

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF

ST FRANCIS

96 PARK ROAD, CNR TITIRANGI BEACH RD NOV 2015

Special quality to All Saints' Day

All Saints' Day is a time for us to remember and celebrate the lives of those exceptional people who have been special examples of the Christian way.

We note of course those who have been officially recognised by the as saints, our own St Francis in particular.

But it's also a time to reflect on the lives of those from our own congregation who have died, men and women whose lives in so many different ways gave light and life to our community.

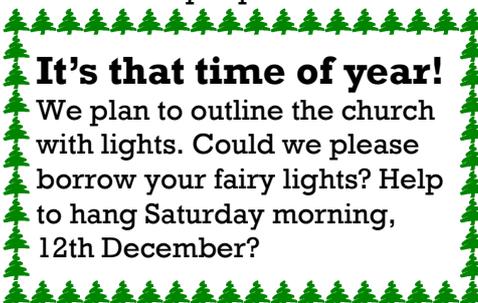
Our memorial list has today been placed on the altar. Please have a look if you wish.

30th October is another memorable feast day but one that often slips by unnoticed. It's "Holy Women of the New Testament."

Some names are very familiar: Mary the mother of Jesus, Elizabeth, Mary Magdalene, Mary and Martha of Bethany, for example.

But there are many others, some named, others we infer. Quite clearly in the early life of the church women played very important parts, easily overlooked. Husband and wife teams feature too, some apparently active Christians before Paul himself.

Take time to reflect on these memorable people.


It's that time of year!
 We plan to outline the church with lights. Could we please borrow your fairy lights? Help to hang Saturday morning, 12th December?

Diary notes

Nov

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Leap year 2016 rapidly approaches

Easter comes very early next year 2016, 27th March. That means Ash Wednesday is early too, 10th February.

So Pancake Day will be Tuesday 9th February. It's a happy chance that Clive and Sally (Sylvia Henderson's daughter) will be back in New Zealand at that time. You will remember Sally helping with pancakes both

here at St Francis and also in the village.

Other migrants may well be back in New Zealand soon too!

Friendship Circle, Tuesday 10th November, morning tea at St Francis, 10am. Bring a friend and a plate, if possible. We hope to have a good look at our new kitchen. Gold coin koha for Lovelink.

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A special welcome to our visitors today

Kitchen, lounge and pets all received blessings last month

Our Patronal Festival of St Francis on Sunday 4th October was a fine celebration. It was great to welcome members of the Bambury family as we officially blessed the Bambury lounge.



“...how

We also gave royal treatment to the refurbished kitchen, and remembered the special contribution of the Harts.

we

The following Sunday was another heart warming service, the Blessing of the Pets. The combination of animals, soft toys and photos, with Christine and Lindsay jointly presiding helped generate a warmly

can

help...”

Valerie reports on Discovery Group

The Discovery group have a planning meeting tomorrow Monday 2nd November at 10.30am, writes Freda. All are welcome to discuss the needs of the community and how we can help meet them.

Valerie reports: As an Outreach, Freda and I visited Laingholm Kindergarten at the kind invitation of Janice, from our congregation, who is Head Teacher there.

From a joyful powhiri by a large group of children, we were treated as special guests.

Tugged by the hand, four children proudly showed us their thriving vegetable garden, the variety of outdoor activities.

Inside we were impressed with decorations art and craftwork, the

welcoming atmosphere.

Later in the month a goodly gathering of singers, about a dozen, met at Eve’s to learn and practise hymns for the coming weeks. There’ll be a chance later for the congregation too to practice some unfamiliar tunes.

The planned cluster meeting on Creativity in Worship through Drama and Art” has been postponed till February. We’ll let you know the exact date later.

In February too we plan to have our annual Beach Service. Summer may well have arrived by then.

Wine tasting—oh dear! A series of events, including some ill-health, has meant we have yet to hold this popular gathering. The wine will continue to mature.

frequent use of instructions and songs in Maori, and the learning of hand sign language.

We also saw sustainable living in action: "litterless lunchboxes", recycling, use of a household compost bin, innovative learning projects.

There will be ongoing spin-off towards “Mostly Craft” in sharing ideas with Janice.

Are you able to spend some time in the kitchen? A good time to have a chat! See Moira or any of the team.



A glimpse at stimulating events and services at St Francis

“Ordinary time” is the title given to this current season of the church year. Nothing is ever very ordinary, however, at St Francis!

