



St Johns
Being the Gospel to all People

Sunday
5-May-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: 9-17 (New International Version)



Love Each Other

⁹ “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷ This is my command: Love each other.



Sunday

12-May-2024

Scripture reading: John 17:6-19 (New International Version)

Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me! Psalm 66:20

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 communitiies.
- 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 families.



Pastoral Reflection

Hello, friends, who love St Johns,
 Welcome to our sixth Sunday of Eastertide.
 I have been having some good conversations with people who have recently joined our community. Their generosity of spirit and passion for our community has been very encouraging and life giving to me. I am so looking forward to Pentecost Sunday (May 19th, 2024) when we will have the opportunity to formally induct the new members into our community. For our Welcoming Service on Pentecost, Colenso and Rona have gifted us a way for us to welcome the new members. It is going to be a beautiful welcoming space where will get to hear each other's stories and a chance to exercise generosity and hospitality with each other as we welcome the first fruits on Pentecost Sunday.
 This week's Gospel reading is describing what fruitfulness is in the kingdom of God. In this Gospel reading, fruitfulness in the kingdom of God is defined in a relational dynamic. Fruitfulness in the kingdom of God is learning to live with God's love as the defining reality of our lives. And allowing God's love to take up residence in our lives such that it becomes the defining story of our identity. And through us, it begins to define the way in which we interact and shows God's presence to the world around us.

The fruitfulness that Jesus is asking his disciples is depended on them staying rooted in him. The relational fruitfulness of God's love is going to come into their lives in the way God's love comes into our lives. With self-sacrifice. It is an amazing, beautiful picture!
 And how does such fruitfulness come about? Well, it is interactive. It is interdependent. It is mutually reinforcing. How does God's Kingdom come? By his disciples abiding in love. And it doesn't seem like much, but to remain in God's love is profoundly challenging amid all the other voices that can speak into our lives.
 We are told to remain, and to abide in love and in the costly love. And it sounds good. But friends we don't really believe this, do we? We don't really believe that this is the key to God's Kingdom coming to earth as it is in heaven. We don't trust the power of love over time, do we?

THIS WEEK

From: 5-May-2024
To: 12-May-2024

Sunday 5-May-2024

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

Monday 6-May-2024

N/A

Tuesday 7-May-2024

N/A

Wednesday 8-May-2024

7:00 pm AA meeting

Thursday 9-May-2024

10:30am Finance Team

Friday 10-May-2024

10:00am Knitting Group

Sunday 12-May-2024

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

**Save the date:
Pentecost Sunday
19th May**

**We are welcoming new members to
St Johns Bucklands Beach on Pentecost Sunday**



Morning tea is on the move

Starting this Sunday 5th May

Come up to the hall and enjoy time together
after the service in a different space

This will allow building work to take place on
the ceiling.

We will be back in the foyer - welcoming area in
a few weeks.



A baby girl

Congratulations to Joanne from
Mighty Minds Kindergarten on the
birth of her daughter.



Songs for Today



1. The Steadfast love
2. He came singing love
3. I love you Lord
4. Let there be love shared among us

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 5-May-2024	Next Week's Helpers 12-May-2024
Preacher/Service Leader	Jeff/Anne	Jeff
Musician/s	Joan	Jeanette, Albert, Winnie
Projector & Sound Desk	Colin	Mavis
Reader	Felicity	Olga
Intercessor	Bob	Julie
HC set up	Ayleen	N/A
HC Serving team	Olga	N/A
Prayer ministry	Anne	Judy
Sunday School	N/A	N/A
Welcome Desk	With ushering	With ushering
Usher	Darlene	Charles
Counters	Bob	Charles
	Albert	Alison
Morning Tea	Jeanette	Betty
	Hong-yan	Nessie