



Sunday  
5-Nov-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.

## Humus and Humility

**Scripture reading: Matthew 23:1-12 (New International Version)**



### **A Warning Against Hypocrisy**

**23** Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: <sup>2</sup>“The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. <sup>3</sup>So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. <sup>4</sup>They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people’s shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.

<sup>5</sup>“Everything they do is done for people to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; <sup>6</sup>they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; <sup>7</sup>they love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to be called ‘Rabbi’ by others.

<sup>8</sup>“But you are not to be called ‘Rabbi,’ for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers. <sup>9</sup>And do not call anyone on earth ‘father,’ for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. <sup>10</sup>Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one Instructor, the Messiah. <sup>11</sup>The greatest among you will be your servant. <sup>12</sup>For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

Sunday

12-Nov-2023

THIS WEEK

Theme: TBC

From:

5-Nov-2023

Scripture readings: Matthew 25:1-13

To:

12-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.

**Sunday**

**5-Nov-2023**

**Food Bank**

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

**Monday**

**6-Nov-2023**

5:30 pm Community Dinner

**Tuesday**

**7-Nov-2023**

7:30 pm Parish Council Meeting

**Wednesday**

**8-Nov-2023**

7:00 pm AA meeting

**Thursday**

**9-Nov-2023**

3:10 pm Musiqhub

**Friday**

**10-Nov-2023**

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

**Sunday**

**12-Nov-2023**

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

**Pastoral Reflection**

Hello, friends, who love St Johns,

The gospel reading this week creeps up on us somehow. Over and over again we assume that the gospel reading is about other people, especially about the Pharisees who seemed to be standing in opposition to what Jesus was about – their lives were incongruent with their words. But then suddenly we are woken up by a word and/or phrase from the reading and we can no longer stay passive, or uninvolved because we can hear our names being called out...

**8 “But you are not to be called ‘Rabbi,’ for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers.**

As the narrative turns to speak to us directly, what we discover is that the behaviour of the Pharisees was only illustrative, and that the real point of Matthew 23 is not to condemn the religious leaders of Jesus’ day, but instead the gospel reading is aimed at Christian leaders and us who are gathered here today at St Johns.

The one issue that the gospel reading is confronting is our tendency to make the different roles – Rabbi, Teacher, father and instructor - absolute. The problem is when they are made absolute, they become demonic. The invitation to Christian living is to humanize these roles. The invitation is to practice humility.

**“11 The greatest among you will be your servant. 12 For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”**

Blessing to you and to all those you love. Amen!

## Community Dinner

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

# 6 Nov 2023

5:30 - 7:00 pm

Potluck Style - Bring a Dish

Join Us !





## 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**





# Thanksgiving


Express thankfulness by giving back!  
**Collection Period: Nov - Dec 2023**  
Whether you give online or through envelopes, please use the remark **"Thanksgiving."**


This year's Thanksgiving donation will support:


- 90% for general repair and maintenance fund
- 5% for the Breakfast Club
- 5% for a local charity in East Auckland (to be determined)

Bank account: 03-0166-0135407-025 (Bucklands Beach Co-op Parish)

**Join us in spreading gratitude and helping those in need!**







I downloaded them from a cloud"



**FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bill Keane




6-9  
© 2004 The  
D.C. by King Features Synd.  
www.kfs.com

...and I never get a busy signal."

**GOD HAS SENT YOU A TEXT**



PLEASE READ IT!





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



### Songs for Today

1. Jehovah Jireh
2. What a friend we have in Jesus
3. Open your eyes
4. An evening prayer

Sunday Services:	English 9:30a.m.	
Office Hours:	Tues - Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 noon	
Phone: 09 534 2305	Email: <a href="mailto:office@stjohnsbb.org.nz">office@stjohnsbb.org.nz</a>	
Website:	<a href="https://stjohnsbb.org.nz">https://stjohnsbb.org.nz</a>	
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Property Manager	Charles de Vilder	
People's Warden	Ayleen de Vilder	
Minister's Warden	Julie Dickey	
Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	
Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	
Direct Credit Offerings AC	03-0166-0135407-025	

**Youth Group:** Contact Jeff [minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz](mailto:minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz)

	Today's Helpers 5-Nov-2023	Next Week's Helpers 12-Nov-2023
Preacher	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	Rev Jeff Odhiambo
Musician/s	Rahil John Albert Ip	Jeanette Li Dymock, Albert Ip Winnie Wong
Projector & Sound Desk	Collin Francke	Mavis Haigh
Reader	Olga Ferreira	Felicity Vincer
Intercessor	Julie Dickey	Rev Jeff Odhiambo
HC set up	Ayleen de Vilder	N/A
HC Serving team	Judy McDonald	N/A
Prayer ministry	Joan Rutherford	Joan Jones
Sunday School	An opportunity to serve here	An opportunity to serve here
Welcome Desk	An opportunity to serve here	Joan Rutherford
Usher	Judy McDonald	Trevor Haigh
Counters	Christo John Trevor Haigh	Jeanette Li Dimock Monita Leung
Morning Tea	Julie Dickey Jeanette Li Dimock	Betty Curd Nessie Crawford