



Sunday
1-Oct-2023

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.

Talks the Talk but does not Walk the Walk

Scripture reading: Matthew 21:23-32 (New International Version)



The Authority of Jesus Questioned

²³ Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?”

²⁴ Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵ John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?”

They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.”

²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

Then he said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

²⁸ “What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’

²⁹ “I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰ “Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go.

³¹ “Which of the two did what his father wanted?”

“The first,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

Sunday

8-Oct-2023

THIS WEEK

Theme: TBC

From: 1-Oct-2023

Scripture readings: Exodus 20:1-4,7-9, 12-20 Matthew 21:33-46

To: 8-Oct-2023

Prayer points:

- For peace and restoration of stability in Ukraine and other regions experiencing unrest;
- For Jane's health;
- For Brenda's health;
- For Felicity's recovery;
- For violence and crime to be subdued in our country.
- For those who have had major surgery and are recovering at home;
- For support for all those who have lost loved ones, homes and/or livelihoods in the recent natural disasters.

Pastoral Reflection

Hello, friends, who love St Johns,

Congratulations to all those who were appointed and elected to the Parish Council last week. Also, I am grateful to the ones who agreed to continue serving and were affirmed last week. In addition, thank you all for showing up last week for our Annual General Meeting.

This Sunday the church is remembering and celebrating Saint Francis of Assisi. And so, many Anglican and Catholics congregations will be offering the Blessings of Animals- congregants are invited to bring their pets to church for the Blessings. Can I just say I am so glad that St Johns doesn't do this- not that I dislike animals, but there are some pets I would prefer not to share the room with.

Anyway, one of the prayers that has been formational for me as well as been the prayer of St Francis. I really love the first line of the prayer: **"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace"**. We are asking God to make us an instrument. Meaning we cannot operate independent of God's peace and secondly, we are confessing that we are just the conduit of God's peace and not the source. God is and will always be the source of peace. And then I love the way the prayer proceeds, inviting us into an alternate reality, by us naming our present reality but then the prayer usher's us into a different reality.

Lastly, I love the way the prayer ends, with us confessing apparent contradictions, which I believe is the truth of our Christian faith. Jesus says, **"For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it."**

Here is the prayer for your personal reflection:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Sunday 1-Oct-2023

Food Bank

9.30 am Holy Communion Service
in English (Chinese subtitle)
3:00 pm Christian Youth Church

Monday 2-Oct-2023

N/A

Tuesday 3-Oct-2023

First day of Holiday Programme

Wednesday 4-Oct-2023

7:00 pm AA meeting (foyer)

Thursday 5-Oct-2023

Musiqhub - term break

Friday 6-Oct-2023

10:00 am Knitting Group
5:30 pm Community Dinner

Sunday 8-Oct-2023

9.30 am Service in English
(Chinese subtitle)
3:00 pm Christian Youth Church

Community Dinner

This month, our monthly Community Dinner will be joining forces with the Holiday Program.

Join Us Next Friday

Potluck Style - Bring a Dish

6 Oct 2023



HELP Needed - MORNING TEA, LUNCH & AFTERNOON TEA for Holiday Programme.

We are looking for offers of food supply and set up/ clean up help for Morning Tea, Lunch & Afternoon Tea for our leaders, each day of the upcoming 4 day Holiday Programme. (3,4 5 & 6 October)

A Roster Sheet is in the foyer to fill in a slot where you may be able to offer your help. Providing food plus setting up & clean up could be two separate 'help slots' where you may be able to support.

Please contact Julie Dickey 535 5814 or 0274 925 659 or fill in the Roster Sheet.



DEMENTIA AWARENESS WORKSHOP

The *Educational Dementia Immersive Experience (EDIE)* workshop uses virtual reality technology and equipment which will allow you to see the world through the eyes of a person living with dementia. It will help you to develop insight, empathy and a better understanding of the needs of people living with dementia. The workshop will be led by a professional trainer from **Alzheimers NZ**.

Date & Time: Tuesday Oct 24, 1 - 3 pm

Location: St Columba Presbyterian Church, 480 Ti Rakau Drive, Botany

To Register, please use this link

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/PresbyterianSupportNorthern/DementiaAwarenessWorkshopRegistration>
OR

email Sharon.rossensor@psn.org.nz (Presbytery Liaison Manager, Presbyterian Support Northern)



"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." – Mahatma Gandhi



Church main door

A big welcome to St John's!

New Parish Council effective from AGM, 24 Sept 2023

Rev Jeff Odhiambo (Minister)

Antony Dayal (Community Facilitator)

Charles de Vilder (Property Manager)

Ayleen de Vilder (People's Warden, Finance Committee)

Nessie Crawford (Finance Committee)

Julie Dickey (Minister's Warden)

Jeanette Dimock (Financial Coordinator)

Mavis Haigh

Judy McDonald

Winnie Wong (Administrator)

Also: Anglican Synod Rep. Alicia Odhiambo,

Methodist Synod Rep. Ayleen de Vilder, Presbyterian Elder (vacant)



Songs for Today

1. They will know we are Christian by our love
2. What a friend we have in Jesus
3. Be thou my vision
4. Prayer of Saint Francis



Sunday Services:	English 9:30a.m.	
Office Hours:	Tues - Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 noon	
Phone: 09 534 2305	Email: office@stjohnsbb.org.nz	
Website:	https://stjohnsbb.org.nz	
Minister	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	022 674 0044
Administrator	Winnie Wong	
Community Facilitator	Antony Dayal	
Property Manager	Charles de Vilder	
People's Warden	Julie Dickey	
Minister's Warden	TBA	
Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	
Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	

Youth Group: Contact Antony or Jeff community@stjohnsbb.org.nz

	Today's Helpers 1-Oct-2023	Next Week's Helpers 8-Oct-2023
Preacher	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	Antony Dayal
Musician/s	Rahil John Albert Ip	Des
Projector & Sound Desk	Collin Francke	Michael Zhao
Reader	Judy McDonald	Olga Ferreira
Intercessor	Liz Speer	Julie Dickey
HC set up	Ayleen de Vilder	N/A
HC Serving team	Grace Corbett	N/A
Prayer ministry	Joan Rutherford	Joan Jones
Sunday School	An opportunity to serve here	Antony Dayal
Welcome Desk	Liz Speer	Joan Rutherford
Usher	Derek Speer	An opportunity to serve here
Counters	Christo John Trevor Haigh	Jeanette Li Dimock Monita Leung
Morning Tea	Julie Dickey Jeanette Li Dimock	Betty Curd Nessie Crawford