pm Choir practice

## Association of Anglican Women (AAW)

### Evening AAW Group - meet on Tuesday 14th July at 7.00pm.

Speaker Jennie Lewis. Volunteering in the Nazareth Hospital and Village in 2020. Sounds such an interesting topic.. **All welcome**

**Afternoon AAW Group** - meet on Thursday 9th July at 2.00pm. 'Celia Davies Nepalese Adventure'.



## LESLIE GROVES SOCIETY UPDATE



### A Special Event

Residents at both Wakari and Sheen Street were recently entertained with a performance provided by a SI COVID Response Trust .

The organ recital performed from the back of the truck had the residents and those close neighbours rocking!



### Seed and Friends



Thanks to Gail Loughrey Anita and Brian Pillai for their gift of plants to propagate a shaded bed outside the Taieri Unit.

Just another of the many acts of kindness and support the Residents and staff of Leslie Groves receive.

Brian

## Common Life Assistant Report

Hi there,

I have been reflecting on the last few months which have been 'interesting' to say the least. For some of us the different levels of lockdown were a mixed bag of freedom or frustration, proactivity or lack of motivation, peace or anxiety. For some of us these feelings could be felt all at once.

The beauty of this time of uncertainty however is that we are reminded that our lives are a gift and the giver of that gift is God. The Hebrew word 'nephesh' which essentially means 'God breathed' also reminds us that we breathe each breath in and out through God. Without God we have no breath. We live because God lives in and breathes in us. How intimate and beautiful is this? Our life is sustained by God as we breathe in and we breathe out every minute of every hour of every day. Think on this for a moment.

If God is so intimate that his presence is in our every breath then we can trust God especially in the midst of Covid 19. However this situation rolls out over the next months we can choose to offer our every breath back to God in thanks for the life that God pours into us. As we know our lives do not belong to us but belong to our loving Creator. Therefore, whatever storms come our way, and there are always storms, we can know to Whom we belong. To belong is one of our most important human needs. In Jesus we see the God to Whom we belong, the God who breathed as we breathe. How wonderful to remember that the God to Whom we belong is the God of the universe. Choose to trust God with your life and love God with every single breath.

Lisa Barlow.

Being, or becoming love is much much more than 'doing loving things', although they can appear to be the same. Rather it is to act out of love always and everywhere - for it is our new nature.

Jesus says 'Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.' He goes on to tell us that there is nothing at all special in loving those who love us in return, rather we are to become children of God, who Is Love, who loves utterly without discrimination, without judging whom to love.

That is the invitation - it is ourselves to become fruit, the fruit of the marriage of heaven and earth - to become the Image of God, quite literally by becoming his offspring - born of the Holy Spirit.

Christian Life is not a set of rules or morals, or values. It is simply, yet gloriously and joyfully to grow into a Life - The Life of God - to become Love which is, in the pattern of God, to lay down our life for one another. The Life Is the Love, poured out, and revealed in Jesus Christ upon the cross, who pours out his life for those who do not love him.

Jesus in one of his wedding parables speaks of all the excuses people make to avoid this great calling. Rather than come to the wedding feast, they have business to take care of, or a new relationship, or have just bought something to which they wish to attend.

These are all examples of the ways in which we ignore the Great Gift which stands before us, examples of our tendency to aim low, to miss the purpose of our lives, to miss the mark, which is the literal meaning of Sin. The failure to love our neighbour as ourselves, without discrimination. It is to turn down the invitation to become Love and So Live the Eternal Life of God who Is Love.

In the last analysis it is to turn down the invitation to become a human being, fully alive. To choose something less than fully human - and so not enter into the Joy of our Father in Heaven.

Yet, all are invited . . . what have you done with your invitation?

Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, Eric

## A Note from the Recorder

I hope you are keeping warm as we head into winter!

Just a reminder 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.

Direct crediting has become a very popular and convenient way of making donations to the Parish. I can send you the appropriate form for you to fill in and take to your bank. The form will also give you the details that you need to set up your own direct credit.

I am happy to answer any questions you might have. Any discussions are confidential.

My contact details are:

Sue Cathro, Recorder.

Phone: 455 4604

Email: [b.s.cathro@xtra.co.nz](mailto:b.s.cathro@xtra.co.nz)

Mobile: 022 171 5513

## Foodbank Donations



With Church services resuming contributions of Foodbank Items can recommence.

Monetary donations will still be welcomed as they enable AFC and Salvation Army to purchase items that are not among those donated.

## Wardens Report

On 9<sup>th</sup> June, Vestry met in person after a hiatus of several months due to COVID-19 response restrictions.

COVID-19 meant that for Vestry, like everyone else, our contacts had been online or by phone. This was a new reality for all of us. Whilst we felt the closure of our worshipping community in person, we are mindful of those who are unable to attend church services even in the absence of a pandemic.

On behalf of all St John's parishioners, Vestry thanked Eric and Sarah for their flexibility in adapting to the new situation and energetically providing worship via online platforms and, indeed, continuing to do so even now that church services are re-established.

Vestry also wants to acknowledge the wonderful pastoral support our parishioners deliberately and spontaneously offered each other during lockdown, and to Lisa Barlow who began her pastoral ministry with us in March. Great timing Lisa! As a result of our pastoral network, we hope that everyone felt connected to the body of the church during the COVID-19 lockdown.

The Diocesan Office was extremely busy providing us with updated information and guidance on COVID-19 during all this time, sometimes several times during a day. In mid-May we submitted to the Diocesan Office our plans for resuming in-person worship, and a second plan for small groups and outreach activities. These plans were approved but no sooner had we received this than church buildings re-opened for worship.

The June Vestry meeting also allowed us a time to focus on preparing for our AGM which we hoped would happen on the 28<sup>th</sup> June- and it did!! We would like to give prayerful thanks for our new Vestry and to you all for your warm support.

