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#### Staff Team:

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*Deacon:* Rev Pauline Johnson h: 472 7091 m: 027 472 7091 e: paulinejohnson@gmail.com

**Availability:** Pastoral staff are available at all times except for their days off which are:  
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

**11th November** AAW Cake Stall / Parish shared lunch  
**15th November** Third Thursday at 3.30pm  
**18th November** Parish Breakfast



THE PARISH OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ROSLYN

News November 2018

#### Vicar:

Rev Eric Kyte  
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#### Parish Office

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#### *The Vicar Writes . . .*

#### Life Shared - Blood poured out

One of the things which puzzles folks about Christian faith in these days, indeed which may cause people to reject it, is our emphasis on Sin, how our story focusses on how God in Christ conquers Sin. (Reading this, you may well find yourself nodding your head in agreement)

In part our puzzlement or rejection is down to a deep misunderstanding of what Sin is. For a long time it has been widely understood as the infraction of what on the surface seem to be a long list of arbitrary rules.

We might experience something like this when we encounter a small child who doesn't understand why they can't do this or that or the other. We may try and reason with the child, but we find that that doesn't get us very far. And such is the case with Sin, for its nature extends far beyond the simply rational into the very depths of life itself. Whilst we can point to explanations of why these so called rules 'make sense', the Reality of Sin goes much deeper than that.

This becomes more clear when we think of Sin in terms of damaged relationships. When relationships are broken, we enter a world of pain and loss somewhat akin to Grief - Sin and Death are intimately related in our Experience of each. In both cases rational calculations don't begin to touch the depth of our problem.

It affects us deeply, all of us. Sin fundamentally is the distorting of our relationships, the fracturing and twisting of that which joins us one to another. It is the distortion and breaking of our relationship with the Created order (not least because we ourselves are part of that order), it is the fracturing of our relationships with one another, and fundamentally it is the breaking of our relationship with God. Put another way, Sin is Death in that it is the denial of shared life, that is Life itself.

## Sunday Services at St John's

November 4	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
	10.00am	Choral Eucharist, Youth, Children's Church
	7.00pm	Lord's Prayer
November 11	8.00am	Holy Communion (NZPB)
	10.00am	Choral Eucharist, Youth, Children's Church
	7.00pm	Lord's Prayer
November 18	8.00am	Holy Communion (NZPB)
	10.00am	All Age Eucharist
	7.00pm	Choral Evensong
November 25	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
	10.00am	Choral Eucharist, Youth, Children's Church
	7.00pm	Lord's Prayer

## 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 November** Evening AAW Group at 7.30pm. AGM

**8th November** Afternoon AAW Group meets at 2.00pm. AGM followed by Denise Duncan speaking of selling flowers overseas.

Visitors are always welcome at both these meetings



## Afternoon AAW

Our meeting on October 11<sup>th</sup>, we had a quiz, with prizes, which is always received.

On November 8<sup>th</sup> we will begin with our AGM, then Denise Duncan will speak to us about selling flowers to overseas destinations. This will be an interesting talk so anyone interested is welcome to attend.

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]



## Evening AAW

Our meeting on October 9th was very interesting. Our members along with a very good number of visitors enjoyed listening to Colin Gibson speak of his life journey.

November 13th is our final meeting for the year. This will be our AGM. With Vicar Eric leading it. Please bring unwrapped clothes or toys to be donated to AFC for children at Christmas. This helps AFC know who to give the gift to.



## Advent Celebration - Friday 30th November - 5.30pm

Advent means 'coming' and it is a time for Christians to remember God's plan throughout history and to prepare our hearts and lives again for the coming of Jesus whose birth we celebrate on Christmas Day.

To start our Advent journey at St John's on November 30th we will meet together to enjoy a fish and chip meal - *please bring your own* - then take an Advent Prayer walk in and around the church and finish up with Christmas carols and mince pies around the piano.

Everyone welcome!

## Holiday Fun

Sam, Lillian, Libby and Fiona all went to Scripture Union Camps in October. Fiona went to the Supakidz Camp at Edendale and the others to Queenstown Spring Caper at Kelvin Heights.

They all had a great time, making new Christian friends and learning more of our Lord Jesus, as well as swimming, cycling, walking and more!

"The best camp ever" said one.

Scripture Union camps are held several times a year all over New Zealand, for all different age groups - watch out for flyers at church if you are interested.



[Find out more...](#)

For Life is something which we do not have in and of ourselves, it is something in which we share. My life is moment by moment utterly dependent on that which is not Me. Who I am can only be known and experienced in terms of my relationships with the wider Creation and its creator.

As Created beings we share in the entirety of creation. Her health is intimately woven into ours. Polluted air and water affects us all. What we pour down the drains comes back to us one way or another. When Creation Suffers, we who are woven into it, suffer.

We share together a common humanity. In the scriptures this is manifested in the man and woman in the garden. There we see our life is One life, a common root - we are all brothers and sisters. One Life. As the early Christians said 'My life is with my brother'. Or 'apart from you, I am not'

And that sharing we is the gift of life, from the Creator of all things, from God. In each and every moment, we share in the gift of existence itself.

It is Jesus who reveals this to us. In His Humanity, He is the Second Adam, the Second One Flesh in through and for which humanity might be known as the Child of God. And as The Life Giving One, the Creator he comes to restore relationship - to bring forgiveness of sins, a forgiveness which is made present in the world in Life Blood - that which flows within us and amongst us. God come to us to heal through His blood through the restoration of Life. If we imagine this Shared Life as blood vessels which weave us all together, he comes to restore that which Sin has broken and to fill us anew with His Life.

Which brings us finally to the Church. The Body of Christ. This is why Sin in and amongst the Body of Christ is such a serious matter. Broken relationships within the Body hide the Reality of Existence from the wider world, as we all know to our cost. As Jesus says, it is the love that we have for one another which is the manifestation of our Life in Him - broken relationships allow that life to drain away. So we come Sunday by Sunday. We confess our part in featured relationships. We share the Peace, the mutual recognition that God in Christ has made us into one body, that we share in His Peace, His oneness, His perfect Rest in the heart of Creation and the Heart of God. And once more we feed on His Life, in Bread and Wine.

This is the Centre of Everything. It is the Centre of our Life together, It is the Centre of the Life of God in the World

Amen

Grace and Peace amongst us all  
Eric

## St John's Roslyn Soapbox

We haven't had a 'soap box' item for a while. Having just taken part in our latest fair I feel moved to say a few things. Firstly it was a successful event in most ways. It has been described as more of a community event than a fair by someone who attended. It certainly is a community event for St John's Church Community. It is an event that is anticipated by many in the Church and surrounding community. It is an event where all ages are valuable and able to contribute. What can seem impossible becomes possible. People are drawn to achieve far beyond their self set comfort zones. People grow and find themselves as leaders and encouragers. The amount achieved was not a record but still most worthy and valuable. Money from the fair tends to be distributed in part to good causes and there are plenty of those as we all know. I did hear a voice say, maybe we are getting over this fair lark! How about a year off? It's so much work and folks are getting burned out. We are getting too old! Fair enough! I hear you, I have sympathy! It would be so easy to give up, to simply look the other way when the subject comes up. Who is going to lead it? Who is going to enthuse a team?

I remain sure that we must have our annual fair. How can we do it? How far ahead do we start to organise. I feel at least 6 months is needed to give shape to it. A leader needs time, a team needs to know what is expected. Regular meetings, to my mind, are essential. Team leaders must be appointed to gather those about them who will do the work. The Church Community needs to know how and when they can leave donated goods. One of the most valuable chances to learn from any event is in the immediate aftermath when lessons learned are fresh and relevant. So, do I sound like a fan of our fairs? I hope so! Many, many people all working together in Christian Fellowship! If you disagree with me please respond. I love a good discussion! ( did I mention all the heroes involved? They don't want or need medals! My love and gratitude goes out to them all. )

Craig McLanachan.=



## Parish Breakfast, 18th November

### 3rd Sunday of each month

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

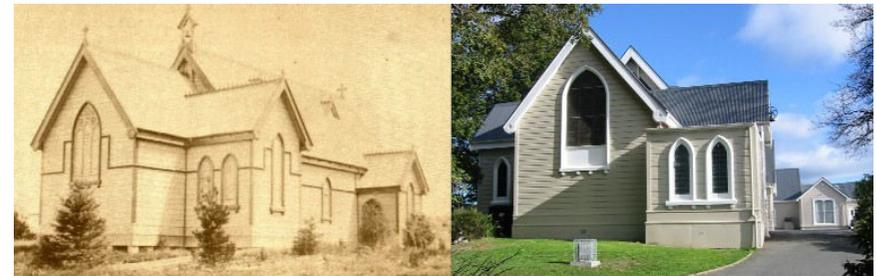
Food provided but Koha appreciated.



## St John's new website; it's going live soon!

Work continues in the preparation of the website. You will be notified as soon as it is ready to go.

Web team: Jane Musgrave, Fraser Richardson, Alan Firth, Margaret McLanachan, Chris Carrell, and Stacey Wilson.



### Third Thursday at Three Thirty . . .

Our small group for Silent Prayer meets on  
Thursday November 15th at 3:30pm  
In the Hettie Robinson Lounge

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

Everyone most welcome

### A Note from the Recorder

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, Recorder

Phone: 455 4604

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

Address: 46c Kenmure Road, Belleknowes, Dunedin 9011

### Parish Shared Lunch, 11th November

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

Reflections on Advent

Some people think that the Advent season focuses on the expectation and anticipation of Christ's birth in the season leading up to Christmas. This is part of the story, but there's more to Advent than that.

The word 'Advent' is derived from the Latin word *adventus* meaning 'coming'. Scholars believe that during the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent had little connection with Christmas. Advent was seen as a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the celebration of God's incarnation represented by the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus, his baptism in the River Jordan and his first miracle at Cana. During this season of preparation, Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer and fasting to prepare for the celebration.

