

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF

ST FRANCIS

96 PARK ROAD, CNR TITIRANGI BEACH RD SEPT 2015

“Spring the sweet spring is the year’s pleasant king”

Yes, it *is* spring, the calendar says so. Kowhai gold begins to dust the hillsides. But don’t store your winter woollies just yet.

Nevertheless our service today celebrates the joys of spring, and we do have much to celebrate.

This time last year we were reporting progress of the lounge space, now marvellously completed. This year it’s the kitchen under reconstruction, and it promises to be a fine addition to our facilities.

Again looking back to September 2014 we see in the newsletter a lovely picture of Canon Ron and Sidney Hart. At this time of rebirth and growth we reflect on

the lives of all those now departed this life and rejoice in all they contributed to our spiritual health. We miss them all.



Last week end we were in Queenstown examining for Speech New Zealand. While there we were able to visit Sal’s mother, a visit made memorable by the densely packed whitebait fritters she offered for lunch. Aren’t we blessed in our parishioners!

Lively quiz night keeps participants on toes

Our quiz night on Friday 14th August was an entertaining event with four teams competing, one from Glen Eden.



We’re pleased to report that local talent triumphed, just, a team led by David.

Warm thanks to our Quizmaster for the way he wittily kept things rolling, to David for capably organizing the show, and to all team members.

It’s something worth repeating, next time we hope with more visiting teams. We did send invitations to all our neighbouring parishes and LSMs, but for a variety of reasons, only St Andrews, Glen Eden were able to make it. Several indeed were completing their Indaba programmes, a reasonable excuse for absence.

Diary notes

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A special welcome to our visitors today

Striking line-up of banners is surprise to many not familiar with collection

We've had some very interesting talks about our St Francis banners. Many of us were unfamiliar with what a rich treasury we have, the results of Joan Williams's handiwork and Father Stephen's inspiration.



We are also thinking about temporary banners, works that spring from a particular occasion, which may be of ephemeral quality, not meant to last. Works produced by "Mostly Craft" may be examples of this.

Whatever eventuates will surely add to the vibrancy of our worship here at St Francis



**"...add
to
woship..."**

Ian has made a comprehensive photographic record and this is available for anyone who wishes to view them again: their recent display was a pleasant surprise for many.

One impetus to enlarge our store of banners is to explore different images, using the skills of our current parishioners. Some have shown interest in design, some in production.

Creativity in liturgy is not just a matter of words. Symbols and actions are similarly important, perhaps more so.

Change of date for Friendship Circle due to weather. We will now meet outside entrance of Eden Gardens, Omana Ave at 10.30am on Tuesday 8th September. \$6 - 8.00 entrance fee and morning tea available at cafe.

Phone Moira 827 1074 or Elaine 817.9555 or Margaret 817 1330 for transport.

Mostly Craft, Saturday 12th September 1—3pm

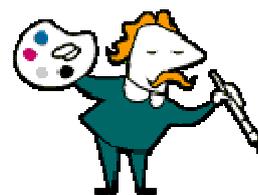
Margaret writes that we are still rather short handed as a number of people are away.

Do come and have a look, and you may be able to contribute in some way, helping to set up, making tea, chatting with the parents.

Share the date with any families you know who have children aged 5-12 who would like to do some active things in craft.

Our last gathering on 8th August had a splendid turnout of parents

and children, a special time for children and their families, all happening in our special place, St Francis!



Global warming and similar matters are a concern for us all

Today we will be hearing a report on the recently concluded Auckland Diocese Synod. If our expectations are realised, our synod reps Deborah and Judy will be commenting on the Bishops' charge, an important statement on their thinking on matters of moment.



We have already expressed in this St Francis newsletter our hope that the Anglican Church in New Zealand will follow the example of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the

Pope and speak out strongly on social issues.

Just think what a powerful voice a united coalition of Christian leaders would have. In our sermon slot today Freda and Eve have prepared some questions that are relevant to this topic.

We will collate your comments and see if a useful summary statement can be made. If enough small people get together we can make a difference.



**“..make
a
difference...”**

Winter series to conclude 19th Sept

Our winter series struggled to find an identity this year for a number of reasons. However, we will finish strongly!

Make a note of the date now, Saturday 19th September, 3-5pm, a blind wine tasting.

Don't worry—it's the bottles that are masked to hide their identity, not the participants. It's a **very** serious matter: you are asked to identify the grape, the region and the year!

Half the fun is being terribly certain of your choice and then being shown to be completely wrong. Even the experienced wine drinkers are frequently misguided.

So have no fears. Come and join in the fun. There will be seven wines from various sources, total cost about \$10 a head. Nibbles tea and

coffee will be provided too. We hope to have some visitors from our neighbours and friends. Invite anyone you know who might be interested

Attention singers!

There's to be Music practice for musicians, singers and all who want to learn new music at Margaret's, Saturday, 26th September 3-5.00pm.



Glass of wine to lubricate the vocal chords. See you there!

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Sundays 9.30am**

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Readings for September:

6th: Song of Solomon 2,11-13a; Psalm 104:1-5,10-13;Matthew 6:28-34
13th Prov 1:20-33; Ps 19; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38
20th Prov 31:10-31; Ps 1; James 3:13-4:3,7-8a; Mark 9:30-37
27th Esther 7:1-6,9-10; 9:20-22; Ps 124; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

Dear Readers - please don't mention all the various verses when you announce your reading:

Just "The reading is taken from 2nd Samuel chapter 18, beginning at verse....."

Happenings here and there

Trials:

We continue to try new ideas. The practice of turning to face the liturgist at the back of the church for the dismissal seems to be acceptable, so we'll keep on with it.

The two readers coming up together is working well.



To cover the chalice on the altar with a veil or not is not quite so clear cut! Some like the idea of removing the covering as a symbol of moving to a new stage in the liturgy. Some like the simplicity of having the chalice on view from the start. Keep talking!

Study groups:

It was good to hear from Neil and David about our study groups, Saturday afternoon and Monday night. The Monday night group continues, the Saturday "A Walk through the Bible" will have a second outing later. See Neil and David if you are interested.

Coming events: This is our last newsletter before our Patronal Festival on Sunday 4th October. More on that in announcements later.



But make a note too of the Blessing of the Pets on Sunday 11th October at 10am. Invite friends and neighbours to bring their pets that day. All sorts welcome, big or small. But horses will wait outside.

Sarah's visit 27th Sept:

Sarah will talk to the Mostly Craft Team and anyone else interested about our outreach. Is it outreach? Church? Babysitting? Community building? Ideas from Messy Church and where next? Perhaps others involved in worship, discovery/ outreach might like to come? We will finish in time for lunch at home.

