

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF

ST FRANCIS

96 PARK ROAD, CNR TITIRANGI BEACH RD APRIL 2015

“Behold, congenial Autumn comes”

A happy and a holy Easter to you all, on this first Sunday in the Easter season. We had some memorable events in the past few weeks as we moved through Lent and today is the climax.

Palm Sunday last week saw some fine hymn singing and a suitable procession round part of the church, altogether a fine celebration of this occasion.



Our Maundy Thursday Eucharist and foot washing used a communal seating round a family table, soft candle lighting, all combining to create a moving ceremony. Then the altar and surrounds were quietly stripped and made bare.

Good Friday's procession of witness from Glovers started with a dozen or so behind the large cross, but more and more gathered as we moved down to St Francis, turning it into a significant happening.

So there were about 45 at this reflective service, beautifully crafted under David Crawley's skilful guiding hand. It was a very effective collection of readings, poems and music, with appropriate images on the screen, an inspirational time together.

Today we begin our service with a deliberately gloomy environment. Then the lighting of the Pascal candle heralds a journey into light and a triumphant Easter hymn.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!



Diary notes

April

17-18 Indaba

May

8 Retreat

9 Mainly Craft

10 Ordination

Lenten Anglican mission appeal 2015

In the excitement of the Easter season don't overlook the Lenten mission envelopes at the back of the church.

Several very pertinent causes are featured, and you can chose all or some to receive your gift. But act now! John Hyatt will be sending them off this week.

Important gathering

On Friday 8th May there will be a Day of Retreat in preparation for David Crawley's ordination as deacon on Sunday 10th. You are most welcome to join the retreat to support David. It is at St Francis 9.30am to 3pm, facilitated by our Enabler Sarah Stevens.

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A special welcome to our visitors today

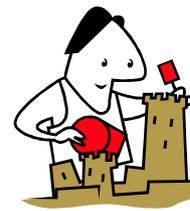
Diocesan Indaba plan seems to be bearing good fruit

Our Indaba visits continue pleasantly. After the initial very successful gathering of folk from our partners Onehunga and Torbay at St Francis in February, we had a similarly stimulating time at St Peter's, Onehunga last month.

We enjoyed touring the historic precinct and the lively social time afterwards. Not all of us were able to stay overnight, but we hear that the Sunday morning service and AGM were full of interest too

“Such diversity in your congregation, such history and such a well-designed church for your location right in the heart of Onehunga,” wrote Deborah

This month 15th-16th April we head to Torbay. It should be fun.



“...major

project

this

year “

News from Council and about town

The Council will meet on 22nd April to look forward to the year ahead. Already we have some willing and able folk – our hospitality managers and a chef - drawing up design ideas for a new kitchen.

This won't happen for a while, but we envisage it will be the major project for this year.

Stage area – almost finished!

We have purchased eight chairs, and fabric for new tablecloths.

Do you know of anyone willing to cut out the tablecloths for us? It should not involve a lot of sewing for three round tables and one long table. See Christine if you can help.

Margaret Strid writes:

Flower 'Ladies. Your team of helpers has been having a holiday over Lent but will be in action for Easter busy beautifying the church to aid in our worship.

If anyone in our congregation is interested in helping either to arrange or simply help provide flowers, please contact Margaret Strid, ph.817 1330, or email

marg.strid@xtra.co.nz

This is NOT gender specific - men are welcome!

Mostly Craft: The next session will be Saturday 9th May. See you there? Come and visit or help play with the kids, or make a cuppa and talk with the parents.

Doesn't **Kid's Korner** look great? It has been busy lately too.

St Francis AGM positive

Our AGM on Sunday 15th March was a positive event with heartening reports from all committees. Our enabler Sarah was in the chair. The minutes are available if you would like to read the details.

You'll be pleased to hear that we are in sound financial shape, with offerings up over \$1000 from the previous year. Acts of communion are increasing too.

More important than figures and statistics was the buoyant tone of all aspects of St Francis activity. We can look forward with optimism to the future. Our thanks to you all.

Harvest Festival at St Francis will be celebrated next week

It's rather a mixed report so far from the vineyards. Some say it's a bumper crop, others comment on the quality of the fruit.

The harvest is well underway. We're a little later this year in celebrating our own Harvest Festival, but let's see what produce we can, er, produce next Sunday.



Perishables of course are welcome: we take them to food bank people the next day. Packets, tins, and all kinds of foodstuffs also add to our festival.

You can bring them in Sunday morning if you like. We'll have baskets and other containers ready.

Or you can drop them off Saturday morning between 11am and 12 noon. Give Norman our administrator a ring.

Approach friends, family and neighbours too. All kinds of good are welcome.

Be assured that all gifts will find a ready and appreciative home.

Baptism at St Francis

What a pleasure to baptise baby Bronson Jacob Haslam on 22nd March

And lovely to welcome Mum Nerys, Bronson's brother and sisters and Godparents. Dad was unfortunately unwell.

Our thanks to Jennie and Neil for leading our Lenten studies. It was very much a cooperative effort, leading to some thoughtful participation from all members present.

*"...find
a
home..."*

Popular mini-markets on hold

After much discussion, it has been decided that we will run just two markets this year. The lack of helpers on market days has made too much work for too few people so we hope just the two markets, May and November, will attract helpers and buyers.

For the next market on May 31st, Pam welcomes your cast off treasures, and can provide ingredients if you would like to bake some goodies to sell.

If you need something picked up, see Pam, or give her a call on 817 6503.

And please put your name forward to help set up OR to sell on the day. Thank you!

Friendship Circle

At the last meeting we decided to sponsor a 'Gold Coin Collection' in aid of Vanuatu. Perhaps it could be to help provide water purification tablets, as our Lenten studies highlighted the importance of water. On Harvest Festival day, 12th April, there will be a small box on the table at the door if you would like to contribute something to the relief effort. Thank you.

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Worship Times:
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First Wed 10am(SMT)

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Readings for April:

Lectionary readings for April and early May. Note: these may change for special services like Harvest Festival.

During the season of Easter, the Lesson is taken from Acts and not from OT.

The liturgical colour for Eastertide is White.

Easter Day: Acts 10:34-43; 1 Cor 15:1-11; John 20:1-18

12th: Harvest Festival: Acts 2:14a,22-32; 1 John 1:1-2 :2; John 20:19-31

19th: Acts 3:12-19; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24: 36b-48

26th Acts 4:5-12; John 3:16-24; John 10: 11-18

May 3rd Acts 8:26-40; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

10th Ordination of David Crawley to the Diaconate.

News and notes from here and about

Interesting workshops:

There will be several Saturday workshops coming up, run by Sarah Stevens. Keep an eye out for these, as they will be enlightening, educational and helpful for all of us in our Local Shared Ministry Church.



Westie cluster moves off-shore:

Our next Westie Cluster meeting has a broad focus on Mission. It's on 23rd April at Waiheke.

Our Archdeacon Carole Hughes suggested the following four headings, which are the diocesan priorities :

- 1 youth and children
- 2 new ways of being church
- 3 empowering lay leadership
- 4 communication.

We hope to be there.

Titirangi Soldiers Memorial Church
The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Memorial Church, 116

Park Road on Friday 24th April at 7.30 pm . All parishioners are invited

ANZAC Day Titirangi

St Francis has been invited to provide the prayers for the local RSA ceremony, something of a breakthrough! We were delighted to accept.

"A Shortcut to Happiness"

Thank you for the enthusiastic support many of you gave to Lindsay's production at Titirangi Theatre. Some missed out because of full houses. Don't miss the next show "Heroes", which Christine is directing.

Websites:

As we noted last issue David Guthrie continues to add to his very interesting website david.guthrie.net.nz You'll find your visit rewarding.

While on the internet, check on the St Francis website too. And also the Auckland Diocese one.

Winter series:

We're about to get under way! Talk to Herman or Lindsay about suggested topics.

