



Church on the Hill

Sunday 28 February 2016



Theme: Secure in the Lord
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Susan Gill
Readings: Psalm 63:1 – 11, Luke 13:1 – 9

Sentence:

Your love and kindness are better to me than life itself.

- *Psalm 63:3*

Prayer for the day:

Lord God there is much happening in our world that concerns us. We ponder on what happens and we identify with others in pain. Sometimes our thoughts and our compassion lead us down paths of confusion and anxiety. Heal our past, be

with us in the present and let us trust you knowing that the future of all of your creation is in your hands, living and loving God. This we pray through Jesus in the power of your Holy Spirit. One God now and forever, **Amen**

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



Busyness and time out

You've probably noticed that I'm too busy. Probably you've been praying for me - I'm sure you include new volunteers and paid staff to help. That kind of help certainly would make a huge difference.

I'm sorry I've allowed myself to get too busy. Most of it is because I am not good at saying 'no' and have an over-optimistic view of how much time I have and what I can achieve.

Right now, I am prayerfully considering what I should and shouldn't be doing. Specifically I am asking God what he wants me to do, of all the good things I can be involved in. Today, I said "no" to something that I would have loved to have done. But I think someone else can do it better and they might even want to do it.

Last weekend, was the Diocesan Camp. For me it was a mixture of work and time out. A very small group from our church came and found it very helpful. Here are Nikki Pritchard's comments:

"Convergence Camp 2016...for me two main Things: a very cool time of resting in God and spiritual refreshment and great catching up with lots of people. Speaker highlights were Bishop Richard's talks. He made 'Covenant and Kingdom' a walking reality for us, helping us connect with God each session. Children of every age were catered for not only with

fun, games and laughter but also in prayer and worship times. My only regret would be that more of my friends and family didn't come to enjoy it as much as I did!"

We all need to take time out for refreshment. It is during those times we hear God's voice and get a clearer sense of direction. While I was there I asked for prayer. Someone I respect prayed for me – it was a real blessing. I'm currently pondering the content of her prayer especially in the light of goal and priority setting for this year.

God has great things for us as a church this year. Of this I am absolutely certain. I read an email today to hear of an unexpected \$50,000 in our bank account towards the new building. Hoping and praying for an October start.

There are many such examples of God's amazing goodness and love. I'm praying that I will work smarter this year – being less busy and more effective – and taking regular time out. That's a faith statement because I can't actually see it yet. But it will happen. God is at work in all of us.

"And I am sure that God who began the good work within you will keep right on helping you grow in his grace until his task within you is finally finished on that day when Jesus Christ returns. "
- *Philippians 1:6*

Learning to live together in love

Susan

Short Term Mission Trip - Westport 4 – 6 March. Plans for our Westport Mission Trip are coming together. So far we have ten people coming to Westport. \$250 has been donated towards paint for our Saturday job of painting the church at Granity and for food. We would love to have some baking to take with us. The programme so far looks like this - Leave here after lunch or after work on Friday / Friday night do a prayer walk of the town / Saturday painting at Granity / Saturday night – we lead some kind of evening separately for the blokes and women / Sunday – others do readings, a children's talk and pray for folk and Susan preaches / Leave after lunch on Sunday. Accommodation has been worked out now that numbers have been finalised. Your support in praying for those going and those we spend time with on the trip is appreciated.

Lenten Studies - (Week 4 of 6). Studies continue this week. 10.00am Thursday 3 March (Parish Lounge) and 7:30pm (Church)

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.



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
/ Younger youth (Yr 7 to Yr 11) in Youth Room in the hall.

Prayers for the Week

God's World: We pray for the people of Christchurch this week, whether they still live there or not. We thank you for some of the positive stories we've heard of healing and growth. We do pray for healing of the past for those who struggle. Especially we pray for the government agencies and NGOs; that they'd have the resources to carry out the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual work that is ongoing. We also ask that you'd be with all people across your globe who are persecuted for any reason whatsoever.

Fiji and Tonga - We ask for your support in the efforts to provide disaster relief to our brothers and sisters in the Pacific who have been affected be with them in the midst of this disaster. Please provide the comfort and strength they need both now and in the future.

Mission Partners: Thank you Loving God, for the time that Féy Cotter can spend in Wellington supporting her daughter and husband. We especially ask for your protection for daughter Emily as she prepares for her imminent childbirth. We ask also that you be with Murray as he continues to disciple and support various church members in Albania.

Diocese: We remember Allan and Joy Wasley as they oversee the huge parish of Wakefield /Murchison and now Tapawera as well. Thanks so much for bringing Yvonne Smyth to their parish to help with the load. We pray for their youth group and community lunch along with their other ministries. Please provide the stamina they need for the long haul and bless them richly in every way.

Local Community: We thank you for Father Seph who has recently arrived to lead Our Lady of Perpetual Help here in Richmond along with the Motueka Parish. We thank you also for their new pastoral worker and ask that you help them both forge close bonds as they focus on your will for their parish. May they work together in unity as they seek your mission for them.

Our Parish: Thank you for the fun way we had at Messy Church to get across the message of your amazing love. Thank you that you are providing youth leaders for us. Please help us as we figure out a program that will lead the young people closer to you and let us have lots of fun along the way. Thanks also for the ten or so people who have volunteered to go to Westport. We pray that you'll help us in the planning and preparation and to bring encouragement and practical help. May we all see you in the midst of this and praise you as a result.

Those in need within our own church family: Gracious God we continue to pray for: George and Bev, Carole Burke, Ellie, John Barnes, Jane, Laurence and others we know. May your grace, mercy and peace also be with the residents and staff of rest homes and hospitals within our parish. We offer you sincere thanks for all You have done in and through us as a people. May we each grow more and more into your likeness.

This Week...

Monday 29 February

9.00am Church open for Prayer until 2.00pm
10.00am Friends 'n Fun
7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 1 March

10.00am Weekly group (M. Silke)
10.30am Fortnightly group (J. Payne)
11.45am Lunch on the Hill

Wednesday 2 March

10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B. Page)
10.00am Wednesday Service
7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S. Frengley)

Thursday 3 March

12.00pm Weekly Study group (WWilkinson, J Lines)
10.00am Friends 'n Fun
10.00am Lenten Study - Lounge (S Gill)
7.30pm Lenten Study - Church (S Gill)

7.30pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

Friday 4 March - Sunday 6 March

Mission trip to Buller

Sunday 6 March

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion

**Morning Tea between services in the Hall*

Coming up...

Saturday 19 March

Autumn Fair

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

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 14 February Holy Communion

Sunday 28 February 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 6 March *Thank you for serving us all!*

Leader: 9.00am J McConachie

10.30am J Palmer

Reader: 9.00am A Heslop V Matthews

10.30am TBC

Sidespeople: 9.00am B Page

10.30am T Mangelsdorf

Welcomer: 9.00am G Thomas

10.30am TBC

Tea: M Gibson, S Stephens

Chalice: 9.00am S Frengley, S Paine

10.30am S Stephens, C Ward
M Robinson

Flowers: A Heslop

Crèche: TBC

Theme for Next Sunday: Welcome Home

Readings for Next Sunday: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32, 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

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 Pastor	Vacant	544 6495	Budget Advice	Anne Askin	544 8901

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Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday
1.00pm - 5.30pm