

St Aidan's Parish Magazine

May 2017



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Glen's Foreword



The Lent and Easter period, the first for me in my role, has been significant in a number of ways. We once again took up a study series during Lent based on John Stott's, 'The Radical Disciple' (read details on p14) which was a great time of reflecting on what it means to live out the core of our faith. The series lead us well to Holy Week as we spent time early in the week reflecting on Christ's final days in a couple of short reflective services.

Then the Easter services themselves, foot washing on Thursday, the cross on Friday and resurrection on Sunday. Two things stood out for me over this time – the parish's engagement and involvement in the services to make them special events and the significance of the services for those who attended.

Each service had its particular focus and there was a real sense of engagement with God as we washed each other's feet on Maundy Thursday to remember our call to follow Christ in service, as we reflected on various scenes of Jesus' trial, suffering and death, and as we pushed pieces of paper into the cross on Good Friday to bring our need for healing and forgiveness to Christ.

For Easter Sunday, an empty Pinata was used to engage in the experience of the disciples on that resurrection day as they came across the empty tomb.



It was a success as the kids were quite disappointed as the Pinata fell broken but empty to the floor. We did give them eggs however, and hopefully the message of Christ being no longer in the tomb but alive to bring us life won't be easily forgotten.

Overall, Easter was memorable and I thank once again all those who were involved with this significant time for us here at St Aidan's. We continue to follow the disciples toward Pentecost and see where God will lead us – please come along and join us in that journey.

A little resource to offer if you are unable to get along is the website <http://resurrection.nz/>. It is entitled,

'A Resurrection Journey', is produced through the Auckland Diocese and has daily (except Sundays) reflections and practical actions for living out the risen life.

Along with the regular updates of the various aspects of parish life, the Parish Mag this quarter features articles from some new people to the staff team and a great 'Easter' reflection on a Summer yachting trip. Enjoy and God bless.

— Glen Ashworth



From our new Priest Assistant!



I was born last century (a somewhat sobering thought) in Christchurch and I am the oldest of 5 siblings, two sisters and two brothers. My father served in the Air Force during WWII and became a middle-distance bus driver on discharge then later worked as a manager in a supermarket. My mother was trained as a nurse but gave up nursing to care full-time for the family.

My 'religious' upbringing was very ecumenical. I was baptised as a Methodist, confirmed in a Union Church and ordained an Anglican Priest. Mum was the main encourager in this area and we went to any of the local churches that she considered was the most appropriate at any given time. I suspect it might have had something to do with whoever the minister was!

I attended Halswell School, a small semi-rural primary school and went on to Hillmorton High School where I finished with University Entrance. I mainly enjoyed my school years and always wanted to be a school teacher. That desire remained right up to the date I received the application forms for Teachers Training College and I suddenly didn't want to be a teacher any more. I left work and joined the Banking industry where my love for maths came in very helpful.

I met my future husband, Bruce, who was working as a chef in the Navy at the time, through a mutual acquaintance and we were married in 1975. By this stage I had moved to Auckland but we returned to Christchurch to live as that was home for both of us. Two lovely children, Allan and Lynne, were born in quick succession and I was fortunate to be able to be a stay-at-home mum for a few years.

During these years I had a hit and miss relationship with the Church but thankfully we both came from Christian backgrounds and so we gradually began to be drawn back in. We ran a local home group and Bruce was involved with vestry and was also a lay reader (as the liturgist role was known at the time). I had no ambitions other than to be a good wife and mother. However... God had other ideas! In the early 1980's a mission team from Motueka came to our church and twice the leader of the team came to me during a prayer session and said, "I believe God is calling you to ordination." I just laughed and shelved the whole idea as being ridiculous because I didn't even really believe in women priests and I had two small children to care for. The battle between me and God's call lasted for 8 years before I surrendered. It has not been easy.

Bruce died very suddenly at the end of my second year at Theological College, just a few months after we had celebrated his 40th birthday. I was suddenly a widow in a strange environment with two young teenagers to care for. But we survived with the love and care of those around us and though I wanted nothing much to do with this God who would allow such a tragedy to happen, God prevailed. I was ordained Deacon in Christchurch Cathedral in July 1991 and ordained Priest in Auckland Cathedral in 1992. We had decided to stay in Auckland by this time as the children had already been through enough upheaval and they had made really good friends here.

