

Loving God, His People, His World



THE HOLY SPIRIT: EMPOWERMENT, GUIDANCE, AND PRESENCE

Over the next couple of months we will be looking at the person and the work of the Holy Spirit as we head towards Pentecost (Sunday 19th May).

³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

- Acts 4:31

Pentecost is a significant event in the Christian calendar that commemorates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Jesus, as recorded in the New Testament book of Acts, chapter 2. Pentecost is often regarded as the birthday of the Christian church, marking the empowerment of the disciples for their mission to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth. Pentecost is the fulfilment of Jesus' promise that he would send the advocate, who would guide, empower, and comfort believers in His absence.

Over the coming weeks we will explore how the Holy Spirits' work impacts our lives, our worship, our mission, and brings new life to the body of Christ.

THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

At the heart of our understanding of the Holy Spirit lies the recognition of His personhood - the Spirit is not merely an impersonal force, but a distinct member of the Trinity. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever - ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

- John 14:16-17

Just as Jesus promised, the Holy Spirit is our advocate, our Helper, and the Spirit of Truth, sent by the Father to dwell within us and empower us for life and service.

THE EMPOWERMENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Throughout Scripture, we see evidence of the Holy Spirit's empowering presence, equipping believers for ministry, witness, and spiritual growth.

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

- Acts 1:8

Here Jesus commissions His disciples to be His witnesses, promising that they will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon them. This same empowering Spirit emboldened the early church to proclaim the gospel fearlessly and perform signs and wonders that testified to God's power and presence. The church through the years has been witness to many powerful moves of the Holy Spirit that have brought reveals and new life to the Church.

THE GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

As the Spirit of Truth, the Holy Spirit guides believers into all truth, illuminating Scripture, convicting hearts, and directing paths.

¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

- John 16:13

Here Jesus assures His disciples that the Holy Spirit will guide them into all truth, speaking what He hears from the Father and declaring it to them. This divine guidance enables believers to discern God's will, make wise decisions, and navigate life's challenges with confidence and clarity.

THE FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

One of the most tangible evidences of the Holy Spirit's work in the life of a believer is the production of spiritual fruit.

²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness and self-control. - *Galatians 5:22-23*

These qualities are not cultivated through human effort alone but are the natural outgrowth of a life surrendered to the leading and empowering of the Holy Spirit.

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

In addition to producing fruit in the lives of believers, the Holy Spirit bestows spiritual gifts for the edification of the body of Christ and the advancement of God's kingdom. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 lists various spiritual gifts, including wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discernment, tongues and interpretation of tongues. These gifts are distributed according to the Spirit's will, enabling believers to serve one another in love and build up the church in unity and maturity.

THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN WORSHIP

In corporate worship, the Holy Spirit manifests His presence in powerful and transformative ways, drawing believers into communion with God and one another. As believers gather to worship, the Holy Spirit empowers praise and adoration, convicts hearts of sin, and ministers healing and restoration. Psalm 22:3 declares that God inhabits the praises of His people, highlighting the intimate connection between worship and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND MISSION

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, believers are commissioned to participate in God's mission of reconciliation and redemption. Acts 1:8 calls us to be witnesses of Christ, both locally and globally, empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the gospel and make disciples of all nations. The Holy Spirit equips and empowers the church for evangelism, social justice, and compassionate ministry, enabling us to be salt and light in a world in need of God's love and grace.

The Holy Spirit is not merely an abstract theological concept but a dynamic and active presence in the life of every believer and the corporate life of the church. As we learn to hear what the Spirit is saying to us, He empowers, guides, and transforms us, enabling us to live lives that reflect the character and love of Christ.

May we continue to seek a deeper understanding, and experience the Holy Spirit's work and presence in our lives so that we may be effective witnesses of God's kingdom and agents of His grace, truth and love in the world.

David our Parish administrator is stepping down from his role after 15 years service. His last week will be the 8th to the 11th April. I am sure you will join me in thanking him for his work and support over the years.

Dear David,

As you embark on the next chapter of your life, I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your dedication and service to our church community over the past 15 years.

