



St Johns
Being the Gospel to all People

Sunday
16 October 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.

**Learning Wrestling Prayer
in a World Scarrd by
Dzspair**

Scripture reading: Luke 18: 1-8 New International Version



The Parable of the Persistent Widow

18 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. 2 He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. 3 And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'

4 "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!'"

6 And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7 And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? 8 I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

Next Sunday: 23 October 2022

Theme: Other People

Scripture readings: Joel 2:23-32; Psalm 65; 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18; **Luke 18:9-14**

Prayer points: for Dick and Judy McDonald; for Brenda and for peace to be restored in Ukraine.

Connecting with life

The week's scripture passages reveal something attractive and unattractive about how human beings relate to justice. We can choose justice, but it is always a choice. Faith communities, especially older ones, sometimes describe themselves as "tired." We find ourselves making choices about where there is energy.

Q What makes you weary?

Q What gives you the courage to never give up?

Q What works of justice and peace give you energy?

Scripture

Luke 18:1-8 concludes by asking, "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on Earth?"

Q How would you answer for your faith? Would you respond differently for your faith community or even your denomination?

Q Is this parable about the judge's apathy or the widow's pursuit of justice? or both?

Q How do you define faith? How is the practice of prayer part of faithfulness?

Connecting scripture and life

When the civil rights lawyer Michelle Alexander and Krista Tippett first sit down to talk about racial justice, they jump in talking about children. On her radio show, Krista's first question is always about the religious or spiritual formation from childhood which leads the author of the book *The New Jim Crow* to talk about her children, for whom she knows it is "difficult to process and to understand how we fit into that history. ...It's important for people, young people, to be educated about the incredible courage and heroism of ordinary folks, back then and today, as they struggle against injustice."

Q How might your faith community invite children to struggle with injustice?

THIS WEEK 16 Oct to 23 Oct

Sunday 16 October

9.30 am Communion Service in English and Mandarin

Monday 17 October

Space Programme (foyer)

Wednesday 19 October

7 pm AA meeting (foyer)

Thursday 20 October

3.15 pm MusiqHub (foyer)

Friday 21 October

9.30 am – noon Knitting Group (gallery)

Sunday 23 October

9.30 am Service in English and Mandarin



Sunday 16 October

You are invited to stay after church for a light lunch, followed by a discussion.

Intergenerational Church

Reading material is available with this newsletter to read prior to the discussion.

Coffee and Chat

Tuesday 25 October
10 am until noon

All are welcome to join us for company, conversation and coffee.



Friday night Youth Group re-commences
Friday 28 October
7 pm at St Johns



The Church Phone List for use by members of St Johns is being updated. A draft is on the welcome desk.

- Please look at your entry and check the details are correct. Update anything that needs to be changed.
- Sign beside your name in the margin to confirm that you give permission to have this published for the members of this church to use.

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	Vacant	
People's Warden	Julie Dickey	535 5814
Minister's Warden	TBA	
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 (16 October)	Next Week (23 October)
Preacher	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	Rev Jeff Odhiambo
Musician/s	Rahil John	Joan Williamson
Projector	Alison Stanton	Henry Turner
Sound Desk	Trevor Haigh	Daniel Smart
Reader	Trevor Haigh	Jed Stanton
Intercessor	Mavis Haigh	Bob Williamson
HC set up	Alison Stanton	N/A
HC Serving team	Rev Jeff Odhiambo Christo John, Alison Stanton	N/A
Prayer	Joan Jones	An opportunity to serve here.
Welcome	An opportunity to serve here.	Joan Rutherford
Usher	Trevor and Mavis Haigh	Alison Stanton, Jed Stanton
Counters	Christo John, Trevor Haigh	Bob Williamson, Jeanette Li
Morning Tea	Uraiwai Jolly, Nessie Crawford	Miranda Huang, Grace Tay