By the 6<sup>th</sup> century, Roman Christians had associated Advent with the coming of Christ. However, the 'coming' they had in mind was not Christ's first coming in the manger at Bethlehem but his second coming as the judge of the world. It wasn't until the Middle Ages that the Advent season was explicitly linked to Christ's first coming at Christmas. Today, the season of Advent lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas, and also marks the beginning of the new liturgical year. Advent symbolises the present situation of the church as God's people wait for the return of Christ in glory to consummate his eternal kingdom. The church is in a similar situation to Israel at the end of the Old Testament: in exile, waiting and hoping in prayerful expectation for the coming of the Messiah. Israel looked back to God's past gracious actions on their behalf in leading them out of Egypt in the Exodus, and on this basis, they called for God once again to act for them. In the same way, the church, during Advent, looks back upon Christ's first coming in celebration while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the coming of Christ's kingdom when he returns for his people. The Advent hymn 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel' perfectly represents the church's cry during the Advent season:

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appears.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Blessings,

Fraser & Jane

Vicar's and People's Wardens

## Mission News

**NZCMS Mission Enabler (Summer) asks: “How do we engage young people in Mission”**

That is likely our most frequently asked question of the last nine months. My husband and I arrived in New Zealand last December with a lot of excitement to start the next chapter of our life and ministry as mission enablers for NZCMS. We came from Cambodia where we had been serving as missionaries for many years. My husband, a New Zealander, myself an American, and our three children – typical TCK’s (Third Culture Kids) who have more stamps in their passports than most adults and aren’t sure how to answer the question “Where are you from?” We are passionate about mission and came from a place where almost everybody in our Christian community was equally passionate. We all held a deep unwavering understanding of the value and Christian mandate of mission. When we arrived in New Zealand, we quickly started to realize how much of a missionary bubble we had been living in. We looked around and saw an entire generation of young people who think global missions is misguided, paternalistic and outdated.

Today’s generation did not get to this point quickly; it was a gradual process during which they lost sight of the main point of mission – to bring the light of Christ into the world. But young people are passionate about the world, about bringing God’s light into dark places and about caring for God’s creation. So really they are passionate about mission; they just don’t know it. Out of this realization, NZCMS has launched a gap year program called “Better World” which will take young people on a radical social justice journey to three countries in 10 months. We will dig deep into the issues of our broken world, understand how our response to them is central to the Gospel and explore how we can join in to make our world a better place. Our name “Better World” was chosen to touch on the desire many young people have to make our world a better place. But it was also given with a deep understanding that God has called us to bring about the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth and reach into dark places around us with the light of the Gospel of Christ.

For more information about Better World you can go to <[betterworld.co.nz](http://betterworld.co.nz)> or check us out on facebook at BetterWorldGapYear. The Gap Year starts in February 2019 and applications are open now.

*Summer, NZCMS Mission Enabler*

### **PAYNER PROMPTS:**

**Rosie** – Pray for these next few months to the end of the year as Rosie continues to discern how God is leading her into the future. Give thanks for God’s faithfulness in so many ways as she has returned, and for the opportunities she will have to spend time with her family, friends and many supporters.

**Nick & Tessa** – Nick and Tessa are now getting stuck into their studies in the UK. Pray for good new rhythms of study and time to relax together and also make the most of all that Cambridge offers.

**Adrienne** - Adrienne is our Short Term Mission Partner. She is currently fundraising. Pray for her as she connects with churches and supporters; that those God wants will be inspired to be a part of her team.

**Jonathan & Tess HICKS & family:** Who are pleased to announce the arrival of their sixth child, a baby boy weighing 6lbs 11ozs named Moses. They are very thankful for the love and prayers of mission partners and friends. They are shortly travelling across the States on deputation for two months with Provo, Utah being one of the first stops. Pray that they continue to keep good health and that the home schooling of the children works well with all the busyness and travelling.

**Zane & Karen ELLIOTT, with Williams and Alexandra,** who have been offered a position as Associate Minister of All Saints Church, Jakarta. They will be raising support over the next few months before heading to the UK for training in early January.

**Judith:** Please pray for all that is awaiting her upon her return after deputation in New Zealand and for wisdom as she prioritises her workload, catches up with people and is generally getting back into the complexities of her mission life in South Asia.

**Reverse Mission:** Two teams from Kenya will be visiting Auckland, Hamilton, and Christchurch in October/November. Please pray for a sense of ‘intrigue’ that will provide an opportunity for the Gospel to be shared.

**From Here to Everywhere:** Pray that God will give our team wisdom and that we will be prepared to think outside the box and to reinvent ourselves to suit new contexts and situations.

**NZCMS Office:** Pray that the staff keep well and accomplish all the tasks they need to as we head into the last quarter of the year. It is always an extremely busy one.

**Local CMS Group:** Maureen Harley reports that the final meeting of the year will be on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 2.30pm at Arch Matheson’s home, 25A Sheen Street. They will be celebrating answered prayers and looking briefly at news from Mission Partners as well as praying for CMS planning, staff and Management.

*Vin Maffey, Parish Mission Motivator.*