Your role as the church administrator has been instrumental in the smooth running of our Church. From managing finances and administrative tasks to coordinating events and providing support to our congregation, your commitment, professionalism, and creativity have been invaluable.

Beyond your job description, you have been and a source of encouragement to me as you have often challenged me about doing things the best we can. Your, kindness, and willingness to go above and beyond have left a lasting impact on our church family.

As you move on to new opportunities, please know that you will be dearly missed. Your presence will leave a void that cannot be easily filled, but I am very grateful for the time we have had working together and the countless ways you have enriched our community.

May the road ahead be filled with blessings, success, in all your endeavours. Know that you will always have a special place in our hearts, and our prayers go with you as you embrace this new chapter in your life. With deepest gratitude and thanks Phil

Yours in Christ Phil







Sunday 7 April (Daylight Saving ends) 8.30am NZ Prayer Book Service (404) 10.00am Family Worship

Theme Vision Day

Reflecting on our past, celebrating our present blessings, and dreaming about the possibilities of

what might lie ahead.

Readings Acts 18: 1-11 (pg. 1077) // Luke 4: 14-30 (pg. 997)

Preacher Philip Greenwood



Sunday 14 April 8.30am NZ Prayer Book Service (Healing) 10.00am Family Worship

Theme The Promise of the Holy Spirit

Understanding the promise of the Holy Spirit as a gift from God to empower and guide to expect His

presence in their lives.

Readings Acts 1:1-13 (pg. 1056) // John 14:15-21 (pg. 1047)

Preacher Philip Greenwood



Sunday 21 April 8.30am NZ Prayer Book Service (476) 10.00am Family Worship

Theme The Holy Spirit - Power to change

Understanding the Holy Spirit as a person who convicts, guides, and intercedes for believers, with

the power to change lives.

Readings John 16:7-15 (pg. 1049) // Romans 8:26-27 (pg. 1098)

Preacher Jude Saxon



Sunday 28 April 8.30am Morning Worship & Holy Communion 10.00am Family Worship

Theme The Gifts of the Holy Spirit for All Believers

Understanding the diversity and purpose of spiritual gifts in the body of Christ. How do we identify and utilise our spiritual gifts for the building up of the church and the advancement of God's kingdom 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (pg. 1116) // Romans 12:1-8

(pg. 1102)

Preacher Brad Wood

Readings





Sunday

NZ Prayer Book Service (404) 8.30am

10.00am **Family Worship**

Theme The Work of the Holy Spirit in Salvation

> Understanding the Holy Spirit's role in convicting, bring new life, and bring us to salvation. Inviting all to respond to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to help

fulfil the great commission.

Titus 3:1-8, Ephesians 1:1-14 Readings

Preacher Philip Greenwood



Sunday 12 May

8.30am NZ Prayer Book Service (Healing) 10.00am

Family Worship

Keeping in Step with the Spirit Theme

Learning to keep in step with the Spirit in every part

of our lives.

Galatians 5:13-26 Romans 8:1-17 Readings

Preacher Kathryn van Veen



Sunday 19 May - Pentecost

8.30am NZ Prayer Book Service (476)

Family Worship 10.00am

Empowered for Witness Theme

> The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let the one who hears say, "Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of

the water of life.

Acts 1:1-11 Luke 24:36-53 Readings

Preacher Philip Greenwood



Sunday 26 May

Morning Worship & Holy Communion 8.30am

Family Worship 10.00am

Invitation Sunday Theme

> We are invited into the mission of God, to invite others to hear the good news about Jesus. Let's not

be fearful in our calling.

John 1:29-42 Acts 20:22-24 Readings

Preacher Philip Greenwood





Continuing our series of short glimpses into mission in far-away places, Peter Renew reports back from the front line...this month from Anglican mission training college in the UK.

SISTER

She was just amazing; *she* was the most beautiful woman anyone could hope to meet. (see line drawing). She taught us about community living, relationships and loving others.

