

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF

# ST FRANCIS

96 PARK ROAD, CNR TITIRANGI BEACH RD NOVEMBER 2017

## “Remember, remember the 5th November..”

But you probably don't need reminding. Any household pets were probably in hiding last night, and tonight may be the same.

Guy Fawkes over the years became quite a romantic figure, quite undeservedly. He wasn't the leader of the revolutionary bunch who planned to blow up the Houses of Parliament, but he was the one caught looking after the 30 barrels of gunpowder, indeed more than enough to destroy the buildings above and everything within a mile's radius.



He and his friends were executed. Despite being involved in what was essentially a terrorist plot, Guy Fawkes was named as the 30th Greatest Briton in a poll conducted by the BBC in 2002. He was no saint! But today we do celebrate All Saints' Day, using the term in the widest sense. It's perhaps a happy chance that 5th November is the day we also remember Parihaka and the peaceful resistance there in 1881. The leader, Te Whiti, probably qualifies as a saintly figure,

a leader of passive resistance long before Gandhi.

In the turbulent 1860s and 70s there was a great settler demand for Taranaki land and much unjust government confiscation.



At Parihaka Te White built a model community. When the government troops reached Parihaka at 7.15am on 5th November 1881, they were met by about 200 children singing songs.

Te Whiti was arrested and imprisoned without trial for a year.

Since that time there have been many restitutions and apologies, but Parihaka remains a symbol of the sufferings Maori people experienced under colonial aggression.

The Parihaka International Peace Festival is held there annually.

*Our Blessing of the Pets in October was a great gathering of creatures, mainly dogs, with associated friends and families. Amongst the visitors was Bishop Bruce Gilbert and his wife Pat up from Tairua LSM.*

### Diary notes

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*A special welcome to our visitors today*

## Traveller's tales—a welcoming time at the capital's cathedral

Wellington Cathedral from the outside is not, in my opinion, a very attractive place. But there was no denying the very appealing warmth of welcome inside when I was there last Sunday.



**“...learnt  
a  
lot...”**

I was greeted at the door by the Dean, and when I sat down, the man in front of me turned round added his welcome.

He turned out to be an old friend of David and Sarah and we continued chatting until the service, a sung Eucharist, began.

It wasn't a large congregation, but a chatty welcoming group when

we stayed for morning tea afterwards.

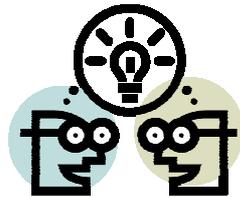
That evening at 5pm I attended a choral evensong, a special service to mark 400 years since the Reformation. It was crowded, a congregation of several denominations.

Afterwards there was a signing of a commemorative document by the Dean (the Bishop being away), the Roman Catholic Bishop and the Lutheran Bishop, a highly significant occasion—that went completely unmentioned by any of the media next day!

I find it a great joy, when I go to Anglican church services outside Auckland, to think of the St Francis congregation joining in the same words, following the same liturgy. We are “a communion of saints”!

## Happy Indaba days recalled

Most of you will remember a memorable weekend when we hosted folk from St Mary's Torbay and St Peter's Onehunga.



Deborah met Anne Priestly, previous Onehunga vicar recently and decided an Indaba catch-up would be a welcome idea. So Deborah has written to both churches and we await their response.

The event will be on **Saturday 25th Nov with a lunch at St Francis.**

We learnt a lot from each other last time, and their folk were particu-

larly interested in Local Shared Ministry and how it works.

Take a look at our website photos as a reminder of some of those who were present.

We'll keep you updated.

**Did you see the Fringe article about Susan Crozier talking about our sustainability project!**

**It's always good to get into the media and raise our profile.**

**The project seems to be going well, perhaps a forerunner of other joint eco-centred activities we can take part in. Thanks, Susan!**

## As we said, “Something old, something new, something...”?

Our Patronal Festival on 8th October saw the first outing of our new Sr Francis Liturgy. Today we use it for the second time, and from now on we propose to use it in rotation. However, before we can adopt it officially we need the Bishops' approval. We'd welcome any comments from you, the St Francis congregation, positive or negative! Please see any member of the worship team or the MST. Coming up soon we have the LSM conference at Vaughn Park, 17th—19th November.