We are aware of the stresses that COVID-19 has placed on all people, families and communities, and thank each and everyone of you for your patience, tolerance and prayer during the last few months. There is a saying that when the going gets tough, the tough get going and that is certainly true of our fabulous St John's parishioners.

Jane and Fraser

## Pastoral Care

Sometime in the coming months I'd very much like to spend time encouraging folk in Pastoral Care which is the work of all of us.

To that end I'll be leading four sessions on a Saturday morning entitled 'Pastoral Care for All' - A course on Pastoral Care to persuade you that you have no need of a course on Pastoral care, or training, or a certificate, or even a bishop's License!' This is for those who blessed souls who never thought that they had a calling or gift for pastoral care. Please speak with me if you think you might be one of those people :-)

Eric

## Library Report

Just a brief report this month to tell you about a book I was able to find online. In my previous report I told you about two books by the famous 20th Century writer H V Morton, In The Steps of St Paul and In The Steps of The Master, both extremely well written and absorbing. The third one I am donating is also by him and is Women of The Bible. Since becoming a Christian I have been increasingly impressed by women's roles throughout the Bible. This book gives really lovely backgrounds on these women and helps add life and colour to their stories. I can say I put this book down with real admiration for the way the author went about his task. Please let me know if I am way off the mark with these books written about 90 years ago. To me a great book is always so but you may prefer more modern material. Other than that it is business as usual. Please use the library. Your feedback is ever welcome.

Craig McLanachan,  
Librarian.=

## Afternoon AAW

At long last we are in planning mode again. We are now allowed to meet without restriction, but if you are unwell please stay home!!! As we missed out on the Dean coming to speak to us, he assures me that he is still keen to come so we will reschedule him for later in the year.

For this month, at 2 pm, on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July, we will have a programme labelled "Celia Davies Nepalese Adventure". I have it on good authority that she is a very interesting speaker so we invite anyone who is interested to come and join us.

On August 13<sup>th</sup> Colin Campbell-Hunt will speak to us about the Orokonui Ecosanctuary, so we invite all those interested to join us on that day.

Do please, in the meantime, take care and stay well. Also please pray for one another and stay in touch.

For further information my phone number is 476 3975, or text me on 027 238 6893.

Verna Rutherford [Leader]



## Evening AAW

Evening AAW is pleased to be meeting on Tuesday **14 July** after our extended break. Note meeting is to begin **7.00pm, half an hour earlier than usual**, winter time hours.

We are delighted to have one of our own church parishioners to be our speaker for the night. Jennie Lewis is to talk to us about 'Volunteering in the Nazareth Hospital and Village in 2020'. Sounds such an interesting topic.

Members of the congregation are invited to join us for the evening. This will be a great time to re connect with our group members and share some of our experiences over the lockdown.

Look forward to seeing everyone.

Blessings to all

Bev Aitken



## Mission News:

### New Appointment @ Anglican Missions

On behalf of the Anglican Missions Board, the Archbishops are delighted to announce the appointment of Mr Michael Hartfield as the new National Director for Anglican Missions.

Michael has served the Missions Board for some time as the Operations and Projects Manager, and has been acting National Director over recent months. Michael will provide not only continuity, but is well placed to lead Anglican Missions and it's work into the future.

Further information will be published on the Anglican Taonga website within the next week.

### And temporary changes to our work space ...

As advised in earlier news bulletins, Anglican House where we work has been undergoing earthquake strengthening work and the builders will be starting in our usual office soon, so we have moved our workspace to the Anglican House Boardroom. After a couple of months of working from home we are now to be found there (first door on the left on the ground floor) - so please come in and say hello.

### Covid-19 Our Global Response

**Anglican Missions is partnering with the Wellington Anglican Diocese to support four projects in Fiji, Mozambique, Gaza and India.**

Bishop Justin Duckworth says that "As a nation, we are blessed in the way we have responded to Covid-19. Yet in so many other places around the world, Covid-19 has wreaked havoc on the daily lives of our brothers and sisters there." So Anglican Movement and Anglican Missions are partnering together to raise as much as we can for these four projects that are closely associated with the Diocese of Wellington. So far \$16,681 has been raised

### News, prayers and thanksgiving for (and from) our partners

**Give thanks** for all who support others in need and for projects that improve people's lives.

- Thank you to all who shared in this year's Thy Kingdom Come global prayer.
- Anglican Missions has strong ties with the Anglican Church of Melanesia. For example we are currently supporting a response to Tropical Cyclone Harold in Vanuatu
- From Anglican E-life, Christchurch Diocese, a message and prayers from the leaders of the church here in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia:

We have watched with deep sadness the anger and frustration in the United States of America following the death of George Floyd. "We ask you to **pray for his family,**

**and for all those who have lost their lives to police brutality and racism. We pray for wise and compassionate leadership in that country and we also invite you to pray that we ourselves might have the eyes to see, and the hearts to recognise, the discrimination and racism that exists within our institutions, our communities and within even our own attitudes and assumptions".**

*Loving God, you have made us in your own image,  
diverse, beautiful and precious in your sight.*

*May we see that same precious beauty in every person, a unique creation beloved of you.*

*May we celebrate the life we can bring to each other.*

*Give us the courage to stand unequivocally for justice, for truth,  
and for the reconciliation and hope that is ours through Jesus Christ.*

*Help us to dismantle racist agendas.*

*Help us to transform unjust structures.*

*Help us to decolonise our Christianity.*

*Help us to love you with all our heart, soul and strength.*

*Help us to love one another as you commanded us to do.*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

Archbishop Fereimi Cama  
Archbishop Philip Richardson  
Archbishop Don Tamihere

Vin Maffey, Mission Motivator