Before anyone assumes that my wife, Sandy, is out of favour, I'll add that the 'she' I refer to is a sister in Christ ... and a Sister in Holy Orders. The beauty to which I refer was in a spiritual sense, honed, and perfected by working with the rag pickers on the rubbish tips of Cairo, Egypt (see photo). She reflected a lifetime of service to God; dedication to the Church, study and prayer, contemplation and selfless giving. She was a nun in the Egyptian Coptic Orthodox Church.

We were then under the misapprehension that people doing 'religious' jobs are immune to the mundane ordinary things in life. Surely such people do not have fun and frolic to have a good time? Not so! We were wrong. On one occasion, in response to a prank, *Sister* resolutely hitched up her habit tucking it into her belt, baring her legs, and chased me brandishing a bucket of cold water till I retreated to the college library for sanctuary!

We first met Sister, full of awe and expectation. This living 'saint'; the lady of the slums and rubbish tip, the small figure in the grey habit, the academic, the tutor,

the leader and powerful advocate for social justice. Her Biblical lectures challenged us and the task of being prepared for some far-flung global responsibility was hammered into us. Sister was always full of encouragement and, sometimes, gave a reproach or two.

We failed to see her as a real and private person with the same frailties that we all have. My first foray into her unknown private life took place early one morning in the community kitchen, down the corridor from our family accommodation. A quick visit to the fridge, for a bottle of milk, led to an awakening, and a surprise which changed my thinking.

There amongst the damp laundry and the used teacups stood an unfamiliar female figure. Clad only in a thin nightie, fluffy slippers, flowing hair with curlers, stood Sister. She'd also crept out early for something to add to her breakfast. Hardly dressed to meet anyone, even less a man, was a shock to us both. I had never seen a nun in her bedroom attire before! I hardly recognised her without 'her work clothes' on! I have no idea what I really expected.

It taught me one thing, that all women are sisters under the skin (whether my wife in holy matrimony, or this Sister in Holy Orders) and that includes under the habit too. We only see people outwardly as beautiful or ugly, without seeing the treasure within. We make judgements based on the slimmest of evidence. We are so preoccupied with people's visual appearance that we forget to look deeper. We might know a negative phase or moral secret of someone's life and use it as a yardstick to judge later years. It is fortunate that God doesn't have a vision restricted by such boundaries.





Sometime later we were preparing for a birthday party at college and it was to be held in Sister's accommodation. Some brought drinks; and some prepared food.

We all know there are divergent opinions in Christian attitudes to alcohol. It's a contentious issue. Some are totally against it. Some are a little relaxed. Some have no idea what the fuss is all about. That is how we came to have a few worries about the liquid refreshments for the party. Unsure of ourselves and feeling conspicuous, we returned from the supermarket with some cans of beer hidden in our son's buggy. But, oh dear, what would Sister say?

We arrived at the big event and pushed through the crowd to hand in our contribution.

"What will you have to drink?" a sweet voice said from behind the cans of beer and bottles of wine. It was Sister, and her job for the evening was barman. She wouldn't hear of being called barwoman, or barmaid; and certainly not bargir!! She said "I'm the barman." and she poured me a glass of wine.

We learnt more than theological studies at college. Learning to live in community, loving each other, and not judging people by how they appear. These are important lessons. Likewise, there will be many different opinions on how to do this or that, and we may never agree, but along the way it is very important not to cause others to stumble.

Have a read of Romans 14 for important guidance on loving our neighbour, community and friendly acceptance.

Peter Renew // Assisting Clergy





HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FIJI MINISTRY ENCOUNTER

On December 5 last year, a group of our youth and young adult leaders from the diocese, in partnership with NZCMS, began a two-week ministry encounter trip in Fiji. This journey wasn't just about exploring a new country, it was a leap of faith into ministry, mission and cultural connection.

The trip was the culmination of eighteen months of dreaming, planning and training, and boy did our young people have an amazing experience!

Hana expressed a lifelong draw to Fiji. "I've had a calling on my heart to go to Fiji since I was two years old. To go with a godly purpose is something that really enticed me." Nina was motivated to go on the trip to connect with her family's missionary legacy in Fiji. She called it "an amazing opportunity to see how God works over there". When signing up for the trip, Jamie wanted to experience God in a new environment — "to see what God was like in a different community".

