

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF

# ST FRANCIS

96 PARK ROAD, CNR TITIRANGI BEACH RD JUNE 2017

## Pentecost is a very special day

“The Easter Adventure” (our headline in the April issue) reaches a climax today. Pentecost, the coming of the Spirit of God, the promised gift of Jesus, is the crowning glory of the Easter story, 50 days on from the resurrection. It is often seen as the birthday of the church.



Some years we’ve had some pretty impressive wind and sound effects. This year we take a more reflective approach, with special thanks to David who has shaped the liturgy.

### There’s lots happening at St Francis

The arrival of June means the shortest day 21st is not far off. Then it’s all downhill to summer? We wish!

Traditionally we hold a celebratory service as near to mid winter as possible. This year it will be a little later—see back page.

Also coming up is Disability Awareness Sunday. Eva Tolle-

Because it’s the first Sunday in an even month, the 6th, we’re integrating the usual healing time into the framework of the service. All will be explained as we move through the liturgy.

Many thanks to all those who helped prepare this service—you’ll note the flock of doves overhead.

*Winter has well and truly arrived! So it might be worth thinking about re-igniting our Winter Series, if not a series, at least an event or two.*

*One suggestion was a matching of wines to notable jazz artists, an interesting possibility!*

*If you have any ideas, see Herman or Lindsay*

mache will be speaking then, on a date yet to be confirmed.

Next Sunday 11th June is Trinity Sunday when our enabler Edward will preach on this significant topic, and the following Sunday is Te Pouhere Sunday when we celebrate our life as a three Tikanga Church.

There’s no time to hibernate.

### Diary notes

June

25 Birthday

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*A special welcome to our visitors today*

## Series of successful events mark passing of the seasons at St Francis

It's been a while since our last newsletter, so it's worthwhile taking a brief look back at what's been happening.

Easter was beautifully celebrated, starting with Maundy Thursday foot washing led by Edward and continuing with a moving Good Friday gathering.

The Service of the Light at day-break (or soon after!) on Easter Sunday was followed by breakfast together before a striking Easter celebration.

Our Harvest Festival again provided some bountiful produce to be distributed to the community, and Freda reports that the distribu-

tion of flower posies in the Titirangi village on Mothers' Day was the "best yet." We need to consider making even more next year.



David enjoyed performing his first baptism, a marvellous family celebration where the visitors stayed behind and pleasantly mingled over morning tea.

We are blessed to have such an active and creative team.

**“...an  
active  
team..”**

### A corner for Travellers' Tales

We had a marvellous 7 weeks away, but it's very good to be home. Thank you for your warm welcome.

Unfortunately Christine arrived home with a nasty dose of shingles, very painful. Treatment is progressing.

We had a wide range of experiences, including worship at three church services. All were in buildings constructed 800 to a thousand years ago, so it was moving to be part of a continuing tradition.

At Clacton on sea it was indeed tradition to the fore! The vicar clearly ran the show, and though we introduced ourselves to our neighbours in the pew and in the hall afterwards, nobody came up and chatted. Not a good advert for the C of E!

In the Peak District in Derby it was a different story. We had several

days in the plague village of Eyam, pronounced "eem," and were warmly welcomed at an all-age service in the parish church of St Lawrence.

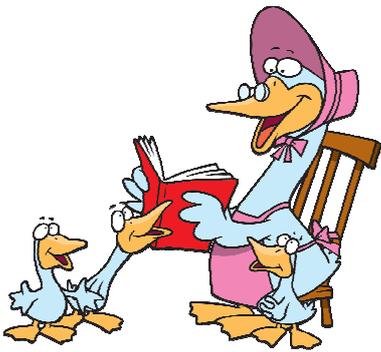
Even warmer was the welcome at Wangford, as our host Peter was a member of the choir. From the moment we stepped inside the historic church of St Peter and St Paul people approached us in cheerful greeting.

Afterwards people wanted to hear about our travels and also about our own church life. We couldn't help thinking how a shot of the LSM philosophy, the sharing of responsibility, would benefit all the congregations we met. It is refreshing to be back in familiar territory!



## “Winter Storytelling” at St Francis Saturday, 1st July at 1.30pm

C and F are alive and well, and planning for the future. In our March issue we noted how “Mostly Craft” had made a smooth transition to “Children and Family,” signalling a transition too in the style of programme they were presenting.



“Telling the Easter Story” back on Saturday 8th April went very well, providing encouraging feedback to the C and F committee when they met recently.

Several events for future months were sketched in at that meeting, and the first arrives on Saturday 1st July, “Winter Storytelling”, 1.30—3.30pm, here at St Francis. Spread the word among your young friends and relations. There’ll be interactive activity as well as refreshments, and all are welcome. See Margaret 817-1330 for further information.

Congratulations to this lively team!

*We are having a lunch for the Friendship Circle 10.30am on Tuesday, 13th June at St Francis. The guest speaker Margot is a missionary teacher in Northern Thailand who also helps at the Chiang Rai Home, a place for orphans rescued from difficult lives. Do come if you can, and bring a friend!*

**“...need  
for  
plant  
nursery..”**

## Putting our ideas into action as eco church

We’ve been mentioning for some time now how St Francis could consider becoming an eco friendly church. Susan Crozier spoke effectively about this on Earth day, our Harvest Festival. The council has been active in this consideration too.

At their recent meeting, the council welcomed Rhyll Stafford and Clair Hobi from the South Titi-rangi Neighbourhood Network

Rhyll gave an outline of their work, saying that it is a community led initiative in partnership with the Council aiming to eradicate invasive weeds that destroy our native bush, and also organise pest control. Clair spoke about the need for a plant nursery.

A role for St Francis was discussed. The STNN environmental group need space for their plant nursery. This will consist of two stacked frames that will hold the seedlings.



The Council members went outside and viewed the possible location for the frames and all agreed that the land adjacent to the garage would be suitable.

Susan will co-ordinate with the STNN group to get the nursery on site in June.

Contact the editor  
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**Worship Times:**  
**Sundays 9.30am**  
**3pm last Sunday**

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**Readings:**

June:

4th Pentecost Acts 2: 1-21; 1 Cor 12: 3b-13; John 20 19-23  
11th Trinity Gen 1: 1-2,4a; 2 Cor 13: 11-13; Matt 28: 16-20  
18th Te Pouhere Gen 18:1-15; Rom 5: 1-8; Matt 9: 35—10:8  
25th Gen 21: 8-21; Rom 6: 1b-11; Matt 10: 24-30

July

7th Gen 22: 1-14; Rom 6: 12-23; Mat5 10: 40-42

The next show at the Titirangi Theatre is Ibsen's "Ghosts", opening this Tuesday. Not a bundle of laughs like the Vicar of Dibley, but a classic of the theatre.



## Notes and news from here and abroad

### **Birthday!**

On Sunday 25th June Susan W is turning on morning tea to celebrate her birthday. Susan is one of our valued workers who beavers away behind the scenes, though dealing with some significant health problems. Our warmest thanks, Susan.

### **A retreat opportunity:**

You might remember Anne Priestly, vicar of Onehunga during the Indaba project when we hosted some of their young people.

She has now taken up a new assignment, as a warden at St Isaac's Retreat Centre set in the beautiful Hokianga, close to Opononi,

Retreats may be silent or based on conversation. St Isaac's is suitable for individuals, couples or small groups. Guests are accommodated in self-contained houses, which include a stocked kitchen. The Wardens provide lunch.

For accommodation and other enquiries, please contact the Wardens Anne Priestley and Oenone Woodhams: stisaacs.wardens@xtra.co.nz or 09 405 8834 197 Waitemarama Gorge Road, PO Box 93, Opononi 044 5

### **Friends overseas:**

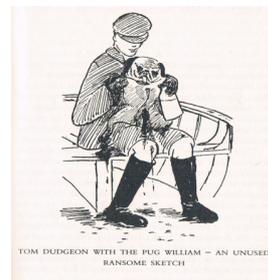
While in Suffolk we rang John and Elisabeth, at one stage frequent visi-

tors to NZ, part of our congregation, and participants in the worship. It was good to hear their voices, and they sent warm best wishes to St Francis. They love getting our newsletters but are unlikely to be visiting in the near future.

### **Seminar for Election Year:**

Sunday 18 June 2017, 3.00 pm, Bishop Selwyn Chapel

Bishop Richard Randerson has agreed to lead a public seminar which will help us clarify our thoughts prior to the upcoming national election. The seminar, on Sunday 18 June in the Bishop Selwyn Chapel at 3pm, has the eye-catching title of Trumpism, Brexit, Neoliberalism, the Gospel and the General Election.



### **Arthur Ransome fans:**

One of our special treats was a boat trip on the Norfolk Broads. Lindsay enjoyed berthing at the staith in Horning, pointing out where Tom Dudgeon lived. A real nostalgia trip.