



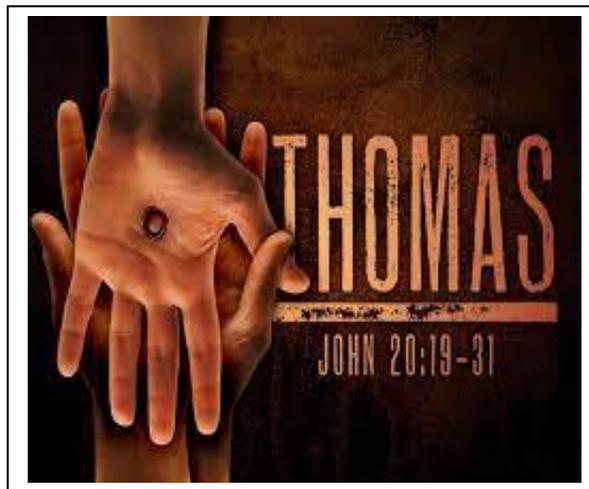
St Johns
Being the Gospel to all People

Sunday
24 April 2022

A very warm welcome is extended to all visitors to St Johns. Morning tea is offered after the service today, so please stay and enjoy.

Resurrection Witness

Scripture readings: John 20:19-31; Acts 5:27-32



In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were locked in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Temple authorities. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Having said this, the saviour showed them the marks of crucifixion. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw Jesus, who said to them again, "Peace be with you. As Abba God sent me, so I'm sending you."

After saying this, Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you retain anyone's sins, they are retained."

It happened that one of the Twelve, Thomas – nicknamed Didymus or Twin – was absent when Jesus came. The other disciples kept telling him, "We've seen Jesus!" Thomas' answer was, "I'll never believe it without putting my finger in the nail marks and my hand into the spear wound."

On the eighth day, the disciples were once more in the room, and this time Thomas was with them. Despite the locked doors, Jesus came and stood before them, saying, "Peace be with you." Then, to Thomas, Jesus said, "Take your finger and examine my hands. Put your hand into my side. Don't persist in your unbelief, but believe!"

Thomas said in response, "My Saviour and my God!" Jesus then said, "You've become a believer because you saw me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Jesus performed many other signs as well – signs not recorded here – in the presence of the disciples. But these have been recorded to help you believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Only Begotten, so that by believing you may have life in Jesus name.

Next Sunday: 1 May 2022

Theme: Resurrection Witness

Scripture readings: Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14 or Psalm 150; Revelation 1:4-8; John 20: 19-31

Prayer points for: David Hall, Steph Brook, Sami Smart and families on the loss of their wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother Mary Hall; peace in Ukraine; a full recovery for all in our community testing positive with Omicron; and for the safety of all frontline workers in health, emergency and essential services during this global pandemic.

Connecting with life

Reflect on this week's newspaper headlines.

Q Where is the voice of the faithful in the events?

Q Who is speaking boldly?

Q From where do you imagine they gain their strength?

Scripture

Acts 5:27–32 is a short passage of conflict between the “grassroots” and authority.

Q What do you imagine frightens the Council?

Q In what way is this more than a conflict about different beliefs?

Q What gives Peter confidence to speak so boldly?

Q What does the word “witness” mean to you?

Acts 5:27–32 is about Jews speaking to Jews. Too often, it has been heard as an anti-Semitic rant, with tragic results. The problem is inflexible religious institutions and leaders who will not allow themselves, or others, to move with the freedom of God's Spirit. The text calls such institutions and leadership to accountability, in Peter's time and our own.

John 20:19–31 Out of fear, the disciples hide in a locked room.

Q When have you allowed fear to shut you out or shut you in?

Q What was the breakthrough moment?

Connecting scripture and life

In many ways, Acts 5:27–32 is the story of an ideal where the faithful few find they have a new authority to speak on the side of truth and faith and justice.

THIS WEEK 24 April – 1 May

Sunday 24 April: 9.30 am Holy Communion Service in English and Mandarin

No Space programme this Monday

Friday 29 April

9.15 am – noon Knitting Group (chapel or gallery)

Friday 29 April

Youth Group meeting via Zoom

Sunday 1 May 9.30 Holy

Communion Service in English and Mandarin

FOOD BANK SUNDAY – all contributions welcome

Q To what extent or in what ways does Christian witness today contradict and challenge the world powers?

Q What message seems most important for the church to proclaim at this time?

Community Dinner – Friday 22 April from 5pm
Join us for dinner at the conclusion of the holiday programme.
Contributions of food welcome.



Food Bank Sunday – 1 May

All donations are taken to the All Saints Food Bank in Howick to provide for families in need in our community.

Thank you to all the volunteer Leaders, those who contributed baking and served morning tea on the holiday programme and a huge thank you to Coordinator, Sami Smart.

Alison is currently on leave. End of year tax receipts for giving will be prepared during the last week in April and ready for distribution in the first week of May.

I'M JUST SAYIN' IT'S A
GOOD THING THAT JESUS
STUCK AROUND
UNTIL THEY ALL GOT THEIR
ACT TOGETHER!



Sunday Services: English / Mandarin 9:30a.m.
 Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9:00am – 2:00pm, Fri 9am-11am
 Phone: 534 2305 Email: office@stjohnsbb.org.nz
 Website: <https://stjohnsbb.org.nz>

Minister	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	022 674 0044
Administrator	Alison Stanton	534 2305
Property Manager	Daniel Smart	027 554 2309
People's Warden	Julie Dickey	535 5814
Minister's Warden	Daniel Smart	027 554 2309
Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	274 8534
Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	274 8534

Youth Group: Contact Jeff 022 674 0044 minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz

	This Week's Helpers (24 April)	Next Week's Helpers (1 May)
Preacher	Steph Brooke	Rev Jeff Odhiambo
Musician	Joan Williamson	Rahil John
Projector	Daniel Smart	Collin Francke
Sound Desk	TBA	Daniel Smart
Reader	Felicity Vincer	Derek Speer
Intercessor	Julie Dickey	Liz Speer
HC set up	N/A	Rev Jeff Odhiambo
HC Serving team	N/A	Rev Jeff Odhiambo
Prayer ministry	An opportunity to serve here	Joan Rutherford
Welcome Desk	Could you serve here?	Betty Curd
Ushers	TBA	Derek and Liz Speer
Counters	Bob Williamson, Trevor Haigh	Derek Speer and Christo John
Morning Tea	Volunteers needed	Julie Dickey and Alison Stanton