The team leaders were excited to see young people experiencing God in a different culture. They hoped the trip would connect them with the Fijian youth over there

and broaden their perspectives of faith and church expression.

It was encouraging to hear the team talk about their experiences. The trip seemed to foster a deeper connection both among themselves and with the Fijian people. "When we were travelling, someone would have a guitar, and we'd all be singing songs," Nina said. Joel connected deeply with the house visits. "I really enjoyed the house visits because we got to see how each family did their things." These visits not only showcased Fijian daily life but encouraged both the locals and visitors through shared testimonies and preaching. "I think my faith grew by hearing other people's testimonies and stories from over there," Jamie said.

The team was quick to make it clear that community is significant in Fiji culture. Marzi, one of the team leaders, was struck by the welcoming nature of the locals and their intentionality in forming connections. "They make eye contact with you on purpose. It was so different from what you might experience here in New Zealand." Renata, another leader, appreciated their community spirit and love of hospitality. "There would always be food involved!"

As I've had the opportunity to hear the stories of our rangatahi who went on the trip it's become clear that the Fiji Ministry Exchange was a transformative experience for all involved. It deepened faith, broadened cultural horizons, and taught all of them a greater value of community.

Thank you to everyone who supported this journey through prayers and financial contributions. Your support has been instrumental in making this extraordinary experience possible. Vinaka vakalevu!

Watch our highlights video to see and hear first-hand the inspiring stories from the trip:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCDr3LzSz64





EASTER OPENS DOORS

Easter Sunday is about God breaking into our reality. Think about everything that happened over the seven days we call Holy Week...

Palm Sunday
The Last Supper
The betrayal of Jesus by Judas
Jesus' arrest
Peter's denial
Jesus' crucifixion
Jesus' death
Jesus' burial
The disciples waiting
Jesus' resurrection

What a week!

Jesus' resurrection is a climax of the Easter story — and not only that, but it's the climax of the gospel, of our whole Christian lives. I want to encourage us to think about how Easter opens the door for us in three ways.

EASTER OPENS THE DOOR FOR US TO BELIEVE

We are people of faith who embrace the story of wonder and surprise. Mark's description of the resurrection at the very end of his book is fascinating. He says, "Trampling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid" (Mark 16:8).

Try to enter the story of the Gospels and imagine how it was like for those first witnesses of the resurrection. The people who crucified Jesus and buried him did not anticipate his resurrection, even though Jesus had told

them about it. The women did not expect Jesus to be raised from the dead – they were going from the tomb bewildered at who had rolled the stone away. Jesus has told them it was going to happen, but they still did not expect it to happen.

Mark finishes that passage with a bit of a cliffhanger. I think that's the whole point of Mark's Gospel. He's showing the raw emotions of the people who encountered the resurrection. The story reveals the discovery of an empty tomb, kindling an anticipation that Jesus has been raised. But the story ends in fear and wonder and silence.

Mark seems to be trying to evoke a response, inviting readers to join with the women of the tomb and experience the raw emotions of such an earth-shattering revelation that meant so much in their lives. There's something authentic there. One thing is clear: the tomb was empty. Christ had risen.

What that means is that Jesus is who he claimed to be. It's good news for all those who have lived in the shadow of oppression – a new world has begun. The evidence of resurrection puts to rest any doubt about who he was.

After he rose, Jesus "appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve," Paul says in 1 Corinthians. "After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time" (15:5-6). If the claim of Christianity that Jesus rose from the dead is true, then it is true whether we believe it or not. It doesn't change the reality.

I'm not a follower of Jesus because Christianity answers all my questions about the world, about suffering and wars around the globe.

I'm a believer today because I believe that Jesus died for me and was raised to life to give me life. And that anchors my faith. The resurrection opens a door for us to believe — even for those who doubt, those who are bewildered by what's happening. The resurrection is simply truth, so authentically described in Mark's matter-of-fact account. Sins are forgiven and nothing can prevent the power of the gospel from working in the lives of those who believe it enough to act on it.

