



Church on the Hill

Sunday 30 November 2014



Theme: Keep Watch
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Owen Haring
Readings: Isaiah 64:1-9, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

Sentence:

Keep watch. Be on the lookout. You don't know when the time will come.

- Mark 13:33

Prayer for the day:

Come, O come Emmanuel,
you are the way, the truth and the life;
Come, living Saviour,

Come to your world which waits for you.
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.
Amen.

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



you?

- Someone warm and comforting and good to hold
- Someone alongside to guide and bring clarity
- Someone to challenge you into action
- Someone to bring justice into an unfair situation
- Someone who loves you even while knowing the worst about you
- Someone who is powerful enough to bring about change
- Someone to heal and ease your pain
- Someone to point you to the awesome majesty and mystery of God
- Someone to bring forgiveness and grace
- Someone who is praying for you now at the right hand of God

Advent anticipation

Life keeps on coming doesn't it? As I write this, I have just learned of John McNaughton's death and Joan Lees – also with her loving heavenly Father. As we draw nearer to Christmas, there are others who we will miss especially at this time of year.

Life is such a precious gift from God isn't it? None of us knows how long we have on this earth. There is a lot of debate about how much Jesus knew about his future when he walked among us. Whatever the answer is to that, he certainly made the most of the life he had. He lived abundantly.

Jesus came to us in his humanity, as one of us. The Message version of the Bible says he "moved into the neighbourhood". I love that translation.

This first Sunday of Advent, our theme is Keep Watch. I wonder what we are watching for this Advent. What do you most need from Jesus this season? How do you need him to come to

So amazing! Jesus is all of this and more – Emmanuel, God with us, through all the ups and downs of life. Let's find time together and alone to anticipate the coming of the Christ. O come, O come Emmanuel

Much Love

Susan

Morning Prayer in Church - Every Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00am - 9:15am. Based on NZ Prayer Book. Come to one, any or all. *A great way to start the day.*

Christmas Parade - Today, starting at noon. Helpers still needed to join us handing out balloons to children along the way. Please see Kay.

Carol Singing around the parish - We will be having our carol-singing night at 7.00pm on Tuesday 16 December this year. If you know anyone that you think would appreciate a visit from us could you let Jan South know - Phone 544 8413. If you are free and would like to join us as a musician or a singer please put your name on the list at the back of the church. We also like to take with us some little packs of biscuits and a posy of flowers, so please put your name down if you could help with those as well.

Lunch on the Hill – 11.30am this Tuesday 2 December. Also 16 December but not 6 January. Back to normal from 20 January.

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. However, my memory does fail me sometimes so if your tickets are not there please leave a written reminder for me so I can allot yours before they run out. Thanks, Kay.

Lessons and Carols Service

7.00pm Sunday 7 December

Church on the Hill

Holy Trinity Choir

With Special Guests

Richmond Primary

School Choir



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.

Bible Reading Record – Copies are available at the back of the Church. A helpful guide for your Bible reading.

Prayers for the Week

Our World: We pray for the injustices people face throughout the world - some we see on TV, most we don't. We pray for peace-makers and those fighting for the voiceless and powerless. We pray for the surge in radicalism and the violence it encourages. Help us all to fight for love and peace.

Our Nation: We pray for the social services, education and health services. Help us to be a caring and wise nation in the use of our resources. Help us all not to be selfish or uncaring. Help us to create a positive and healthy nation.

Our Mission Partners: We continue to pray for the Sussex family and their work and ministry in Cambodia. We give thanks for the support they have from the people there and at home. And we ask that the Christmas season will be a good time for the whole family.

Our Diocese: We pray for the Kaikoura parish. We pray for their discussions with St Paul's Presbyterian and having closer relationship with them. We pray for their ministry in the community and give thanks for the faithful people.

Our Local Area: We pray for Annesbrook Church and the events they have planned over summer. We also pray for the Santa Parade knowing that many people don't celebrate Christ at all. Help us to sow seeds of Christ's love into their lives at this event.

Our Church: We pray for Lunch on the Hill; especially all the volunteers. We pray for Valerie and her family as John is with his Lord and for the extended Lees and Eyles family as Joan is also with the Lord. Give them comfort and peace through this difficult time.

Those in Special Need: Franz, 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 them.

This Week...

Monday 1 December

9.00am Church Open for Prayer
7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S. Frengley)
7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 2 December

9.00am Prayer
10.00am Fortnightly group (J. Payne)
10.00am Weekly group (M. Silke)
11.30am Lunch on the Hill

Wednesday 3 December

7.30am Prayer
10.00am Fortnightly women's group (N. Thomas)
10.00am Wednesday Service

Thursday 4 December

9.00am Prayer
9.30am Friends 'n Fun
12.00pm Weekly Study group (WWilkinson, J Lines)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)

7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

Friday 5 December

9.00am Prayer

Sunday 7 December

9.00am Holy Communion*
10.30am Holy Communion*
7.00pm Nine Lessons and Carols Service

**Morning Tea between services in the Hall*

Coming up...

Tuesday 16 December

7.00pm Carol Singing around the Parish

*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 7 December *Thank you for serving us all!*

Leader:	9.00am J South	10.30am J Palmer
Sidespeople:	9.00am B Page	10.30am T Mangelsdorf
Welcomer:	9.00am J Lines	10.30am L Blackmore
Tea:	P Cotton, A Webb	
Chalice:	9.00am B Payne, E Erskine	10.30am V McNaughton, C Robinson, H Thomson
Flowers:	N Thomas	Brass: M Evans

Readings for Next Sunday: Isaiah 40:1 – 11, Mark 1:1 - 8

Theme for Next Sunday: Prepare a Road for the Lord

Parish Contacts		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

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Office Hours

Monday 8.30am - 6.00pm

Tuesday 1.00pm - 6.00pm

Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm