



St Johns
Being the Gospel to all People

Sunday
27 November 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.

Stay Awake

Scripture reading: Matthew 24: 36-44 New International Version



The Day and Hour Unknown

36 "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 37 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; 39 and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. 40 Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. 41 Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

42 "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. 43 But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. 44 So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

Next Sunday: 4 December 2022
Theme: Second Sunday of Advent
Scripture readings: Matthew 3:1-12

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

Happy Church New Year! This Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent. Advent is an abrupt disruption in our “Ordinary Time”. Advent is not only a new season in the church year; it is utterly new year, new time, new life. Everything begins again.

At Advent we are invited to *Metanoia* a Greek word that is usually translated as repent. But rightly it could be translated as invitation for us to wake up from the numbed endurance and domesticated expectations, in order to consider our life afresh in light of new gifts that God is about to give us.

The gospel reading this week invokes images that seem less “Advent-ish” to me. A homeowner caught off-guard. A house that’s been broken into. The Son of Man coming at an unexpected hour, like a thief in the night. There’s no way around it — these images are disturbing. Maybe even terrifying. They don’t jibe with the Jesus I think I know — the Jesus in the manger, the Jesus on the cross, the Jesus who feeds and forgives and heals and saves. The Jesus Matthew describes in this apocalyptic passage is no respecter of boundaries. He’s not invested in the status quo, he doesn’t care about keeping us secure and comfortable, and he’s not thwarted at all by our elaborate defence mechanisms. The Jesus Matthew describes is an invader. An intruder. A disrupter. A criminal.

So, here’s question for us to consider as we reflect on this gospel passage this week – First Sunday of Advent: what should we do with a Son of Man who describes himself as a thief? How should we respond to a Jesus who shows up and takes things away from us? Things we care about. Things we depend on. Things we’re 100% sure we can’t live without.

THIS WEEK 27 Nov to 4 Dec

Sunday 27 November

9.30 am Service in English/
Mandarin

Wednesday 30 November

7:00 pm AA meeting (foyer)

Thursday 1 December

3.15 pm MusiqHub (foyer)

Friday 2 December

9.30 am – noon Knitting Group
(gallery)

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Youth Group
(upstairs hall)

Sunday 4 December

9.30 am Communion Service in
English/ Mandarin

THANKSGIVING 2022

NOVEMBER



This year our thanksgiving offerings will go towards the repairs of the roof and 10% to a Breakfast Club.

Thanksgiving offerings via direct credit to Bucklands Beach Cooperating Parish 03-0166-0135407-25 - please ensure you reference 'thanksgiving.'

If giving by envelopes, please check to ensure your Giving Number is on the outside of the envelope.



Food Bank is preparing Christmas boxes and would like to seek your support for the followings:

- No tins (plenty of them in stock)
- Boxed chocolates
- Fruit cakes
- Meringues (commercial ones)

COFFEE and CHAT

Our final get together for the year will be on Tuesday 6 December at 10am.

Join us for intelligent conversation, catching up and a festive morning tea.

If you would like to bring a small plate for our Christmas morning tea that would be much appreciated.

All welcome.



Friday night Youth Group Friday 7 pm at St Johns

Schedules can be found on notice board and hard copies available on front desk.

Sunday Services: English 9:30a.m. Office Hours: Tues - Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 noon Phone: 534 2305 Email: office@stjohnsbb.org.nz Website: https://stjohnsbb.org.nz		
Minister	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	022 674 0044
Administrator	Winnie Wong	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 27 November	Next Week 4 December
Preacher	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	Rev Jeff Odhiambo
Musician/s	Joan Williamson	Rahil John
Projector	Henry Turner	Jed Stanton
Sound Desk	Daniel Smart	Collin Francke
Reader	Alison Stanton	Derek Speer
Intercessor	Bob Williamson	Liz Speer
HC set up	N/A	Alison Stanton
HC Serving team	N/A	Grace Corbett Joan Rutherford
Prayer	Could this be you?	Joan Rutherford
Welcome	Joan Rutherford	Could this be you?
Usher	Alison Stanton	Derek and Liz Speer
Counters	Nessie Crawford Jeanette Li	Derek Speer Christo John
Morning Tea	Miranda Huang Grace Tay	Julie Dickey Alison Stanton