EASTER OPENS THE DOOR FOR US TO BELONG

We live in such a fragmented, disconnected world today. Don't we? Although we claim to be tolerant, we are probably the most intolerant generation ever. One group condemns the other, while another rises united in retaliation, perpetuating the cycle. The resurrection is powerful because it gave impetus to the new movement.

The disciples were afraid, fleeing the scene of Jesus' arrest. The day after declaring his loyalty to Jesus, Peter denies knowing him. Yet after the resurrection, they were emboldened to go and proclaim Jesus. A new movement began. It opened the door to belong to this reconciled community.

One of Easter Sunday's readings is Acts 10, where we find Peter having trouble believing that God's salvation applies to non-Jews. He's having a real difficult time getting his head around how the Gentiles can actually be included in God's saving work. "I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism," he says (10:34). And so, when the penny drops, he gives a sermon focusing on life, death, the resurrection of Jesus, the coming judgment and the forgiveness on offer. And this offer is for everyone, including the Gentiles.

Easter reminds us that the Church is first and foremost a family, a community of Easter people who belong to one another and to God. The curtain of the temple has been torn apart, and we've been included. It's only been made possible because of Jesus' death and resurrection. We face no guilt in life, no fear in death. Nothing can separate us from God's love, regardless of how much we might feel we don't fit in.

I recently heard Ed Vaughan preach at Victory Church from Ephesians 1, a glorious passage about what God has done for us. It begins by praising God for all the blessings that he's given us in Christ – for all the blessings of the past (being chosen before the foundation of the world), the blessings of the present (the forgiveness of sins) and for the blessings of the future (all the things that God has in store for us in the present and future because of his resurrection). He then made the following beautiful remark: We are included! "And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation when you believed in Christ" (1:13). We are included – in the blessings of the past, of the present, of the future – in Christ.

That's why the resurrection of Jesus is so powerful: love triumphs over hatred, life conquers death, unity overcomes division. All are welcome and all belong, because we are Easter people. We belong to the family of God in Christ.

EASTER OPENS THE DOOR FOR US TO BECOME

We are invited to become a people of hope. Many people today feel like they do not have any hope. With all the wars, political friction and abrupt societal changes that are happening in the world, there's uncertainty about what the future holds.

The story of God raising Jesus from death is amazing, because it shows that death is not the end. It's only the beginning. It's a gateway. It means there's more to come. Easter Sunday is about God breaking into our reality. It's about a future that breaks apart and shatters an understanding of how things were supposed to be.

If God can overcome death, there are endless possibilities for what God can do in us and through us. We see the disciples' lives radically transformed and they become amazing bold people. It's good to be reminded that the one who raised Jesus from the dead is a work within us.

The resurrection is a work of God. We need to lean on him. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you (Romans 8:11). The word "resurrection" comes in the same Latin root word as "resurgence" – resurgere. It makes me think of the hope we have that we can be made new again. We can be restored. We can become new people, the people God wants us to be. We can fulfill his purpose on Earth and flourish in every way. Death is never final, and tears and darkness can never win – joy comes in the morning. The power of the resurrection changes us, saves us, heals us, sustains us, guides us. And I like the final reading in Isaiah that talks about the future, sort of this promise about the future, about the world that God is preparing for us and His power to bring it about.

My prayer and my blessing to our community this Easter is that God would enable us to respond to this glorious resurrection of Christ. May we live as Easter people – people who celebrate Jesus' power through faith, love and hope, knowing that Easter opens the door for all to believe, to belong and to become.

Amen.



At a recent meeting of the Book Club *Travel* was ship off the coast of South Ireland. (The Germans the topic. A range of books were presented by members - both fiction and non-fiction.

A Backpack, A Chair and a Beard - Eamon Wood

Eamon has been a paraplegic since age 41/2 and throughout his life has found ways to give his wheelchair "wings". He found fame in the New Zealand men's wheelchair tennis team and in the men's wheelchair basketball team. At age 28 he set off with backpack and guitar in his wheelchair to hitch-hike around the South Island and then the world, odd jobbing and

busking. He shares with us his stories of travels, experiences, photos and people he meets never bound by hiss wheelchair. An excellent read.