I did my curacy at St. Philips Church in St. Heliers and two years later, against all odds, because they didn't want a woman in charge, I became the Vicar at St. Matthias in Panmure. I ministered there for just over 11 years before doing a short stint at Sandringham/Mt. Roskill and then was appointed to my first role in Hospital Chaplaincy. That was in National Women's Hospital here in Auckland. In 2008 I felt a call to return to Christchurch to spend some time with my elderly parents. Initially I was without work so when I was offered a place in the call centre for Westpac Bank I took up the offer and learned so

much more about humanity and the way some people think it's OK to be abusive to the person on the other end of the phone. I was only there for 8 months before being offered a role as Co-ordinating Chaplain at Christchurch Hospital. This was the best of times and the worst of times as I was there when all the earthquakes hit. By this stage I was living alone as the children had well and truly flown the coop. They both married and have produced for me 6 lovely grandchildren, 1 here in Auckland, 3 in Melbourne and 2 angels in heaven. I have a South African daughter-in-law and an Australian son-in-law which makes for wonderful competition during the rugby season.

At the end of 2011 I was approached 3 times and asked to consider returning to Auckland to take up a role as Chaplain in Mental Health. It was an area I felt uncomfortable about but on the 4th approach I started to wonder if this was again God's call (I am clearly a slow learner). Short story, I arrived in August in 2012 and spent 3½ wonderful years ministering in that area

which I came to love. I 'retired' at the end of 2015. That lasted 6 weeks before Bishop Ross approached me and asked if I would do a fill-in role at Middlemore Hospital. Of all the Hospitals I have worked in this would be the most welcoming and friendly place to work.



--- The Reverend Pam Tizzard

From our new Kids' Church Leader!

I know many of you, but often don't get to talk to you, or if you are an '8 o'clocker' I may never get to see you. With that in mind, I'll tell you a little about myself and what I get up to outside of church time.

The thing I most love to do with my spare time involves enjoying this beautiful world; my children say it's 'fresh air time'. I find there is nothing like enjoying creation to find peace or to reorganise what may have been a busy or messy day. Getting some 'fresh air' may be weeding or pruning the garden (I love hacking plants back); or finding somewhere new to visit; or it may simply be getting up early and taking in the view from Mt Hobson - so many beautiful things in this amazing country; I love the beauty of plants, flowers, trees and our native animals. I also find the early morning the best time to offer my thanks to God for this world, and to be in His creation is, for me, the best way to do it.

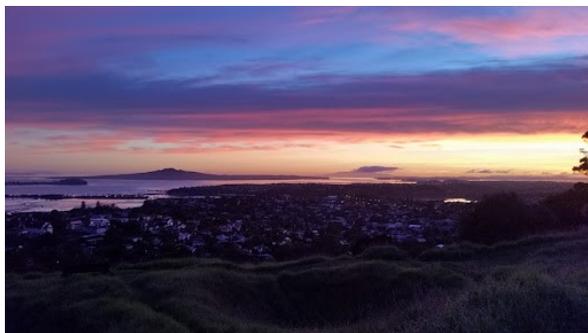
At other times I get a lot of pleasure from listening to music or strange and offbeat stories from the National programme. I like to play games with the family - mad and rough games of tag (usually ending spectacularly with someone being physically or more often emotionally hurt), or more sedate games of cards as we begin to teach our children 'last card' and 'speed'.



I spend many hours reading to our children. Lily enjoys any Enid Blyton and most recently Anne of Green Gables; Finn likes non fiction - being a fact collector; and Daisy's current favorite is 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea'. Our own reading has of late been around trying to read non-British authors. I finally finished The Luminaries over the summer and now I'm trying to start Crime and Punishment (again...third try...).

Our weekends usually consist of a family movie night; Glen kindly furnishing us with pancakes on Saturday mornings; an amateur crack at the cryptic crossword; a family bike ride or adventure of some kind; maybe a visit with friends; lots of earl grey tea; tears, laughter, loads of washing, baking and most importantly sleeping. Family life can be so mundane and at times frustrating, but it is also invigorating; like running a massive endurance event with a tray of eggs in your backpack and hoping to get to the end without cracking any.

We are busy at the moment; busy with kids' church and Glen being Priest in charge, but we feel assured of the call of God for this time and I am grateful to



be part of God's plan for this world; to know that Jesus has already done it all - I just have to be faithful and be prepared to follow and serve Him.

--- Sarah Ashworth

It's that time again!



The **St Aidan's Spring Fair & Garage Sale** is our annual big fundraiser.

So this is a timely reminder to clean out the garage, the cupboards and the closet and we'll gratefully receive any good quality saleable donations.

And for those of you who are able to assist in some way, we have jobs aplenty – on the day and behind the scenes.

We'll keep you updated.

Contact the Coordinator

Karina - 027 345 2259

St Aidan's Spring Fair & Garage Sale

Saturday 9 September 2017

Starts 8.00am

From the Registry...

Marriages

Chia-Yu Chang & Andy Tzu-An Liu

Sooneui Park & Hee Jin Cho

Belinda Jane Dickson & Fraser James Grut

Nastassia Isabella Jeanette Subritzky & Adam Grant Miller

Katie Louise Hughes & Luke Craig Sizer

Funerals

Raymond James Maxwell

William Theodore Meek

June Esther Kriechbaum

Elizabeth Mary Joplin

MaTina Antoinette Vivian

Nancy Marie Wills

David Curtois Paine

Robert Ramsey Clephane

Susan Mary Wilson

Just Prayers

*No coloured eggs
Or bunnies here,
Just deep-felt love
For Christ, so dear.*

*No Easter baskets
Full of fluff,
No jelly beans
And other stuff.*

*No superior looks,
No strife, no fights
With those who keep
The worldly rites.*

*No condemnation
For those who do,
Just prayers for them
To love Him, too.*

By Joanna Fuchs

Wednesday Friendship Group

We started the year with great enthusiasm after the less than memorable summer weather. Our numbers are steady and we have welcomed some new visitors who enjoy the games and the fellowship. We were sad to farewell Lorraine Vercoe when she moved to Selwyn Village, but she still comes to join the group when she can. Martyn moved to the North Shore but still joins us most Wednesdays.



We are joined by the 11.30 Church Service people when they can and it is enjoyable to sit around the table after the service for a cuppa and a chat. It was wonderful to see Noleen Cullen at the recent Ash Wednesday service.

Joan is doing a wonderful task, ringing as many people as she can on a Tuesday evening to catch up and remind them of the gathering the next day. We are very grateful to Baker's Delight, who donate a wonderful selection of goodies for us to have for morning tea. Also thanks go to Beverly and Marie who collect the donated items on a Tuesday evening.

We welcome anyone who would like company and friendship to join our group on a Wednesday at 10am.

-- Jenny Haggitt

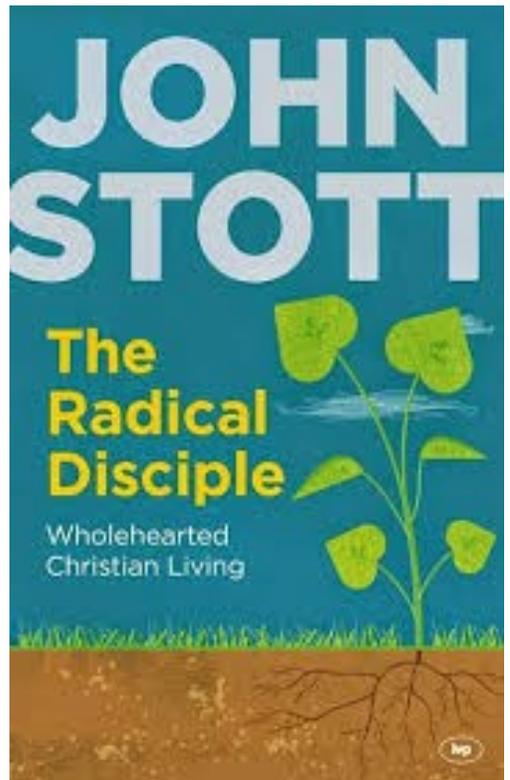


Lenten Studies

For our Lenten Study series this year things have run a little differently. In conjunction with two other parishes (Christ Church, Ellerslie and St Peter's Pakuranga), we developed sermons and studies for lent based on John Stott's book, 'The Radical Disciple'. Each Priest produced two sermons each and then took the corresponding studies in the parishes as they came up in the parishes' Lenten program. Home groups also picked up the studies during their weekly meetings.

