



Church on the Hill

Sunday 19 February 2017



Theme: Perfection
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Charles Tyrell
Readings: Leviticus 19: 1-2, 9-18, Matthew 5:38-48.

Sentence:

“There is a saying, ‘Love your friends and hate your enemies.’ But I say: Love your enemies!”
- *Matthew 5:43,44*

Prayer for the day:

Bountiful God, You send sun and rain to the righteous and the unrighteous. Let your grace fall upon your people, enable us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us

so that we may truly be your children. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



Unity

As I've been reflecting on unity over the last couple of weeks, I've been greatly encouraged by the positive relationship which is growing between us and the Catholics.

The idea of a joint Ash Wednesday service was mooted and I quietly wondered which church we would worship in and how the service would shape up. The Catholics have suggested we host it in our church. I was delighted to agree and quickly did so.

Our service will be at 7.00pm and will be led by folk from both our churches. Merrick Mitchell and I are working on details but will be using our common lectionary as the basis for that service.

'Holy Trinity' is of course our Church name. Lately I've been pondering God as Trinity and what that means for us as a church community and what that means for our combined churches as one big community.

We know that God doesn't live alone in splendid perfection. Rather God lives in self-giving love and invites us to be part of the Divine community that is God. How amazing is that? We are invited, perpetually invited, to share in fellowship with God, the Three in One. (I've had some help with this from a book called 'Beyond Smells and Bells' by Mark Galli.)

We are all invited. Everyone. Whatever denomination or none! Amazing! And the capacity for fellowship with God is not diminished when another person joins the circle.

The morning I wrote this page, I prayed with some of my colleagues from the Minister's Association. Each one of us has a slightly different Christian belief in peripheral matters. Each one of us holds Christ as central and our Trinitarian God as

essential. We have more in common than anything we disagree on. I was delighted to hear one of them say he intends to bring some from his church to our Ash Wednesday evening service.

When we meet on Ash Wednesday, as we do every week of course, we meet not just with those of us in the building. In a sense we meet with all those who have gone before us; those who have laid the foundation of faith in our church. We also meet with the church universal; all those Christians from around the world who also worship the Lord. And we look forward to the day when we will meet as the Bride of Christ with all those who have yet to meet our God.

Unity is way bigger than we might initially think! And there is an added bonus too – worshipping together takes us away from our western idolatrous individualism!

'Worship takes place in a deeply flawed community' writes Mark Galli. And he's right. And yet, when we worship together, especially as the wider community of Christ, those flaws somehow matter less as God is worshipped and glorified.

Let's participate as God gathers us together.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!
His faithful love endures forever.
Has the Lord redeemed you? Then speak out!
Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.
For he has gathered the exiles from many lands,
from east and west, from north and south.
- Psalm 107:1 - 3

My prayer:

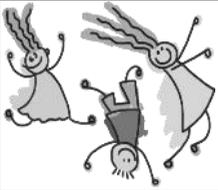
Lord, may my love for your body, and ours for each other, shine like that city on a hill you mentioned in Matthew 5:14.

Learning together in love,

Susan

Afternoon AAW Group - Our first meeting of the year will take place in the church on Wednesday 22 February commencing at 1.30pm. Please note change of time. Susan Gill will lead the Commissioning Service. Members of the Evening Group are invited to join us. Alice Burrough will give us a brief talk about how the food we donate to the Holy Trinity Food Bank is distributed. Afternoon tea will follow in the seating area at the back of the church. There will be a Sales Table and a box for any contributions to the Food Bank. Any new members are most welcome to attend. Enquiries to Jean McConachie 544 6921.

Building Fundraiser - Honey 500gms \$7.00 // 1kg \$13.00 // 2kgs \$25.00 See Anne Askin Ph. 542 3284



= KIDS' CHURCH CALENDAR =

Today Sunday 19 February - Convergence Camp

Next Sunday 26 February - What is Shrove Tuesday? Pancake making

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

Tea and Talk - 10.00am this Wednesday 22 February at Richmond Seniors Clubrooms, behind Age Concern, 62 Oxford Street. \$3 for a lovely morning tea and good company.

Evening AAW - We will be joining with our afternoon AAW group for a commissioning service in the church on Wednesday 22 February at 1.30pm. A wonderful beginning to the year. Our first monthly meeting will be in the hall lounge on Thursday 23 February at 7.30pm. We will be looking at our programme for the months ahead. Your input and suggestions will be welcomed, so bring those bright ideas with you. All ladies are welcome. Contact Anne ph.544 7992 or Val Ph. 544 5007 if you have any queries.

Lenten Study - Lent begins 1 March with Ash Wednesday. We will be holding four practical studies during Lent. The theme is Listening and Responding to God. Rev Chris Donaldson will be leading the sessions. Chris is currently vicar of Havelock and has led and trained YWAM groups for years. The sessions will be held on Thursday evenings. Existing house groups will close for the 4 weeks so that everyone can attend. We'll begin at 7.00pm with dessert and coffee. Study time will commence at 7:30pm and we'll be done by 9.00pm at the latest.

Prayers for the Week

God's World - We know that you are sovereign Lord God, and yet you grant us a terrible freedom. God's World You have made a beautiful and terrible place Creator God. Your world was formed through upheaval and that upheaval continues – geographically and in every other way imaginable. We pray for your Kingdom to come on earth as we remember Christchurch. Rain is not forecast but we plead for it anyway. Pour down your comfort on the helicopter pilot's family and friends. Bring showers of blessing to those who have lost property and may the community pull together once again. We pray for all places where there is desolation, sorrow, lack, hatred and injustice, asking special grace and provision for those who see to bring aid.

Our Local Community - We give thanks for the emergency organisations and personnel in our area. Provide your resources, protection and stamina to the fire brigades, St John's Ambulance staff, and police. Somehow let them know the work they do is genuinely valued.

Mission - We pray for the Corin family in Central Asia giving. Thank you for the micro loans they have been able to give out enabling locals to buy tools and materials to work and support themselves. We pray for wisdom and discernment to see your leading and to know what people and projects they should support.

Christ's Church - This week we remember all those at Convergence at Kaiteriteri. We ask for your inspiration through Bishop Justin and the fellowship of others. Shake us out of complacency and fire us again with your love for each other and your world. We also pray for our combined Ash Wednesday service with the Catholic Congregation and others. Please help the Lutheran congregation in their search for a new pastor. Also we ask for your loving, tangible presence to be with David Hollingsworth, Nick Kirk and Ian Thatcher.

Our Parish - We thank you for the various home groups beginning again this year. Some are group lead and this is exciting. We ask for wisdom for Jim and Bev Payne, John and Jean Palmer, Margaret Silke, Jacob Klootwyk, Brenda Page, Shiona Frengley. We also remember the Lent studies starting on 9th March. We give thanks for the new Young Adults group, asking for ease of relationships as we get to know each other, and growth as we get to know You. We ask for your healing power to be with Anne Green, Peter Bean, Carol Burke, Ellie, Pam Butler, Lisa Arrandale, Sonja and others we know.

This Week...

Monday 20 February

7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 21 February

10.00am Fortnightly group (M. Silke)

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

10.30am Fortnightly group (J. Payne)

11.30am Lunch on the Hill

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

Wednesday 22 February

10.00am Wednesday Service

10.00am Tea and Talk

1.30pm AAW Commissioning Service

Thursday 23 February

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

7.00pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)

7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

Sunday 26 February

8.45am Holy Communion

10.45am Praise on the Hill

**Morning Tea between services in the Hall*

Coming up...

Tuesday 28 February

4.30pm Shrove Tuesday pancake tea in hall.

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

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

**Sunday 26 February
Sunday 12 March**

Morning Prayer
Holy Communion

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

Roster for 26 February - Thank you for serving us all!

Leader:	8.45am	D Pritchard	10.45am	L Ashby
Reader:	8.45am	S Frengley, M Reynolds	10.45am	A Krammer
Sidespeople:	8.45am	J Lines	10.45am	M Martin
Welcomer:	8.45am	A Webb	10.45am	S Milligan
Tea:		G Bevernage, E Epoi		
Chalice:	8.45am	S Frengley, S Paine	10.45am	N/A
Flowers:		M. Evans	Creche:	

Theme for Next Sunday: Humble Service

Readings for Next Sunday: Psalm 131, Matthew 6:24 - 34

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