Then on Advent Sunday 3rd December, we plan to join with the Presbyterian congregation for a combined celebration. See back page for other coming events.



## Great gathering at our Cathedral

As most of us will be aware, Saturday 28th October saw the Consecration of Holy Trinity Cathedral. The building of the cathedral was finally completed this year, 174 years after the land was purchased by Bishop Selwyn.

Several St Francis folk were present for this wonderful service which lasted two and half hours and included participation of all

three tikanga, several choirs and the magnificent new organ.

There were bishops and other clergy as far as the eye could see!

It was great to see the former dean, Jo Kelly-Moore, who oversaw the later stages of the building and refurbishment, back from her new position at Canterbury and able to enjoy the occasion.

*David*

## Impressive slide show last Sunday

The Mostly Craft team delivered a photo-filled presentation to the congregation that told the story of children and families outreach at St Francis from 2009 – 2017.

The photos plus the commentaries from the team showed just how many children and their families have attended St Francis over the years - a very special achievement!

The range of activities, both inside and out doors, was truly impressive.

Special acknowledgement was given to Margaret Strid for her vision and passion that has underpinned these years of outreach to the children and families of our community.

Thank you Margaret!

*Deborah*

**“welcome  
any  
comment”**

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

**Worship Times:  
Sundays 9.30am  
3pm last Sunday**

**Administrator;  
Susan Crozier 836-7821  
Pastoral Care:  
Jenny Keating 833-1931  
Office: 817-7300  
st.francis@actrix.co.nz  
www.titirangiangu.org.nz**

**Readings for November:**

5<sup>th</sup>: All Saints Rev 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10; 1 John 3:1-3; Matt 5:1-12  
12<sup>th</sup> (remembrance) Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thess 3:13-18; Matt 25:1-13  
19<sup>th</sup> Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thess 5:1-11; Matt 25:14-30  
26<sup>th</sup>: Christ the King (or Reign of Christ) Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24; Psalm 100; Eph 1:15-23; Matt 25:31-46

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>** (joint service with Presbyterians to be confirmed)  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent. Isaiah 64:1-9; Ps 80:1-7,17-19; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

**Prayers** please and special blessings for: Susan Wightman, Dorothy Ashbolt, John Hyatt, Joyce Daniels, Joyce McNeil and Susan Crozier (who is having a knee operation later in November).

**Remember: 3pm Holy Communion last Sunday every month. 11.15am Healing service 1st Sunday even months: eg December**

## News of coming and past events

**Lots happening in the next few months!**

**Adopt a Family:**

The pastoral team and friendship groups will be running this again this year from mid November.



We hope to have three or four families in need of special attention this Christmas, so start to put a few things by: non perishable foods, new gifts, vouchers.

We will be letting you know how many and what ages in each family as usual.

**Remembrance Sunday:**

11th November used to be celebrated as Armistice Day, ending WW I. Now we use the nearest Sunday to remember those who died or served in all wars. It's a time of reflection for many of us.

**Friendship Group:**

Come along at 10am on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November for an interesting morning as our most senior parishion-

er, Joan, shares stories of her Land Army days during WW2.

Morning tea too!

**St Francis retreat:**

Yesterday a number of parishioners went on retreat at the Franciscan centre in Hillsborough. Our thanks to Edward for organising and leading this event.

**The Christmas Story, Saturday 2nd December:**

Margaret and her team have plans well in hand for this year's event.

Again there'll be a number of "stations" around the church with texts telling the story. There'll be activities too, and a DVD playing.

Near the entrance there'll be a Christmas tree, and our publicity will include an invitation for people to bring presents for the City Mission.

There'll also be a story area with cushions. Out the back, through the lounge, is the sausage sizzle with cold drinks.

Once again our event coincides with the village "Festival of Light", so we may benefit from passers by.

Tell your friends and neighbours!

**We need lots of publicity.**