The Lonely Planet - New Zealand -Various Contributors This book is a most comprehensive guide to New Zealand with both popular and lesser known experiences. Over 2,000 people contributed to the guide and it covers all travel aspects - destinations, Experiences, costs, pitfalls, accommodation and history are included. A worthwhile book.

The Lusitania Story - Mitch Peeke

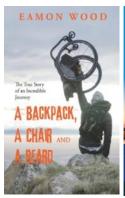
The complete story of the building of the large ocean going liner launched in 1906 (bigger than Titanic) It was six stories high and the epitome of luxury, carrying 2,000 passengers as it travel between New York and the United Kingdom. In 1915 a U-boat torpedo struck the

believed it carried armaments). It sank with a large loss of life and the shipwreck remains there to this day. An interesting read.

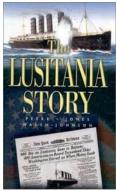
The Glorious South -Te Wai Pounamu - Helen Staniland The author of own book at this meeting! The trip of a lifetime was undertaken when borders were closed due to Covid with domestic travel easily accessible. It covers the author's South Island journey with glorious photos and gives insight into its history. It also chronicles how New Zealand dealt with the Corona Virus.

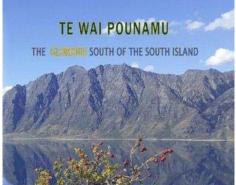
Three Women and a Boat - Anne Youngson This UK novel is set in the "narrow" or canal boat may be fiction, but it gives an insight into the history, eccentricities and challenges of life on a narrow boat. Eve who has left her high powered job, meets a stranger Sally, who has decided to leave her indifferent husband and routine. Anastacia, the owner of the narrow boat dweller is facing a life saving operation. The three strangers get to know each other, meet canal people, cope with locks and discuss their own lives and values. A good read.

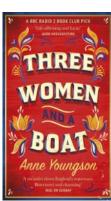
The next meetings of the Book Club will be at 10.00am on Thursday 2 May. The topic is "NZ Biography". The Club meets again on 30 May and the topic is "World Heritage Site" Ph. Margaret Hackston 547 6643 for info.











FINANCIAL UPDATE

Overview of St Barnabas Parish Accounts to 29 February 2024

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance
Parish Giving	\$28,187.00	\$35,500.00	\$2,687.00
Total Income	\$74,768.00	\$58,984.00	\$15,784.00
Total Expenses	\$51,096.00	\$61,186.00	(\$10,090.00)
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	\$23,673.00		

\$981.00 (From Trusts/Bequests) **Non Operating Income**

Final Surplus / Deficit \$24,654.00





THE DISCOVERY COURSE

On Tuesday 14 May at 6.00pm we are hosting an evening that will be run along the lines of a Ted with people sharing about the impact Jesus has made in their lives. We will hear different peoples stories. We will hear about how they discovered who Jesus is, how this changed them, and what difference faith in Jesus has made in their lives.

This will be a safe and non judgmental place to explore questions of faith. We are creating a space for one night, where you can bring your friends, family and work-

mates to discover Jesus.

We will be having a meal together (free of charge) and there will be opportunities to ask questions about faith.

The speakers will be confirmed closer to the

This is your chance to invite someone along, to come along with them, to give them an opportunity to discover Jesus. Please pray and think about who you could bring along.

There will be a sign up sheet in the foyer from the end of April to let us know if you are planning on coming along (for catering purposes).

Discovery will be the springboard into *The Alpha Course* starting on Tuesday 26 May at 6.00pm

Alpha is a warm, friendly course where everyone is welcome. Over some food, explore what the Christian faith is all about through a series of dynamic videos and open discussion. The Alpha videos are designed to be engaging and inspire conversation. Usually around 30 minutes long, they explore the big issues around faith and unpack the basics of Christianity.

Probably the most important part of any Alpha: the chance to share thoughts and ideas about the talk with others.

There will be a sign up sheet in the foyer from the beginning of May to let us know if you are planning on coming along (for catering and resource purposes).

St Barnabas Walking Group
Saturday 13 April - Mapua Wetlands and BBQ

An easy walk followed by BBQ Leaving St Barnabas Church at 9.30am. Please pay the driver \$5.00.

Contact: Kevin Nilsen 548 0964.

St Barnabas Walking Group
Saturday 18 May - The Grove & Labyrinth - Takaka

Easy walks
Leaving St Barnabas Church at 8.00am.
Please pay the driver \$5.00.

Contact: Kevin Nilsen 548 0964.



The Book Club

The Book Club will meet at Elizabeth Olliver's home at 10.00am twice in May owing to the April meeting falling on ANZAC Day.

Thursday 2 May - Topic: *NZ Biography* Thursday 30 May - Topic: *World Heritage Site*

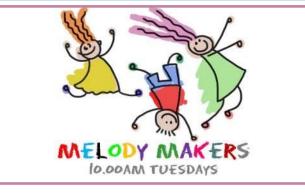
Info: Margaret Hackston 547 6643

PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer request, the St Barnabas Prayer Chain will be more than happy to pray for you.

Please call Pam 547 7978





What's on in April

What's on in May

Monday	1 April - Easter Monday	- Wednesday	1 May
	2 April	10.30am	Reflective Service
	Melody Makers	Thursday	2 May
	3 April	10.00am	The Book Club - NZ Biography
	Reflective Service	6.30pm	Youth
		- Sunday	5 May
Sunday	7 April - Daylight Saving Ends	8.30am	NZ Prayer Book (404)
	NZ Prayer Book (404)	10.00am	Family Worship `
	Family Worship	Tuesday	7 May
	Senior Youth	10.00am	Melody Makers
	9 April	Wednesday	8 May
	Melody Makers	10.30am	Reflective Service
	10 April	Thursday	9 May
	Reflective Service	6.30pm	Youth
Thursday	11 April	Friday	10 May
	Youth	2.00pm	Tea, Cake and Conversation
	AGM		
	12 April	Sunday	12 May
	Tea, Cake and Conversation	8.30am	NZ Prayer Book (Healing)
	13 April	10.00am	Family Worship
	Walking Group - Mapua Wetlands & BBQ	6.00pm	Senior Youth
		- Tuesday	14 May
Sunday	14 April	10.00am	Melody Makers
	NZ Prayer Book (Healing)	6.00pm	Discovery Course
	Family Worship	Wednesday	15 May
	Senior Youth	10.30am	Reflective Service
	17 April	Thursday	16 May
	Reflective Service	6.30pm	Youth
	18 April	Saturday	18 May
	Youth	8.00am *	Walking Group -The Grove & Labyrinth Takaka
Sunday	21 April	Sunday	19 May
8.30am	NZ Prayer Book (476)	8.30am	NZ Prayer Book (476)
	Family Worship `	10.00am	Family Worship `
	Senior Youth	6.00pm	Senior Youth
	24 April	Tuesday	21 May
	Reflective Service	10.00am	Melody Makers
	25 April - ANZAC Day	Wednesday	22 May
	26 April	10.30am	Reflective Service
	Tea, Cake and Conversation	Thursday	23 May
	, 	- 6.30pm	Youth
Sunday	28 April	Friday	24 May
8.30am	Morning Worship & Holy Communion	2.00pm	Tea, Cake and Conversation
	Family Worship		
	30 April	Sunday	26 May
10.00am	Melody Makers	8.30am	Morning Worship & Holy Communion
		<u>1</u> 0.00am	Family Worship
		Tuesday	28 May
		10.00am	Melody Makers
		6.00pm	Alpha Course
		Wednesday	29 May
		10.30am	Reflective Service
		Thursday	30 May
		10.00am	The Book Club - World Heritage Site
		6.30pm	Youth



Giving to support the work of St Barnabas

If you choose to give by online banking or direct credit our account details are: St Barnabas Church // 03 1709 0041226 00 // Westpac Richmond

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Phone: 547 5631

email: office.stbarnabas@xtra.co.nz

8.00am - 12.00pm Monday - Thursday

Website: www.stbarnabas.co.nz