

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF

ST FRANCIS

96 PARK ROAD, CNR TITIRANGI BEACH RD APRIL 2014

Welcome to all as we approach Easter!

Easter is traditionally a time of rebirth and renewal—it's spring in the Holy Lands. So it's a happy coincidence today as we near Easter that we celebrate the birth and baptism of Bob and Val's granddaughter, Alena McCartney-Aitken

It's a special pleasure to welcome her and her parents Marina and Philip, together with other family and friends. Do mix and mingle over refreshments after the service.

Nest week we have Palm Sunday with the distribution of palm

crosses and the ceremonial precession round the church. Thanks to Aris for preparing the crosses. You'll see inside for full details of our Easter services.

Next Sunday also we'll hear from Valerie and Freda about conclusions from our recent "Discovery" programme.

It's interesting to see how the Lenten Studies overlaps in its focus, exploring connections with our local community.

Warm thanks to all those leading these several enterprises.

Diary notes

13th Palm Sunday

17th 7pm
Maundy Thursday

18th 10am—noon
Good Friday

20th Easter

St Francis congregation hears good news

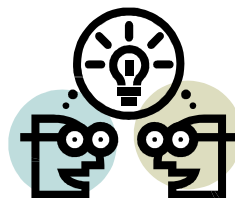
The 2014 AGM was a positive occasion, with buoyant reports from all committees and a healthy financial statement.

The following were elected to Council: Christine Nash, John Hyatt, Donna Glover, Norman Leach, Ian Mackley, Pam Dowd. Standing down were Hans van den Brink and Bob Aitken who were thanked for all their work.

The meeting heard how our porch and stage area upgrades have come a little closer! Resource consent has been obtained and we have put tenders out to builders.

There was discussion too about the winter start time: see inside.

At the first Council meeting: officers were re-elected: Christine Nash chair, John Hyatt treasurer, Donna Glover secretary. Hans was asked to continue as Fire Officer.



Evensong continues at St Francis on the second Sunday at 5pm. The Rev Chris will lead the next one on Sunday 13th April. We hear he's been practising!

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A special welcome to our visitors today

Past month has brought a variety of activities

Our mad March days this year were filled with excitement and enjoyment.

After pancakes on the Sunday as a preliminary run, we served up the same dish on Shrove Tuesday in the village, courtesy of Glovers Real estate who supplied the electricity.

It was interesting to meet up with people who remembered us from last year, and Valerie was very skilful in engaging passers-by in conversation.

Several patrons came back for more than one helping. Many seemed pleasantly surprised that this was free food supplied by St Francis.

Ash Wednesday saw our usual first Wednesday in the month Eucharist at Soldiers' Memorial Church and this included the imposition of ashes. Then that evening David led the special Ash Wednesday service.

We had a marvellous collection of goods for Harvest Festival on Sunday 23rd March. Letters had been sent to over a dozen local producers—wineries, plant shops, supermarkets and so on—inviting them to participate, but to no avail. We'll keep trying.

But we had a marvellous response from the Salvation Army and Waitakere Outreach to whom we distributed the produce we had gathered. Many thanks to you all: our Harvest Festival celebration is very worthwhile.

Mid—Week Eucharist

Wayne Brodeur presided at his first service for St Francis at the Soldiers' Memorial Eucharist last Wednesday morning.

Thank you, Wayne: we look forward to you guest presiding at our Sunday morning services.

**“...this
was
free
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Music continues to give added impact

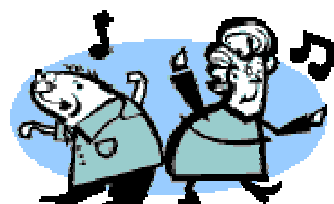
Music is an important part of our worship at St Francis, and warm thanks go to David for the leading role he has taken since the AGM last year accepted his generous offer.

At the suggestion of Chris we are setting up a music sub committee and David has decided to hand over to them full responsibility. At the moment he is very busy with the Chaplaincy at Waitakere Hospital, and other lines of ministry may also develop for him.

He will, however, continue to be available to preach and preside, and also to be involved in the evensong initiative.

The music committee at the moment is Chris, Freda, Eva and Wayne. They will meet this month to work on a music policy, and also discuss the choice of repertoire, both familiar and fresh.

It's a good time now to pay tribute to the impetus David has provided on the music front. It is good that there is enthusiasm in the parish to carry forward this initiative.



Something old, something new this Easter at St Francis

Make a note now of our Easter celebrations! We have some inspiring services planned.

On Maundy Thursday 17th April at 7pm in St Francis, our enabler the Rev Chris will lead a relaxed Eucharist which will include the washing of feet.

Our Good Friday service is something of an experiment. We're offering 2/3 of the traditional 3 hour service, that is, 2 hours from 10am to 12 noon.

You don't need to stay for the whole time—feel free to drop in

and then leave. There'll be a pattern of readings, prayers, brief homilies, the occasional sung chant, and times of reflective silence.

The exact content is still being shaped by Freda and Lindsay, with help from Chris. We hope it will be a valuable time for all participants.



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“Procession of Witness” in Titirangi

This is an event still very much in the planning stages. Some of you will remember similar gatherings in Auckland up Queen Street to the Town Hall back in the 1950s.

The idea is to gather in Titirangi at 9.30am, on Good Friday, and then process behind the cross down to St Francis Church. It's never been done before!

We need about 15 people to commit to this and sign up! You're not expected to say or do anything, just walk in silence. We will not process unless we have a reasonable number.

If you are interested, see Lindsay or Valerie Parker.

Worthwhile workshop for St Francis readers

After church on Sunday 9th March we achieved one of the goals set recently by the Worship Committee, a session on reading from the lectern.

There was a great turnout and some vigorous participation. All thought it extremely useful, and there were warm thanks to Lindsay for preparing and leading the tutorial.

So keep working on that consonant clarity!

Contact the editor
at: email
landcnash@pl.net
fax 817-1417
Ph 817-1419

Have your say about winter start time!

Next Sunday 13th April, we will have a quick consultation about the start time of winter services.

You'll remember last year we had a trial run of a 10am time during the winter months. At the AGM it

was agreed that Council would make the decision, but would consult with the congregation. If you cannot be there but would like to give an opinion, please email or phone Norman.

st.francis@actrix.co.nz 817-5016

Worship Times:
Sundays 9.30am
First Wed 10am(SMT)
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Readings for April:

6th Baptism: Isaiah 44: 1-5; 1 Corinthians 12: 3-13; Mark 10:13-16

13th Passion/Palm; Matthew 21:1-11 (beginning of service);
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2: 5-11; Mark 1 to 39 (end of service)

20th Easter Day: Acts 10:34-43; Colossians 3: 1-4; John 20: 1-18
Matthew 28:1-10

27th Acts 2:14a, 22-32; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

May 4th Acts 2:14a,36-41; 1 Peter 1:17-23

Funeral Resource brochure: A reminder that these are available, so you can fill them in for your next of kin. It's very useful resource.

Next Friendship Circle will be Wednesday 14th, May 10am - 12 noon at Moira and Herman Tecklenburg's, 74B Seabrook Ave. New Lynn.

Our 2014 Winter Series will start after Easter, probably Saturday 26th April, 3—5pm. Dylan Thomas in the focus.

News of various events here and about

Presentation to Bob:

On the 16th March 1941, a 14 year old Bob Aitken started serving at the high altar at All Saints' Dunedin. Except for short breaks he has continued to serve his God in the sanctuary at St Pauls', Symonds Street and then St Francis.

He has been Vicar's warden, served on Synod and on St Francis vestry, then Council for many years.

After the service on March 16th, Christine presented Bob with gifts from St Francis in gratitude and appreciation. The gifts were a hi-tech desk lamp and a large print bible. Well done!

Lenten Appeal—Anglican Missions

The Diocese is asking for a generous response to Anglican Missions' Lenten Appeal. There are three main projects to help.

The House of Sarah provides counselling services in Fiji, giving a warm hand and heart to many in desperate need of support.

A basic salary is needed for clergy in Gambella, Ethiopia, who minister to a large but poor congregation who cannot afford to pay the salary themselves.

St George's Church in Baghdad wishes to expand its existing kindergarten to offer classes for Primary schoolchildren.

Please take an envelope and return with your contribution to John Hyatt or any Council member on Easter Sunday or soon after, indicating which of the three projects you would like to support or if you would like your donation to be split equally.

Market:

Thank you to all the market day helpers. Unfortunately not so many people were around to buy (main Titirangi market also quieter). We took in approximately \$250.00

Welcomers:

The Pastoral team is looking at a roster for welcomers. Ian Mackley and John White are our regular sidespeople, and we would like a few more names to be on a welcome team. It's a good task for those new to the church to get to know people. If you'd like to help please phone Christine on 817 1419.

West LSM Cluster: We had very lively and interesting meeting at Pt Chev on 13th March. The next will be at Glen Eden on Monday 5th May, 7—9pm