



Church on the Hill

Sunday 7 August 2016



Theme: Raising the standard
Vicar: Revd. Susan Gill
Preacher: Michaela Ross
Readings: Exodus 20:1-2 and 12-17, Matthew 5:21 – 30

Sentence:

And if your hand - even your stronger hand - causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away.

- Matthew 5:30

Prayer for the day:

Heavenly Father, thank you that the standards you set for us are not impossible to follow. Instead Jesus tells us to live out God's grace constructively with each other in ways that are achievable when we work alongside your Holy

Spirit. So please refill us and empower us that we might honour your name in our attitudes as well as in our actions. We pray this through the one who honoured you in everything, Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord, **Amen**

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



Renewing our friendship with God

Time alone with God is very challenging for extroverts. Perhaps it is for everyone. But for those like me who talk a lot, those who like companions on the road, the discipline seems even more daunting.

Why do I always wait until I am so desperate before taking a decent chunk of time to renew my friendship with him?

The week the Lord and I have had together has been just the third extended time we have had. I spent two days alone before becoming your Vicar just over five years ago. Last year we spent five days together but we did include others in the evenings.

There have been lots of half days or days of course but I knew I needed more. And the One who had been drawing me had everything sorted so we could get away together this week, even though it seemed to happen very quickly.

Bishop Richard recommended a retreat centre in Teal Valley and my Spiritual Mentor helped with content and resources. As I write this I am about to leave so can't tell you about what the Lord said to me. Ask me when you see me.

As I go I ask myself these questions:

- Why am I going?
- What do I hope the Lord will do in me?
- With what mission will I be sent out again?

Chiefly I hope to deepen my friendship with the One who is my best friend, my Great Shepherd, my chief encourager – the One who loves me no matter what.

Secondly I hope to be strengthened, deepened, given fresh vision and re-resourced for my ministry with you here in this place and in our community.

My thanks go to Vestry who have supported me taking paid time each year to receive from our Generous God.

So a question for each of you: when and how do you take time to be refreshed and loved by our God; not just small chunks, but a decent amount so you can be fully charged and equipped to minister in God's world?

I know this can all sound a bit other-worldly; super-spiritual even. But maintaining our human friendships does take time and effort. So it is with our friendship with the Lord. Even extroverts like me need to practice the spiritual discipline of silence and retreat; in order to grow that friendship.

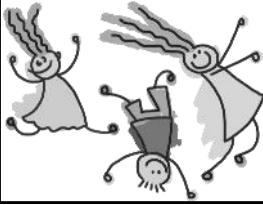
Learning together in love,

Susan

Church open for Prayer - Join in on Monday from 9.00am to 2.00pm to pray for your personal needs, our parish, our community and the world. All welcome. Feel free to come and go.

7.00pm Sunday 7 August • Taizé Service
led by Micah Did-Dell
At Church on the Hill Richmond

Light and Dark



= KIDZ CHURCH CALENDAR =

Today Sunday 7 August - Kidz Church led by Sue Fellow

Next Sunday 14 August - Kidz Church led by Sue Fellow

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

Prayers and offers of help are appreciated. Catherine 022 647 9810

Prayers for the Week

God's World - Lord God, we acknowledge you today as Lord, not only of individuals, but of nations and governments, please guide the American voters to make just and right decisions for the future of the USA. We pray for the Rio Olympic Games, for the athletes, spectators, and all those involved, that the spirit of peace be kept alive throughout the entire event. We pray for peace in the Middle East and Europe, for an end to the war in Syria, and we lift up to you, the continuing refugee situation and the threat of terrorism. We pray for those in our armed forces serving overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan and other trouble spots, as they work protecting others, we pray for your protection over them and their families. Keep them safe we pray.

Mission Partners - We pray today for the Sussex family, providing valuable Dental Support and Education in Cambodia. We pray your protection and blessing for Phil and Becky and their four children, Bryn, Toby, Pippa and Molly. May they know your peace and blessing with them.

Diocese - We pray for Wairau Valley, under the leadership of Joe Keighley, for God's guidance as they continue to engage in the local community and seek to find new initiatives and ministry opportunities. For health and wellbeing as a few people have been in hospital of late with various infections, and for refreshing and encouragement for those involved in ministry and mission through their various weekly activities (Menz Shed, Mainly Music, Market, and Girls Brigade). We pray also for Synod, that is has been a time where the necessary business has gone smoothly, and also a time of spiritual blessing as the Diocese has gathered together.

Local Community - We pray today for the Richmond Baptist Church, for their Pastor David Jensen. We thank God for what He has already done and his many blessings in this church. We pray especially for a special retreat next week, that this will be a significant time of setting the course for the future and that there will be many breakthroughs in prayer.

Our Parish - We thank you Lord for what you continue to do among us here at Holy Trinity. We pray especially for the two faithful teams who provide Lunch on the Hill every month and for the outreach of this ministry. We thank you that Susan was able to have some valuable retreat time last week and pray she feels refreshed from her time out with you. Continue to bless her and provide her with all wisdom as she leads this church. We continue to pray for your protection over this place in preparation for Graeme Howarth's talks this month on Christianity and Islam.

Those in need within our own church family - Heavenly Father, we ask that you bring healing, comfort and strength to Debbie, Carole Burke, Ellie, John Barnes, Laurie D'Eganneh, Pam Butler, Pam Cotton, Norma, Sonja, Ingrid Blackbeard, John Burrough, David Hollingsworth, Val Jordan and others known to us. We pray also for the residents and staff in rest homes and hospitals in this Parish, that they know your peace and love.

This Week...

Monday 8 August

7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 9 August

10.00am Weekly group (M. Silke)

10.30am Fortnightly group (J. Payne)

7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S. Frengley)

Wednesday 10 August

10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B. Page)

10.00am Wednesday Service

Thursday 11 August

12.00pm Weekly Study group (W.Wilkinson, J Lines)

7.30pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)

7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

Friday 12 August

7.00pm Youth (A. Sardella)

Sunday 14 August

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Praise on the Hill

Coming up...

Thursday 18 August

7.30pm Christianity & Islam

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

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 14 August

Holy Communion

Sunday 28 August

Morning Prayer

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

Roster for 14 August *Thank you for serving us all!*

Leader:	9.00am D Pritchard	10.30am S Jackson, L Ashby
Reader:	9.00am M Gibson, D Day	10.30am TBA
Sidespeople:	9.00am M Gibson	10.30am M Tilley
Welcomer:	9.00am J McConachie	10.30am S Lyon
Tea:	M Watson, M Evans	
Chalice:	9.00am G Thomas, M McRae	10.30am N/A
Flowers:	M Brosnahan	Creche: M Martin

Theme for Next Sunday: Islam and Christianity: Sister Religions?

Readings for Next Sunday: Romans 5.6-11 and Colossians 1.15-20

Parish Contacts

Vicar	Susan Gill	544 8827	Children's Ministry	Catherine Barak	022 6479810
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	Antonio Sardella	027 3525598			

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Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10.00am - 5.30pm

Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm