



St Johns
Being the Gospel to all People

Sunday
28-Apr-2024

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.

Scripture reading: John 15:1-8 (New International Version)



I am the True Vine-Abide

15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Sunday

5-May-2024

Scripture reading: John 15:9-17 (New International Version)

Waiho i te toipoto, kua i te toiroa.
Let us keep close together, not far apart.

Prayer points:

- For peace and restoration of stability in Israel, Ukraine and other regions experiencing unrest;
- For Jane's health;
- For Felicity's recovery;
- For safe communitis.
- For our youth and adult leaders of the holiday p
- For children and families through the school holidays;
- For support for all those who have lost loved ones, particularly David and Julie Dickey and Brenda Ryan's family.



Christ is Risen
Hallelujah

Pastoral Reflection

Hello, friends, who love St Johns,

Welcome to our fifth Sunday of Eastertide.

This week's Gospel reading is full of imageries. We will delve into each of them on Sunday, but for now I want to focus this reflection on one of the imageries – Abide.

In this passage Jesus seems to be focusing on us abiding why? Because Jesus wants to reveal to us the God who wants to abide with us.

“Remain – Abide (meinate – from Meno) in me, and I in you”. The verb, Meno, in its various forms, occurs in a number of passages in John's gospel. Jesus says, “He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives (**menei**) in me, and I in him (John 6:56) – and Remain (**meinete**) in me, and I in you. Just as the branch can't bear fruit by itself unless it remains (**mene**) in the vine, so neither can you unless you remain (**mentee**) on me (John 15:4) – and as the Father has loved me, I also have loved you. Remain (**meinate**) in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain (**meneite**) in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain (**meno**) in his love (John 15:9-10).

It is also significant that the Holy Spirit at the Jesus' baptism remains (**meno**) on Jesus. The verb, **meno**, as I have demonstrated occurs frequently in the gospel of John. It describes a relationship that is deep and abiding rather than trivial or passing. Jesus has a deep and abiding relationship with the Spirit, and that's the kind of relationship Jesus invites the disciples to. In other words, abiding – staying - **meno** is describing a relational dynamic.

THIS WEEK

From: 28-Apr-2024

To: 5-May-2024

Sunday 28-Apr-2024

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

Monday 29-Apr-2024

N/A

Tuesday 30-Apr-2024

N/A

Wednesday 1-May-2024

7:00 pm AA meeting

Thursday 2-May-2024

N/A

Friday 3-May-2024

10:00am Knitting Group

Sunday 5-May-2024

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

Saturday 4- May -2024

-see notice next page

Funeral Brenda Ryan 2:00pm

Shared meal with St Mary's GI, here at St Johns BB 5:00pm



Anne and Andy Purcell invite you to come and join us for a shared meal on Saturday 4th May 5:00pm at St Johns.
Our friends from St Mary's Church Glen Innes are coming over to say farewell and to see us settled in our new church home.

WELCOME

Save the date Pentecost
Sun 19th May
We are welcoming new members to St Johns
Buckland's Beach on Pentecost Sunday



Songs for Today



1. He's got the whole world
2. How great is our God
3. I have decided to follow Jesus
4. My life is in you Lord

Sunday Services:	English 9:30a.m.	
Office Hours:	Wed/Fri 9am-12pm, Thurs 11am-2pm	
Phone: 09 534 2305	Email: office@stjohnsbb.org.nz	
Website:	https://stjohnsbb.org.nz	
Minister	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	022 674 0044
Administrator	Anne Purcell	
Property Manager	Charles de Vilder	
People's Warden	Ayleen de Vilder	
Minister's Warden	Julie Dickey	
Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	021 057 6327
Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	
Direct Credit Offerings AC	03-0166-0135407-025	

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

	Today's Helpers 28-Apr-2024	Next Week's Helpers 5-May-2024
Preacher	Jeff Odhiambo	Jeff Odhiambo
Service Leader	Jeff Odhiambo	Anne Purcell
Musician/s	Joan Williamson	Joan Williamson
Projector & Sound Desk	Anne Purcell	Colin Franke
Reader	Natalie Springveldt	Felicity Vincer
Intercessor	Bob Williamson	Bob Williamson
HC set up	N/A	Ayleen de Vilder
HC Serving team	N/A	Olga Ferriera
Prayer ministry	Joan Rutherford	Anne Purcell
Sunday School	N/A	N/A
Welcome Desk	With ushering	With ushering
Usher	Bob Williamson	Darlene Punimata
Counters	Bob Williamson	Christo john
	Albert Ip	Albert Ip
Morning Tea	Miranda Huang	Jeanette Li
	Alison Stanton	Hong-yan Song