



Sunday
29-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.

A Hermeneutics of Love

Scripture reading: Matthew 22:34-46 (New International Version)



The Greatest Commandment

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Whose Son Is the Messiah?

⁴¹ While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, ⁴² “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?”

“The son of David,” they replied.

⁴³ He said to them, “How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him ‘Lord’? For he says,

⁴⁴ “‘The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand
until I put your enemies
under your feet.””

⁴⁵ If then David calls him ‘Lord,’ how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶ No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Sunday

5-Nov-2023

THIS WEEK

Theme: TBC

From: 29-Oct-2023

Scripture readings: Matthew 23:1-12

To: 5-Nov-2023

Prayer points:

- For peace and restoration of stability in Israel, 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;
- 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,

This week we will be inspecting everyone at the entrance to check which jersey we are wearing. If you are wearing green and yellow to the left, and if you are wearing black to the right. We have to ensure the safety of everyone. I feel like I am preparing to take a funeral and a wedding at the same service (jokes!). Mind you we are planning to start our service at 10:30am and not at our usual 9:30am time.

This week's gospel reading has two parts. The first part, Jesus is responding to the questioning of Pharisees: "Which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

Jesus' response is worth considering. According to Jesus there is continuity between the two commandments, love God with the whole being and to love the neighbour. The second command is like the first one. Jesus says that the love of God finds its practical outworking by the way we engage with our neighbour.

For Jesus love becomes the hermeneutics of how to understand the law. Jesus declares the love for God and love of neighbour are the interpretive keys of understanding "all of the law and the prophets".

The second part of the gospel reading has to do with Christology. Jesus is questioning the Pharisees. The Pharisees answer Jesus' question by saying that the Messiah is "son of David," Jesus confronts them with Psalms 110:1. David, in fact does not call the Messiah his son, but instead calls him "Lord" : "The Lord said to my Lord..." What do you think of Jesus' response? What is the implication of Jesus' description of who the Messiah is?

The Pharisees are anticipating the coming of the Messiah as an expansion their national boundaries and the return of the glory days of the Davidic monarchy. Jesus is the suffering Lord; whose upcoming days includes rejection and death. Jesus messiahship will be different from David. His will not be marked by military prowess, but by love.

Sunday 29-Oct-2023

10.30 am Holy Communion Service in English (Chinese subtitle)
3:30 pm Christian Youth Church

Monday 30-Oct-2023

N/A

Tuesday 31-Oct-2023

10:00 am Coffee & Chat

Wednesday 1-Nov-2023

7:00 pm AA meeting

Thursday 2-Nov-2023

10:30 am Finance Team meeting
3:10 pm Musiqhub

Friday 3-Nov-2023

10:00 am Knitting Group
6:45 pm Youth Group

Sunday 5-Nov-2023

Food Bank

9.30 am Sunday Service in English (Chinese subtitle)
3:30 pm Christian Youth Church

Community Dinner

Our monthly Community Dinner happens on the 1st Monday of each month:

6 Nov 2023

Join Us !

Potluck Style - Bring a Dish



Coffee & Chat

31 Oct (Tue)

10:00 am till noon

Bring a friend !



SAVE THE DAY



If you missed the last Working Bee in July, here is your opportunity!! Don't miss it again.



November 18 (Saturday)

9:00am - noon



If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one - Mother Teresa



"The All Saints Foodbank has operated for over 25 years serving the needs of families and individuals from Howick, Pakuranga and the Flat Bush areas. Demand has fluctuated over the years but Covid changed all that. During 2021 demand increased by over 70% and although results for 2022 are approximately 11 % down on those numbers, the new level of demand has basically been maintained."

Child Poverty in New Zealand

<https://tinyurl.com/2z3ev4nz>

FOODBANK COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY and every first Sunday of the month

Felicity has worked with the Foodbank and has liaised between St John's and All Saints for more than ten years.

Our church thanks her sincerely for her work done on our behalf.

	2021	2022	2023
Parcels distributed	475	687	628
Adults served	600	1008	917
Children served	793	1479	1236

Source: Parish of Howick

Ministry Report - Year to 31 Dec 2022

Friday evening Youth Group - 6:45 p.m.



Songs for Today

1. Old rugged cross
2. Unreserved Love
3. Is your all on the altar?
4. As the deer

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	
Property Manager	Charles de Vilder	
People's Warden	Ayleen de Vilder	
Minister's Warden	Julie Dickey	
Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	
Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	

Youth Group: Contact Jeff minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz

	Today's Helpers 29-Oct-2023	Next Week's Helpers 5-Nov-2023
Preacher	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	Rev Jeff Odhiambo
Musician/s	Jeanette Li Dimock Albert Ip, Winnie Wong	Rahil John Albert Ip
Projector & Sound Desk	Michael Zhao	Collin Francke
Reader	Mavis Haigh	Olga Ferreira
Intercessor	Joan Rutherford	Julie Dickey
HC set up	Ayleen de Vilder	Ayleen de Vilder
HC Serving team	Joan Rutherford	Judy McDonald
Prayer ministry	Judy McDonald	Joan Rutherford
Sunday School	An opportunity to serve here	An opportunity to serve here
Welcome Desk	An opportunity to serve here	An opportunity to serve here
Usher	Nessie Crawford	Judy McDonald
Counters	Jeanette Li Dimock Albert Ip	Christo John Trevor Haigh
Morning Tea	Miranda Huang Nessie Crawford	Julie Dickey Jeanette Li Dimock