



St John's
Being the Gospel to all People

Sunday
31 October 2021

A very warm welcome is extended to all on Zoom this Sunday. Stay for a chat online afterwards.

How then Do We
Love?

Scripture readings: Mark 12: 28-34 NSRV



²⁸ One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" ²⁹ Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰ you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." ³² Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; ³³ and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbour as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." ³⁴ When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

St Johns Family Camp

This year has been one of quite a bit of upheaval and transition, for our community and for NZ at large. We felt it was important to remain faithful to the tradition our Chinese brothers and sisters began for us several years ago.

We are going to EAT and PLAY and PRAY together. We want to lean into the idea that community forms around these three activities. We're hopeful that this camp will help us grow as a community in the unforced rhythms of grace in our personal lives and our communal life as a church.

We have a band mixed of individuals from our church community being guided by a pastor friend from another local Chinese/English church. We also have great volunteers from our community cooking for us in what should be a spectacular spread of yumminess. We will have spaces of board games, wide games, art, and other activities. We will also have a quiet prayer space the whole weekend for those who might need it. All activities are optional as we understand some will need downtime, time in nature, or just space to be over the weekend.

To help us all be able to relax and enjoy each other we have asked a friend named Alice Wood to come and guide us for the weekend. We wanted to let you get to know her a bit, so here is her bio:



'I was born in Taiwan and moved to NZ with my family when I was 13 years old. I am married and have a wonderful son about to enter intermediate school. While studying at design school God took my life in a different direction. After some further study at bible college my husband and I moved to and lived in rural Asia for 11 years. We worked on community development, faith building and with young people amongst some of the poorest in Asia.

My faith has been nurtured in both Chinese and Western style English speaking churches. I also had the privilege of leading a multi-cultural team working in a cross-cultural context. Over the years, I have been involved with youth work, university outreach, discipleship, preaching, team leading and church planting. More recently, I have become a spiritual director and University chaplain.

I am passionate about leading people in creative ways to connect with God authentically and deeply. I love leading retreats where space is made for God to undertake His work in us. I look forward in seeing what God has in store for us in February'.

We are so excited about Anne joining us for this weekend. If you want to get to know her even better her website is <https://creativeprayer.space/>

We can't wait to see you face to face in February! For all the boring details or to register (please, please, please!!!!) Go here <https://stjohnsbb.org.nz/community-camp/> and find the little blue link to fill out the google form. If you have specific questions you can flick Sami an email @ stjohnsbb.outreach@gmail.com. A confirmation email and ways to pay will be sent out at date closer to camp time. Anyone is welcome to come to camp as long as they will get something out of coming closer to being in community with all of us.

Next Sunday: 7 November 2021
Theme: How Then Shall We Give?
Scripture reading: Mark 12: 38-44

Prayer points for: Prayer for those currently in hospital or going through treatment; for good health for Brenda and Mary and for accessibility to Covid vaccines for all; for the safety of all workers at our borders, in health, emergency, social and essential services during the global pandemic.

Here is the **Sunday morning** zoom invite:
Jeff is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9895548740?pwd=VFduaXNJWCtJYnErZfVJME1NUm9JQT09>

Meeting ID: 989 554 8740 Passcode: 7777777

Connecting scripture and life

Today's text brings the idea of compassion and justice being "more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices" (Mark 12:33).

Q How do the commandments to love God, neighbour, and self-challenge your daily living?

Q What activities in your home, church, or community do not express love to neighbour in ways that they might?

Q How might they do so in order to express the love of God?



Many of you asked how could you give support to families struggling during the lockdown. A suggestion has been made to support the Breakfast Club organisation <https://breakfastclub.org.nz/> by donating through St Johns so we can then see it as a visible work for God outside ourselves. **Buckland's Beach Cooperating Parish 03-0166-0135407-00** is the operating account into which donations can be made for the Breakfast Club. Those who give by direct credit pay into **03-0166-0135407-25**. In both cases the donor will need to

reference '**Breakfast Club**' so it is clear that the donation is to be sent on to the Breakfast Club.



THIS WEEK

31 October – 7 November 2021

Sunday 31st: 9.30 am Zoom services in English and Mandarin
See the link below

Thursday: 2 pm Finance Team meeting via Zoom

Friday:
7 pm – 9 pm Youth Group meet via Zoom

Sunday 7th: 9.30 am Zoom services in English and Mandarin

Get one. Give one.

The *Get one. Give one.* Campaign encourages New Zealanders to contribute to a global initiative that funds vaccine equality in countries that may otherwise miss out. When you get your Covid-19 vaccine, give \$10 so that one of the world's most vulnerable can get theirs. Let's pass our gratitude on because Covid 19 won't be over until it's over for everyone.

Find out more at <https://givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/get-one-give-one>



INSPIRE
Northern Presbytery Leadership Conference & Full Presbytery Meeting
Saturday 26th February 2022
St Columba at Botany, 480 Ti Rakau Drive

KEYNOTE SPEAKER - CRAIG GREENFIELD
DURING TWO DECADES OF LIVING IN SLUMS AND INNER CITIES (IN BOTH ASIA AND NORTH AMERICA), CRAIG FOUNDED A GRASSROOTS YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP MOVEMENT CALLED ALONGSIDERS INTERNATIONAL, NOW REACHING THOUSANDS OF VULNERABLE CHILDREN ACROSS 16 COUNTRIES IN ASIA, AFRICA AND EUROPE.

Save the Date - Bring a Team \$15 pp includes workshops ,m.tea & lunch

Sunday Services: English / Mandarin 9:30a.m. Currently on Zoom

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9:00am – 2:00pm, Fri 9am-11am

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People's Warden	Julie Dickey	535 5814
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Minister's Warden	Alan Vickers	533 3790
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Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	274 8534
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Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	274 8534
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