



St Johns
Being the Gospel to all People

Sunday
4-Aug-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 6: 24- 35 (New International Version)



In search for what is real

²⁴ Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

Jesus the Bread of Life

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

²⁶ Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. ²⁷ Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

²⁸ Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"

²⁹ Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

³⁰ So they asked him, "What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'^[a]"

³² Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴ "Sir," they said, "always give us this bread."

³⁵ Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Sunday

11-Aug-2024

Scripture reading: John 6: 35, 41-51 (New International Version)

Prayer points:

- Bring peace to places of conflict, within ourselves, in families, communities, within and between nations;
- For Jane's health;
- For Felicity's recovery;
- For safer communities;
- For our youth and adult leaders;
- For support for all those who have lost loved ones;
- For our friends at CYC;
- For people of Aotearoa impacted by abuse in care.



Pastoral Reflection

REALITY

Hello, friends, who love St Johns,

When I was in my teens, I sang dangerous songs like, **“More love, more power, more of you in my life...”** And like the crowd in the Gospel reading this week, I had no idea of what were the implications of what I was singing, moreover, what I was asking of God.

This week’s Gospel reading centres around questions and answers. The question that I would like to focus on is one that comes towards the end of the first part of the conversation that is happening between the crowd and Jesus. The crowd is seeking to know of Jesus’ whereabouts, and at the end of a very spirited conversation the crowd asks Jesus, **“What must we do to do the works God requires?”** Essentially, the crowd’s interest is to know what the right orthopraxy or right practices are. To which Jesus answered, **“The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”** Fundamentally, Jesus is saying to the crowd that their orthopraxy should be connected to their orthodoxy. Which naturally leads the crowd to ask Jesus to give them a sign that will enhance their belief. And after an elongated conversation about bread, and a retelling of their history he says to them, **“Eat me.”** Eat me, and never be hungry again. Virtually, Jesus is saying desire more and more of me, and you will encounter reality. You will behold what is real.

And so, I wonder are you hungry? If yes, what are you hungry for? If no, what has made you full? These are some of the questions this week’s Gospel reading is asking of us.

Further, are you ever in search and/or ever hungry for what is real? Or are you ashamed of your hunger? Does fullness scare you? What kinds of bread do you substitute for Jesus? Lastly, have you ever interrogated your orthopraxy? How is your orthodoxy informing your orthopraxy?

Looking Forward and Getting Involved

This Week

Sunday 4-Aug-2024

Food Bank

9:30 am Sunday Service in English (Chinese subtitle) 3:30 pm Christian Youth Church

Monday 5-Aug-2024

5:30pm Centering Prayer small chapel
6:00pm Community Dinner

Tuesday 6-Aug-2024

N/A

Wednesday 7-Aug-2024

7:00 pm AA meeting

Thursday 8-Aug 024

10:30am Finance Team Meeting

Friday 9-Aug-2024

Youth Group

Sunday 11-Aug-2024 9:30 am

Sunday Service in English (Chinese subtitle)
3:30 pm

Centering Prayer - 5:30pm Monday - Small Chapel

An Anchoring space to start the week.....



Be Still

and know...

Community Dinner

Monday 5th August 6:00pm

Come and join us for our monthly community dinner, Monday evening.

Bring a dish to share - enough for your family plus one.



Songs for today



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Sunday Services:	English 9:30 am	
Office Hours:	TBC	
Phone: 09 534 2305	Email: office@stjohnsbb.org.nz	
Website:	https://stjohnsbb.org.nz	
Minister	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	022 674 0044
Administrator	TBC	
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 4-Aug-2024 Holy Communion	Next Week's Helpers 11-Aug-2024
Preacher/Service Leader	Jeff/ Anne	Jeff/ Judy
Musician/s	Rahil	Albert
Projector & Sound Desk	Collin	Charles
Reader	Felicity	Rona
Intercessor	Julie	Judy
HC set up		N/A
HC Serving team	Anne	N/A
Prayer ministry	Joan R	
Sunday School	N/A	N/A
Welcome Desk	With ushering	With ushering
Usher	Charles	Charles
Counters	Albert	Bob
	Christo	
Morning Tea	Julie D	Nessie
		Betty