



Church on the Hill

Sunday 27 November 2016



Theme: Wonderful Counsellor
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Jean Palmer
Readings: Isaiah 2:1 – 5, Revelation 21:1-7, 22-27

Sentence:

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

- Isaiah 9:6

Prayer for the day:

Gracious Lord, we thank you for your promises and for coming to earth as our Wonderful Counsellor. As we begin our Advent journey, help us to know the abiding hope that comes

from knowing that you will keep your promises to us. May we radiate that hope in everything we say and do. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



Greening our leadership

Our young people are a tremendous gift; full of enthusiasm and energy they bring new life and courage and hope to us all. On the inside noticeboard is the latest 24-7 Youthwork report. In case you don't all know it, Antonio Sardella from our church is one of those youth workers.

Here is a comment from him on one aspect of the youthwork:

This term I started teaching guitar to a student. He had never played the guitar before but had always loved it and wanted to learn how to play. Every Monday, Tuesday and sometimes Friday, I would go into his music class and teach him basic knowledge and different chords. Our goal was to get him playing a song by the end of the term. So, I started teaching him *Knocking on Heaven's Door*, by Bob Dylan. He didn't own a guitar at home, so his only practice time was with me during the lessons. He was so enthusiastic and determined that he would play the same thing over and over until he got it. By the end of the term, he did. He can now play the chords to *Knocking on Heaven's Door*. I'll never forget the smile on his face, when he played it for the first time. I'm just glad I got to be a part of it. – Antonio

It is so important that we appreciate our young people and give them opportunities for ministry and growth. It is vital we encourage their efforts knowing they will be our leaders before very long.

At Vestry we have been talking about encouraging new members for Vestry and Synod

Reps. Vestry is our Vision Team. They are tasked with the big picture stuff and with supporting the Management Team and staff. (The Management team consists of myself as Vicar, Marie Tilley who is Vicar's Warden and Dave Pritchard who is Peoples' Warden. Each of us has an automatic appointment to Vestry.) Vestry members are elected every year as is the Peoples' Warden. The Vicar's Warden is appointed by the Vicar.

Synod Reps represent our parish (Holy Trinity and St Alban's) at Synod. (Synod is the AGM of our Diocese.) They also sit on Vestry. This latter role is not compulsory but I am not sure how our parish could be represented well without a really clear understanding of our parish vision, business and people. Synod reps are elected every three years. An election falls due in 2017.

Our current Vestry and Synod reps do a great job and I am grateful for each one of them. They join me in the desire to see new people in either or both roles. We recognise that we always need new ideas and a fresh perspective. This often comes with younger people and it also comes with people who are newer to our church. We are looking for people who want us to grow and reach out as a church recognising that a broad range of perspectives and ages is helpful. It would be wonderful if some younger people would like to be part of this.

We have our AGM around April next year. Please begin to pray about who the Lord is calling to the vital roles of Vestry and Synod. Maybe it is you? For further information about what this involves talk to Susan, either of the Wardens (Dave and Marie) or any Vestry member.

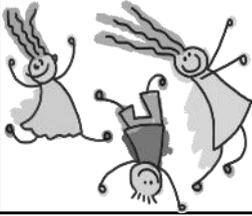
Learning in love,

Susan

Tea and Talk - 10.00am -11.30am Wednesday 30 November in the Richmond Seniors rooms, adjacent to the Age Concern Offices, Oxford Street. The cost is \$3.00 to cover morning tea. Park at the church if it is easier!

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. Coffee and prayer. All welcome. Feel free to come and go.

Decorating the church for Christmas - We are going to put up the hangings, arrange the crib scene, decorate the ends of the pews, put the garland round the door, decorate the tree and hang the stars. If you can help with this please come on Wednesday 30 November from 1.00 pm. Shiona Frengley.



