

Anglican Church Torbay

St. Mary by the Sea

18th February 2018

Sunday Groups and Activities for Children

Children **under 5 years** are most welcome to use the crèche facility by the Church foyer. A reminder that the Crèche is to be used with adult supervision. Please ensure that the room is left tidy and toys put away in the boxes before you leave so that others can also enjoy this facility.

Sunday Sea Star For school aged children.

Children meet in the hall from 9:50am and return to the church for communion For more details contact Beverley on 021 2921011

We would love to have some more children join

Anglican Easter Camp:-Willow Park, Eastern Beach. Early Bird registrations by 5th March See notice board for more details.



Mainly Music is back for 1 2018. starting. Every term time Friday from 9.30am in the Church. If you know of a family with pre-schoolers let them know about this activity.

The Food Bank is open for donations.

Please donate any in date, long life food items you can by leaving them in the basket provided. Your contributions can ease the burden on a less well off individual or family at this time. Thank you to everyone who donates to this cause. Small donations collected together can make a huge difference in peoples lives.



The Op- Shop is now opening The shop is open every Saturday 9am until noon. If you would like to volunteer to help out in the shop or for more information please contact

Jenny Cheer 444 1221 or Susan Haslam on 415 0073

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www.stmary.co.nz

Find us on 

You can receive this weekly bulletin in colour by e-mail. Contact office@stmary.co.nz to request yours.

We now head into lent. This is a 6 week period where we prepare for Easter. We mark lent in all kinds of ways. Some people give something up, be it a practice, or a food. As a faith community, we remove the altar frontal so that come Easter things look bright after the dulness of Lent. Another strange lent tradition is to have no flowers. And that's because our heritage is we are a church from the northern hemisphere, where at this time of the year flowers are hard to come by. So it was convenient to mark lent with no flowers, as there were none to be had. But come Easter, flowers were starting to bloom again. Our traditions are a little muddled at times. My encouragement over lent, is that whatever you give up, or take up, you do it willingly.

Pope Francis suggests the following as you Lenten discipline:

Fast from hurting words and say kind words. Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude. Fast from anger and be filled with patience. Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope. Fast

from worries and have trust in God. Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity. Fast from pressures and be prayerful. Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy. Fast from selfishness and be compassionate. Fast from grudges and be reconciled. Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

This sounds like great advice to me; not just for lent, but for life.

What do you think?

Dion

The desert waits, ready for those who come, who come obedient to the Spirit's leading; or who are driven, because they will not come any other way. The desert always waits, ready to let us know who we are - the place of self-discovery. And whilst we fear, and rightly, the loneliness and emptiness and harshness, we forget the angels whom we cannot see for our blindness, but who come when God decides that we need their help; when we are ready for what they can give us.

Passion for God, Compassion for People

Visitors

You are Welcome

If we can be of any help to you or you would like to know more about our church please do talk to the Welcome Team or the Service Leaders. Please join us for morning tea in the foyer after the service.

Communion offers the Chalice and individual glasses with wine or juice. Gluten free wafers are available.

Theme:- Lenten Fast

Bible Sentence:-The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news. **Mark 1:15**

Prayer:-God of Heaven and Earth, descend on us, we pray, in this season of Lent; strengthen us in the face of temptation so we may proclaim the Good News and reveal your kingdom. Through Jesus Christ Our Redeemer, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Bible Readings

Today

Genesis 9:8-17 (8 and 10 am)

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15

25th February 2018

Genesis 17:1-7,15-16

Romans 4:13-25

Mark 8:31-38

Sermon notes

What has God shown me?

What will I do in response?



Lent Calendar:- Back by popular demand, the Auckland Diocese will be running their 6 week Lent Calendar 'A Journey to Easter' exploring Matthew 6:1-21. This can be found at www.lent.nz from 9th Feb. Following on from this, when we arrive at Easter 'A Resurrection Journey' will be available to lead participants all the way to Pentecost.



Notices:-Happy Birthday to Annalie Blundell who is 8years old on the 19th February, to Naomi Stafford and Ted Ranyard who both celebrate their birthdays on the 20th and to Paige Waddingham who is turning 10 on the 22nd. Congratulations and many happy returns to you all.

re.cognition

STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION

Evenings 3-8 April 2018

Holy Trinity Cathedral, Parnell

Curated by: Sarah Park & Mark Pierson

Over seven nights, in the week after Easter, Holy Trinity Cathedral will host an interactive art installation called **re.cognition**. This will be a public event which invites visitors to engage in the Easter story..

Visitors will begin in the nave and journey across the entire cathedral site. Stations will engage different senses, pose questions for reflection and invite a deepening of faith. **re.cognition** is the result of a collaboration between Sarah Park and Mark Pierson. It's our hope that **re.cognition** will be a creative way to invite the public into our sacred story. **In order to make this happen, we need help from some volunteers.** Lots of volunteers! Young and old, mobile and not so mobile. There are lots of ways people could assist. We know there are lots of talented and willing Anglicans out there. Would you like to contribute to this good news?

Visit link: <https://goo.gl/forms/3UZyP677MUj93o3p2> for more information.

Anglican Missions Emergency Appeal:- Cyclone Gita.in Tonga

Anglican Missions has just launched an Emergency Appeal to support response and recovery efforts following Tropical Cyclone Gita which devastated Tonga 13th /14th February. A short summary has been sent through from Bishops Jim and Ross offices and is on the notice board for all to read.

Vestry Meeting 7:30pm Wednesday 21st.February.

AGM reports, A Note from the Office:- Vestry will be meeting this week and a date for the AGM will be set at this time. Please can I have all AGM reports by the 28th February so that I have time to collate them together. ..

Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:

We invite you to come along to REHEARSALS, on Tuesday, 27th February 10 o'clock Mairangi Bay Community Church, 49 Maxwellton Drive, Mairangi Bay. 7 pm St Francis Catholic Church, Finchley Road (off Carlisle Road), Browns Bay.