As we move through November, we are reminded of our progress towards Advent, a season that heralds the arrival of Jesus Christ.

It’s also a season that announces change, and we have a special Advent service on Sunday 29th November to mark this. Neil, Jenny and Lindsay are working on it.

The worship committee decided to explore change too in this year’s lessons and carols service. There will be readings from a wide variety of sources, once again with invited readers from the community.

It’s at 10am Sunday 13th December. We’ll have a selection of familiar carols; you’ll know the tunes! David is helping to plan this.

The day before, Saturday 12th, we have a special event “Telling the Christmas Story”. See elsewhere for news on this.

On Sunday 20th December in the sermon slot we have a special Christmas play, organized by Christine. See back page for special invitation.

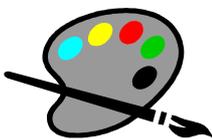
You might like to note the Christmas services too. 11.30am on Christmas Eve for our so called “Midnight service”, 9.30am on Christmas Day. Lots of carol singing at all these services.

**“..heralds
the
arrival...”**



“Mostly Craft” December plans

Mostly Craft will hold their last session of the year on Saturday, 14th November, Advent theme. Anyone interested in meeting some of our families do come and chat, or join the tea makers in the kitchen, or just enjoy the youngsters' creative efforts.



Then on the afternoon of Saturday 12th December we will be introducing a new outreach “Telling the Christmas Story”. This may involve similar activities to the Mostly Craft sessions, but we hope to reach out and involve others outside this group. More details next month

Hearts4kids in Suva

A big thank you to all who prayed for the Hearts4kids mission to Suva. 15 children were successfully operated on.

Many of these children would not have survived the next few months without having their heart defects repaired. All the team also stayed healthy and lasted the distance!

You can check out photos from last year's mission at www.hearts4kids.org.nz, and more from this mission on the Hearts4kids Facebook page. Thanks.

Ann Doran

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Readings for November:

All Saints Day. We especially remember our own parishioners who have gone before us. An In Memoriam scroll is on the altar.

1st: Psalm 24:1-6; Rev 21:1-6a; John 11:32-44.

8th Ruth 3:1-5:4:13-17; Psalm 127; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

15th: 1 Sam 1:4-20; Heb 10:11-14, 19-25; Mark 13:1-8

22nd 1 Sam 23:1-7; Os 132; Rev 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

29th **1st Sunday in Advent**

Jer 33:14-16; Ps: 25:1-10; 1 Thess 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

The above are the lectionary readings, Advent Sunday will be a special service so some readings may change.

December 6th: Baruch 5:1-9; Phil 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

Remember appropriate prayer is always available at the altar rails after the service.



Full programme of coming events

“Sowing the Seeds” Local Shared Ministry Conference, 27th to 29th November

This is an opportunity for all LSM units to get together, share ideas, and hear inspirational speakers.

Featured speakers are **Jacolize Becker**, “Engaging with the Younger Generations in our Communities”, **The Rev Jaycinthia Murphy** “Bicultural Celebrations: Maori Lens on Collaborative Ministry and **Bishop Jim White** “Adaptive Leadership”.

If you are interested in attending the weekend, subsidy may be available from your Parish Council. See Norman for a brochure and details.

Looking Ahead December 20th: “Away with the Manger” – a **short play**.

This will take the place of the sermon. Christine would love you to be involved. It’s thought provoking and fun. You can dress up (costumes available) and you will have NO lines to learn! Children are needed to be animals, angels, shepherds.

Please see Christine if you’d like to be in it, or be shoulder tapped! ph: 817 1419.

Adopt a Family for Christmas

This is an idea in progress, led by

Christine Nash and Helen Philip through Christian Love Link.

The idea is to identify four to five families in need in our parish (they will remain anonymous) The congregation will be asked to help put together a large Christmas hamper including gifts, toys, food for those families.

Please note: we have not had time to discuss this initiative with teams, so watch this space and listen for notices if it is agreed to go ahead.

City Mission:

As usual we will have a Christmas tree up in two weeks’ time. Gifts and non-perishable foods are welcome under the tree for the City Mission to be delivered the week of 7th December. (Gifts may be wrapped or not; if wrapped please note suitable age and gender)

Some future thoughts:

Making St Francis a venue for “Colouring in” gatherings.

Once a quarter: practice sessions with congregation to learn hymns.

Have a look at the Diocesan website and also the LSM website. Don’t overlook our own St Francis website!

