



Church on the Hill

Sunday 4 March 2018



Theme: Foolish Wisdom
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Susan Gill
Readings: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, John 2:13-22

Sentence:

Jesus said "Get these things out of here. Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace!"

- *John 2:16*

Prayer for the day:

God of our ancestors, you guide us with your grace, you welcome our worship on the mountain, in the temple; wherever we are we worship you. Draw us deeper into you so that we will reflect your love and faithfulness

and serve your kingdom with holiness. Through Jesus Christ Our Redeemer, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



Lenten week and the journey continues

Yesterday I read a facebook post from a friend who is undertaking a new venture. She wrote something to the effect of: "Today I started ...what was I thinking? This is way beyond me. Bit intimidated by everyone in class. Older, wiser, more experienced and younger, brighter, on to it, with much more going on in their lives. I'm an idiot."

My friend is very far from an idiot. She is intelligent and funny and capable ... she can do this.

Her post got me thinking about how often we feel called to do something so we courageously push forward. Together with God we open the doors, making everything happen that enables us to get started. And then we begin and it's like "I can't do this! Oh help!" (feel free to substitute something stronger for 'help')

And the thing is; we are right. We can't do it ...on our own, anyway.

It seems to me what often happens is this:

- God's call to go or do or be something
- Denial – I couldn't possibly
- Acceptance of the call
- Pushing forward to make it happen
- Doubt and fear come in. What was I thinking?

Of course it's nowhere near as linear as this but you get the idea. And at this point we either cave in or stick with our decision.

Confession: this is not just my friend's process. It's also mine. And I haven't even left yet and still I find myself missing the ones I love. I can walk – no worries. But do I have the

emotional and spiritual stamina to keep on walking? Day after day? For nearly 800 kilometres?

And the answer is "No. No I don't." And the answer is "Yes. Yes I do. In Christ I do."

Of course there will be times when I am sure I've made the stupidest decision ever. There are times like this for all of us.

And yet, this is often when the Alongside One's loving presence becomes tangible. And our fear and doubt fades into the background, at least a little bit.

Quotes I've found helpful:

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.
- 2 Timothy 1:7

"You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it."
- Maya Angelou

There's no need to fear for I'm your God.
I'll give you strength. I'll help you.
I'll hold you steady, keep a firm grip on you.
- Isaiah 41:10 (Message)

Something else helps; it's the saints and supporters who cheer me on. Big thanks to you all.

Who are the ones who are cheering, praying, supporting, you? Remember them too.

The journey of Lent; the journey towards Christ continues

Learning together in love,

Susan

Stones - We will be starting on our new building soon and we want to give everyone a last opportunity to put your children and grand children's name on a stone, which will be buried in the foundation of the new hall. A gold coin donation will be appreciated for each stone to go to the building fund. - Kai Kruse & Jacob Klootwyk.

Food Course - *Food Food Food*. Don't We Love It! Come to our free three week course and learn how to: Cook on a tight budget / See how far you can make a kg of mince go / Cook meatless meals that are tasty. There's room for 6 people to attend these mornings (first in, first served). A fun time guaranteed while you learn some basic cooking skills, new recipes. Salvation Army Rooms on Oxford Street, Richmond starting @ 9:30am through to a shared lunch (eat what you cook) on Wednesday, March 14, 21 & 28 + April 4 & 11. Register by email to theway7020@gmail.com indicating if you have any allergies like dairy or gluten intolerance. Child supervision provided.

End of Life Choice Bill - The submission deadline to the Justice Select Committee has been extended to March 6, so please do make a submission if you haven't already. Here is the link to do so. https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/52SCJU_SCF_BILL_74307/end-of-life-choice-bill

Ticking the Boxes Seminar - First Aid For Seniors. The first seminar for 2018 is at 12.00noon on Wednesday 21 March at St Barnabas Stoke. Details on the church noticeboard.



Prayers for the Week

The World - Lord God of the nations, hear our prayer for the people of South Sudan, who have suffered through the longest civil war in the 20th century. Once again they are displaced due to the ongoing violence. We pray for all those involved in aid work; enable them to bring help and comfort to all vulnerable people. Bring about a change of heart within the political leadership of that young country and also in Syria where political and personal ends know no bounds in human misery.

Mission – We pray this week for Murray and Féy Cotter in Albania. Give them wisdom as they work with the Church Leaders group, as they begin to take over more responsibility for the church while the Pastor steps aside to focus on other initiatives.

Diocese - We pray for the Nativity Church, Blenheim and Bob and Libby Barnes and their team. Help the team to adjust to the departure of Susan Howarth and readjust their responsibilities and to manage changes to their worship and family ministries. We also pray for progress in determining the future of their buildings in the light of earthquake strengthening.

Bless and encourage Susan and Graeme Howarth as Susan is made Vicar of Havelock and the Sounds this afternoon.

We ask for a positive outcome regarding Motion 29 at our Diocesan Synod on 10 March. We know that there are strong feelings on this issue, may there be a spirit of grace and respect shown towards one another, as we seek to understand Your heart and purpose for Your church.

Community – We pray for the work of Waimea Methodist church with Martin Oh. Give them Your direction for the care of the flock and their wider influence and ministry within the community. We pray for help to come to those who have suffered damage and loss in the recent storms. Give wisdom to local councils as they seek to learn from these storms and prepare for future unfavourable events.

Our Parish - We give thanks for our children and young people, asking for your provision for the youth to go to Easter camp. Bless and encourage the work of Lunch on the Hill, especially as they get used to their new, temporary location at the Salvation Army. Continue to guard and bring to wholeness: Gwen Thomas, Margaret Silke and others known to us. Pour out your blessing on the rest homes and hospital staff and residents in our parish.

This Week...

Monday 5 March

9.00am Church open for Prayer
7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 6 March

10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B Page)
10.00am Tuesday Bible Study Group (E Erskine)
11.30am Lunch on the Hill
7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S Frengley)
7.30pm Lenten Study in Church

Wednesday 7 March

10.00am Wednesday Service

Thursday 8 March

12.00pm Weekly Study group (W Wilkinson, J Lines)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (J Palmer)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (N Pritchard)

Sunday 11 March

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Praise on the Hill
12.00pm Bon Voyage picnic after Church

Coming up...

Tuesday 6,13,20,27 March

7.30pm Lenten Study in Church

Tuesday 20 March

11.30am Lunch on the Hill at Salvation Army Hall
57 Oxford Street

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

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 11 March Holy Communion
Sunday 25 March Morning Worship

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

Roster for 11 March - Thank you for serving us all!

Leader:	9.00am	J Sardella	10.30am	F Summerfield
Reader:	9.00am	A Hodges, D Day	10.30am	E Stanger, M Tilley
Sidesperson	9.00am	W Wilkinson	10.30am	M Tilley, E/D Stanger
Welcomer:	9.00am	B Page	10.30am	M Martin
Chalice:	9.00am	G Thomas, W Wilkinson	10.30am	N/A
Tea:		M Mercer, S Paine		
Flowers:		N/A	Creche:	TBA

Theme for Next Sunday: Appreciating the Simple Things
Readings for Next Sunday: Deuteronomy 16:10 – 17, Luke 12:22-30

Parish Contacts

Vicar	Susan Gill	544 8827	People's Warden	Dave Pritchard	544 7540
Priest Assistant	Jean Palmer	544 4275	Youth Leader	Joshua Allan-Johns	027 711 6800
Senior's Ministry	Yvonne Smyth	542 3957	Friends 'n Fun	Carol Sardella	544 9237
Vicar's Warden	Karl Summerfield	03 980 4809	Administrator	David Cowdrey	027 499 8684

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

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
10.00am - 5.30pm

Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm