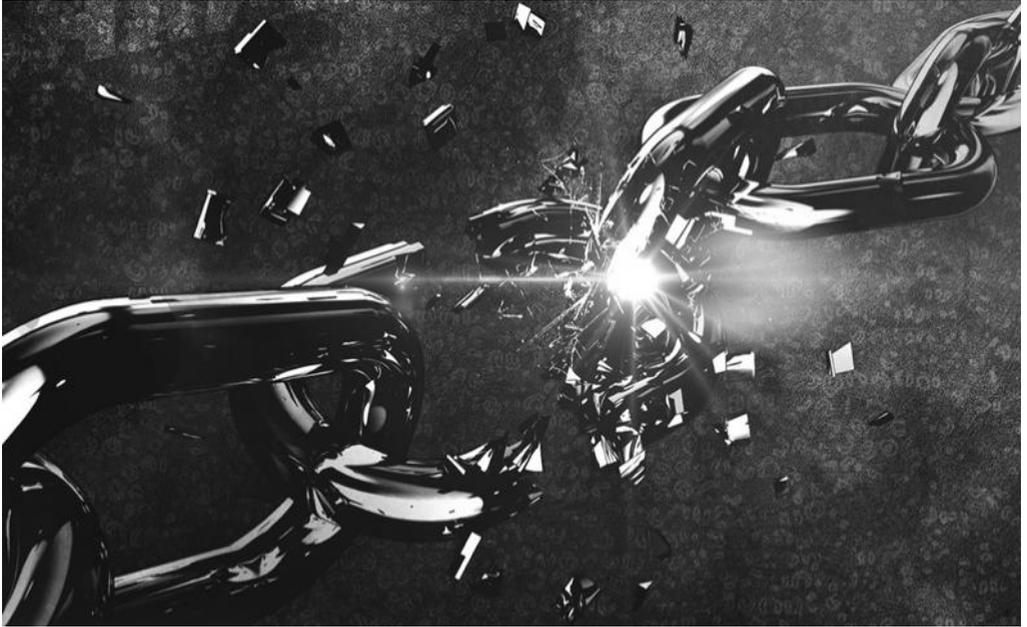




Church on the Hill

Sunday 4 February 2018



Theme: Power to the Weak
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Susan Gill
Readings: Isaiah 40:21-31, Mark 1:29-39

Sentence:

He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless.

- Isaiah 40:29

Prayer for the day:

Healing God,
in the touch of Jesus the sick were healed and
the chains unbound.
Freedom is before us.
Set us on a new path of wholeness, deliver us
from all that binds us,
turn us to embrace that life giving love you offer

and to share that life giving love with those who
struggle to find it. We pray this though Jesus
Christ,
who is alive and lives with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



Sabbatical this year

2018 is a Sabbatical year for me. I'll be away for two stints; the first and longest time begins on 12 March and will see me return during the week beginning 14 May. I will also be away for 3 weeks or so in July.

My Sabbatical plans include two main parts. The first main part has already begun: I am undertaking Year 1 of the 2 year Spiritual Direction training course here in NZ. Mostly this involves a day here and there and ongoing study and assessment. There is a weeklong block course in July and I'll take a week either side for holiday and study.

At the end of the second year I will be a Spiritual Director; really the title is a misnomer because it is about spiritual companionship rather than directing. The aim is to help people discern what God is doing in their lives and to discover language to describe that. Many outside the church have spiritual experiences so my hope is that this ministry is missional as well as for those in the church who have a longing for something more.

The second main part is to walk the Camino de Frances along the North of Spain. Walking the nearly 800km will take me just over a month. My hopes in this are to come closer to God in a simpler rhythm of life and to meet interesting people from all walks of life.

During my two months away in March - May the Reverend Ian Smith will act as Priest in Charge. My association goes back a long way with Ian. When Kevin and I were in our late teens, we ran a Youth Group together; Ian was the guest speaker at a camp we organised. Then our paths reconnected in Darfield when our children and I were part of the church Ian pastored. And when we moved to the Nelson area our paths crossed again.

I cannot speak highly enough of Ian and am delighted that he has agreed to work half-time in

our parish. It seems to me that our Gracious God has ordained this time and that Ian will be a significant part of our journey as a church.

Here is a brief resume of Ian's background:

He was raised a conservative Presbyterian in Dipton, Southland - the seventh of ten kids. During his early teenage years his parents separated and Ian got involved with the New Life Churches in Christchurch. He was Postmaster at Upper Moutere for a time. He married Yvonne and moved to Darfield as Pastor in his early thirties.

He returned to Mapua as Pastor of Mapua Christian Fellowship in his late thirties.

During that time Ian steered the formation of Hills Community Church joining Mapua Christian Fellowship with the Anglican and Methodist/ Presbyterian

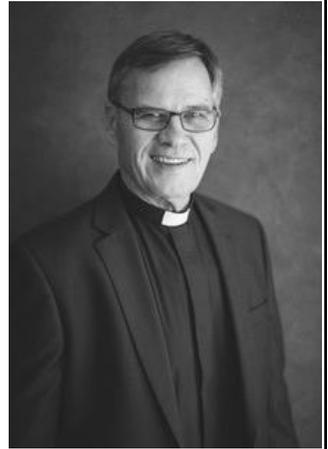
congregations who all gathered as one. He was ordained as an Anglican Priest during that time.

Then Ian and Yvonne moved to Christchurch in their mid-fifties when Ian was appointed as Vicar of Spreydon. In Christchurch he became one of the Diocesan Archdeacons and then Vicar of Avonhead. Ian 'retired' in his mid-sixties back to their family home in Mapua.

Ian and Yvonne have raised four children who are now all married; some with children. Ian and Yvonne enjoy their grand parenting role while Yvonne holds the position as Head Teacher at Waverley St Kindergarten and Ian continues ministry in various places including our own St Alban's.

Learning together in love,

Susan



ASH WEDNESDAY



14 February

Lent begins this year with Ash Wednesday on 14 February. We will have two services – 10.00am as usual and 7.00pm at the Catholic Church.

Last year the Catholics supported us in droves and we had a large number at the evening service. This year I will be preaching at their church. Please will you support this joint initiative? It's a huge thing for us to be working and worshipping together and I really want to encourage them and their leaders with a good turnout.

Our Bishop has asked that we use this day for prayer and fasting for the one-day Synod on Saturday 10 March too. If you feel able to do that; even for a portion of the day, please do so. There are events on in Nelson Cathedral from 9.00am.

= Kids' Church calendar =

Today Sunday 4 February: Activities at the back of the Church

Toy box and baby change facilities are available anytime at the rear of the Church.



Prayers for the Week

Our World - Deliver us from a world without justice and a future without mercy. Govern the hearts and minds of those in authority across your riven world. Establish your just and gentle rule in the midst of unrest and upheaval. We praise you with all your creation which comes from your all-powerful hand; enable us to be good stewards – to use less and waste nothing. Restore your light and love everywhere.

Mission - Seasons change quickly in Bangladesh where our friends N and R are studying the Bengali language). They write of the hardship faced by the poor folk who have little to keep them warm. "Last week Shitkale (yep that's spelt correctly) or winter turned into Basanta (spring)." The family was blessed to spend some time in Kolkata over Christmas with the team they will be working with on the Loyal project. They write "The Nativity story itself seemed so much more tangible and significant when heard in this place." Pray for perseverance and patience for N and R in their language study and application.

Diocese - Thanks for Bishop Richard and all the work he does for us and for the National Church, including Motion 29 which seeks to hold us together. Enable others to support him and take some of the burden of responsibility from him. Bring him joy as he catches glimpses of God at work in unexpected places. May the Diocesan camp – Convergence – bring blessing to many through Steve Maina and others.

Community - Ross and Yvonne Ferguson and the leadership team at Richmond Community Church. Enrich them and their plans for 2018. Empower Ross as he leads the Richmond Waimea Ministers' Association. Be with those in our community adversely affected by storm, poverty or prejudice and enable them to get good support for fullness of life. Prod us if we could be helping and aren't!

Our Parish - Thanks for St Alban's church and the loyal band there. Enrich their worship, fellowship, and outreach. Be with Gwen Thomas, Margaret Silke and others known to us; especially those who are in the midst of big decisions. We remember Murray Savage in Christchurch and the rest homes and hospital staff and residents in our parish.

This Week...

Monday 5 February

9.00am Church open for Prayer
7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 6 February (Waitangi Day)

10.00am Fortnightly group (M Silke)
10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B Page)
7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S Frenghley)

Wednesday 7 February

10.00am Wednesday Service

Thursday 8 February

12.00pm Weekly Study group (W Wilkinson, J Lines)
7.00pm Fortnightly group (J Palmer)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (N Pritchard)

Sunday 11 February

9.00am Holy Communion *
10.30am Praise on the Hill *
* Morning Tea between services in the Hall

Coming up...

Sunday 11 February

Combined Wakefield, Waimea and Richmond picnic at Snowden Bush after second service

Wednesday 14 February Ash Wednesday

10.00am Ash Wednesday Service
7.00pm Combined Ash Wednesday Service at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, 35 William St, Richmond

Tuesday 20 February

11.30am Lunch on the Hill at Salvation Army Hall
57 Oxford Street

For more information about services or groups contact the office Ph. 544 8844.

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 11 February

Holy Communion

Sunday 25 February

Morning Worship

If you wish to give financial support to Holy Trinity Church, our bank account number is:
03 0751 0146369 001 Westpac Richmond

Roster for 11 February - Thank you for serving us all!

Leader:	9.00am	S Gill	10.30am	J Palmer
Reader:	9.00am	M Gibson, D Day	10.30am	E Stanger, M Tilley
Sidesperson	9.00am	M Gibson	10.30am	M Tilley
Welcomer:	9.00am	J McConachie	10.30am	S Lyon
Chalice:	9.00am	E Erskine, B Lash	10.30am	N/A
Tea:		M Watson, M Evans		
Flowers:		S Clover	Creche:	TBA

Theme for Next Sunday: Christ is All

Readings for next Sunday: Colossians 1:15-23, Mark 2:1-12

Parish Contacts

Vicar	Susan Gill	544 8827	Children's Ministry	Vacant
Priest Assistant	Jean Palmer	544 4275	Friends 'n Fun	Carol Sardella 544 9237
Senior's Ministry	Yvonne Smyth	544 8844	Parish Administrator	David Cowdrey 544 8844
Youth Leader	Joshua Allan-Jones	544 8844		

Holy Trinity Church

27 Dorset Street
PO Box 3013
Richmond

Phone / Fax 03 544 8844

Email church.onhill@xtra.co.nz

Website

www.holytrinityrichmond.org.nz

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10.00am - 5.30pm

Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm