



# Church on the Hill

Sunday 21 December 2014



**Theme:** The Shepherd King  
**Vicar:** Susan Gill  
**Preacher:** Susan Gill  
**Readings:** Psalm 96, Luke 2:1-14

**Sentence:**

You heavens rain down righteousness; let the clouds shower it down. Let the earth open wide, let salvation spring up. *- Isaiah 45:8*

**Prayer for the day:**

Loving God, we open ourselves to you this Christmas season. As these candles are lit, light our lives with your imagination. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy

that cannot be contained, but must be shared. Magnify your love within us. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, That we may walk in the light of Christ.

**Amen.**

*Following Jesus, Building Community*

## *Reflections...*



### **Learning Possibilities**

There must be something strange about me - I love Performance Reviews. I love that there is always some affirmation. That is good and encouraging. I also love that reviews of this kind always bring challenges. They point out new areas to explore or existing areas in which there is room to grow and develop.

I view these, not as threats, but as exciting learning possibilities. In the Christian life, there is always more to know and experience and to pass on to others.

A guy called Brian Tracy said "Those people who develop the ability to continuously acquire new and better forms of knowledge that they can apply to their work and to their lives will be the movers and shakers in our society for the indefinite future."

I doubt I am a mover and shaker but I know I have a small part to play in influencing others

and in shaping our community. You too have a part to play in those things. You may not think so, but you do.

Jesus came as a baby, but he grew into someone who would transform the whole world. And he has chosen you and I to work with him in this.

"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." - *John 15:16*

I encourage you not to be satisfied with what is already happening – in your life, in this church, in our wider community. Let's be always growing and learning and developing as we work with Christ.

My prayer is that you will experience, in a fresh way, the presence of Jesus with you this Christmas and that he will lead you on towards new growth in 2015.

Much love,

*Susan*

**Christmas Dinner** - Registrations and tickets are available at the Richmond Mall service desk, but if you have already registered with me, your tickets are in the office for you to collect. Kay.

**Morning Teas** - The popular weekly morning teas will be held in January 2015. A flyer to put on your fridge is in this pewsnews. Extra copies at the back of the church. A social event for all.

**Community Christmas Dinner** - We finally have the list of food we will need for Christmas Day and I have placed lists and forms at the back of the church for anyone who wishes to record their donations to this event. Food to go to Teapot valley to be cooked can be dropped off at the office up to and including the morning of Wednesday 24 December but if you have frozen food please arrange for it to be delivered at a time it can be transferred straight into a freezer. Other food can be delivered as late as Christmas morning. Cash donations can be made at the office or placed in the box provided. If you require a receipt please include your name. Thank you for your help with these requests, this event would not be possible without your support. Kay Peterson Ph. 544 8844 (Office) or 547 6777 (Home).

**Wanted** -Does someone have a porta-cot we could borrow between Christmas and New Year? Kay Peterson 547 6777

**Church on the Hill 2015 Calendars** - Available now. \$15.00 Lantern Fundraiser . Get yours from: Merle Ph. 544 6606, Joan Ph.544 8813, Miriam Ph. 544 7550.

**Help wanted** - If you have time to help with the Community Christmas Dinner this year could you please look at the sheet at the back of the church and fill in where you could help. We need volunteers from 23rd to and including Christmas Day. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask Kay 547 6777 or Michaela 544 4502.

**Christmas Dinner Leaflet distribution** - There is a map of Richmond, a highlighter pen and a pile of invitations for those willing to do a letterbox drop. Please highlight the street you will drop invitations in and take enough invitations to cover the area. Please do not put invitations in letterboxes with 'no junk mail' or similar on. Thanks for your help with this. Kay Peterson Ph. 544 8844 (Office) or 547 6777 (Home).



### Children's Programme

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

Children are welcome to attend one of the following during the 10.30 sermon time:

- Kids' Church under 5's in the crèche.
- Kids' Church primary school age in the church hall and younger youth (Yr 7 to Yr 11) in Youth Room in the hall.

### Prayers for the Week

**Our World:** We pray for the violence we have seen in Sydney and Pakistan this week and for all the victims. May the destructive forces in our world be thwarted and defeated wherever they arise.

**Our Nation:** We pray for the report on alcohol advertising in sport. Help people to realise the damage alcohol brings to our nations and the part advertising plays in this. May decisions be made for the benefit of people over against the power of money and corporate lobbying.

**Our Mission Partners:** We pray for all the mission families we support. May they have a great Christmas and New Year. We give thanks for another year of service and pray for success, safety and a rewarding year.

**Our Diocese:** We pray for our Bishop +Richard and all the responsibilities and concerns of his office. We pray for a blessed Christmas and New Year, and for Hilary and the rest of his family; giving thanks for their support.

**Our Local Area:** We pray for all the local churches in this community; their various ministries and outreaches. We give thanks for their dedication and faithfulness and pray that the year to come will be pleasing to God

**Our Church:** We pray for the Christmas services, especially the visitors. We pray that we will all have a life changing encounter with your Spirit. We also pray for the Christmas lunch, giving thanks for the volunteers.

**Those in Special Need:** We pray for Ingrid, Luke, George, Carole, Noel, Wendy, Grant, Dorothy, Erica (Shirley Jackson's niece), Lisa and Fiona (St Albans), and Ellie, others known to us, those in the rest homes, hospitals and in our parish; and we give thanks to all those who care for others. We give thanks for answered prayers and ask for the Lord's continued blessing on all we have prayed for in the past.

## **This Week...**

### **Monday 22 December**

9.00am Church Open for Prayer

### **Tuesday 23 December**

9.00am Prayer

### **Wednesday 24 December Christmas Eve**

7.30am Prayer

10.00am Wednesday Service

11:30 pm Christmas Eve Carols & Communion

### **Thursday 25 December Christmas Day**

8.00am Reflective Communion service

9:30am Family Communion and Carol Service

11.30am Community Christmas Dinner

### **Sunday 28 December**

9.00am Holy Communion\*

10.30am Family Service\*

*\*Morning Tea between services in the Hall*

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

**St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am**

**Sunday 14 December Holy Communion**

**Thursday 25 December 10.00am**

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

## **Roster for 28 December *Thank you for serving us all!***

<b>Leader:</b>	<b>9.00am</b> J Burrough	<b>10.30am</b> J Palmer
<b>Sidespeople:</b>	<b>9.00am</b> J Lines	<b>10.30am</b> M Martin
<b>Welcomer:</b>	<b>9.00am</b> A Webb	<b>10.30am</b> S Milligan
<b>Tea:</b>	G Bevernage, K Mitchell	
<b>Chalice:</b>	<b>9.00am</b> S Fregley, S Paine	<b>10.30am</b> N/A
<b>Flowers:</b>	M Evans	<b>Brass:</b> M Evans

**Readings for Next Sunday:** Isaiah 61:10-62:5, Luke 2:22-40, Galatians 4:4-7

**Theme for Next Sunday:** Rejoice in the Lord

<b>Parish Contacts</b>	Youth Intern	Antonio Sardella	544 9237		
Vicar	Susan Gill	544 8827	Youth Pastor	Micah Did-dell	544 6495
Assistant Priest	Owen Haring	541 0820	Children's Ministry	Ingrid Blackbeard	544 4917
Priest Assistant	Jean Palmer	544 4275	Friends 'n Fun	Carol Sardella	544 9237
Senior's Ministry	Kay Peterson	544 8844	Parish Administrator	David Cowdrey	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**

*Closed*

*22 December - 19 January*