= KIDS' CHURCH CALENDAR =

Today Sunday 27 November - Christmas Carol Practice, make decorations

Next Sunday 4 December - Christmas Party

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 - Our hearts go out to those civilians who are trapped in Aleppo and Mosul, open up the ways for them to safely leave and to receive the food and water they need for life. Grant a change in the hearts of those on all sides of the conflict to put compassion before military gain. We thank you for Archbishop Welby's courageous recent visit to Pakistan where he ignored the advice of his own Foreign Office and of the British High Commission and chose to meet with the persecuted church. May the church in Pakistan be encouraged and strengthened by his visit to stand firm in Your all sufficient grace. We pray for South Sudan which United Nations has warned is at risk of outright ethnic war, and of genocide being committed. May Your gospel triumph over ethnic differences, bless Your church and help it to be a great force for good in that nation.

New Zealand - We especially remember today all those who have suffered loss of homes and livelihoods in the recent earthquakes, particularly those in Kaikoura and Seddon and Ward. Bless the efforts of all who seek to bring help, comfort, housing and to restore communications and services to those badly affected. Give wisdom to central and local government as they plan major repair works.

Mission Partners - We pray for Murray and Féy Cotter in Albania. We thank You for the recent group of Albanians that were invited to Athens with Féy and pray that this would have been a fruitful time for all. Help them to see how they can foster these cross-country links so that they can learn from one another, especially in how they minister to the refugees.

Diocese - We thank You for Bishop Richard and Hilary and their passion for You. Strengthen them in all their work for You but help them to see clearly Your priorities for their lives; they are so generous with their time, help them not to over stretch themselves. Give them insight and wisdom as they guide and pastor the clergy in this Diocese.

Local community - We pray today for Hope Community Church and Donald and May Irvine and their team. We thank You for their commitment to God's Word and pray that the truth of Your gospel might penetrate all aspects of their life together. Bless their inter-generational family and may they all continue to receive the transforming power of Your Spirit of love.

Our Parish - We thank you for the enthusiasm of the new Building Group as they prepare the latest iteration of the building plans. Guide and overrule in all their thoughts and discussions that we and they might see what Your plans and agenda are for this new building and for the activities You want us to be developing. Guide Susan, the Wardens and the Vestry as they seek to lead this church, give them unity and Your vision, especially in how this church can be a beacon of light at this time of the year.

Those in need within our own church family - Please be with Rob Blackbeard and family as they mourn the loss of Ingrid. We pray also for Carole Burke, Ellie, John Barnes, Laurie D'Eganneh, Pam Butler, Val Jordan, Eric Gafa, Christopher and Sonja and others we know. May Your peace, healing and comfort surround them, and grant them the abiding sense of Your presence with them. We also pray for the staff and residents of the rest homes and retirement villages in our area.

This Week...

Monday 28 November

7.00pm Men's forum (J Klootwyk)
7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 22 November

10.00am Fortnightly group (M. Silke)
10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B. Page)
10.30am Fortnightly group (J. Payne)
7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S. Frengley)

Wednesday 23 November

10.00am Senior's Tea & Talk (Age Concern)
10.00am Wednesday Service

Thursday 24 November

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

Sunday 4 December

8.45am Holy Communion
10.45am Praise on the Hill
7.00pm Taizé - Advent Reflective

Coming up...

Sunday 11 December

7.00pm Evening Carol service with Richmond School Choir and Youth Band

Sunday 18 December

4.00pm Messy Christmas

Saturday 24 December (Christmas Eve)

11.30pm Communion and Carols

Sunday 25 December (Christmas Day)

8.00am and 9:30am Christmas Day Services.

Friday 17 February - Sunday 19 February 2017

Convergence Camp - Bethany Park Kaiteriteri

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

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 27 November

Sunday 11 December

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 4 December *Thank you for serving us all!*

Leader:	8.45am I Price	10.45am S Gill
Reader:	8.45am A Heslop, V Matthews	10.45am M Martin
Sidespeople:	8.45am B Page	10.45am T Mangelsdorf
Welcomer:	8.45am J Lines	10.45am TBC
Tea:	E Erskine, G Thomas	
Chalice:	8.45am B Payne, E Erskine	10.45am V McNaughton, H Thomson, E/D Stanger
Flowers:	M Evans	Creche: M Brosnahan

Theme for Next Sunday: Mighty God

Readings for Next Sunday: Isaiah 11:1 - 10, John 1:19 - 27

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