Stott opens his book by describing the origin of the word radical, "The English word 'radical' is derived from the Latin word radix, a root...this came to be applied generally to those whose opinions went to the roots and who were thoroughgoing in their commitment." (p. 17, Stott). We have been challenged, under various discipleship topics such as creation care, simplicity, death and dependence to explore what it looks like to be thoroughgoing in our commitment to follow Christ, to live out our beliefs.

The feedback from the program was positive. It was good to have the mix of styles and focuses both in the sermons and the studies. This will hopefully lead to other opportunities for cooperative endeavours in the future where sharing resources and skills across the parishes benefits our calling to ministry and mission.



-- Glen Ashworth

Home Groups



Never been in one?
Try something new!

Each group has
its own flavour...

but the common
denominator...



... is faith,
friendship and
the Bible.

Contact Sheryl and Hein (578 2520)
for more information.

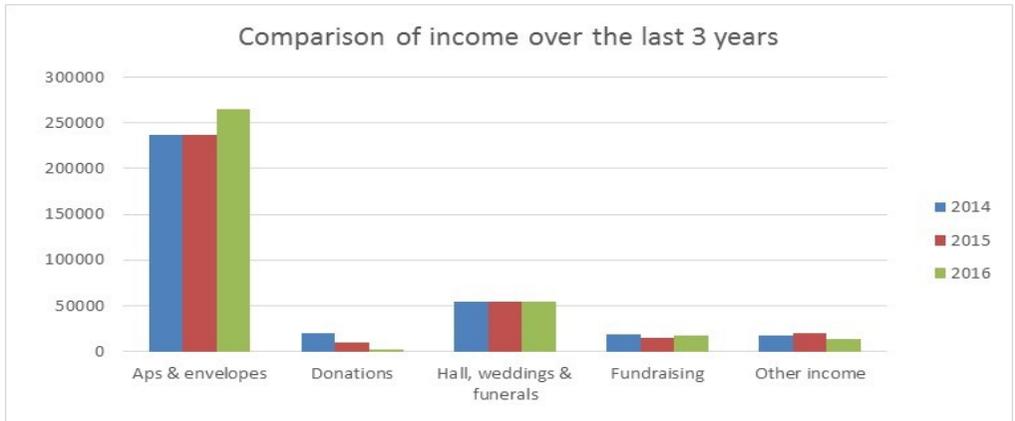
Finance Report to the SGM

At the SGM the Treasurer presented a summary of the operating result for the year ended 31 December 2016. For those who were not able to be at the SGM we present a summary of what he said and presented to the meeting:-

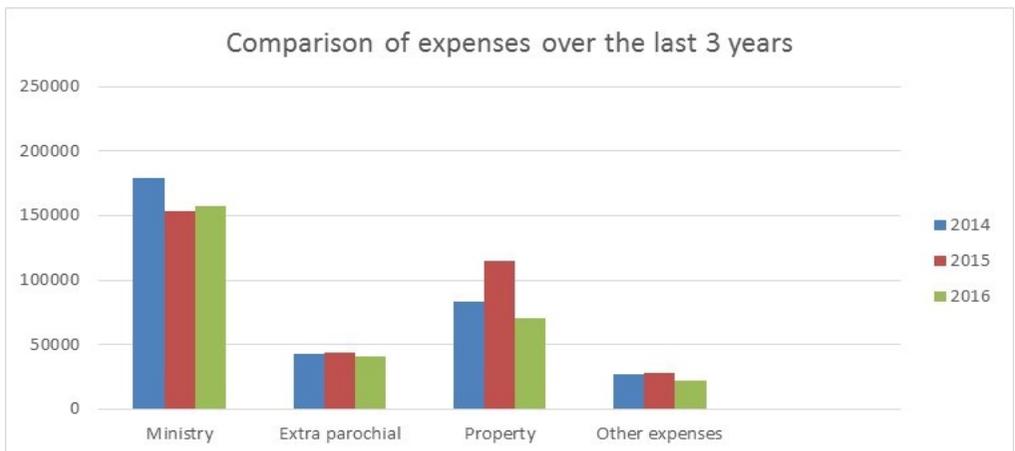
For 2016 we achieved a good surplus, following the small deficit in 2015. The turnaround was due to some growth in giving and some unexpected income and savings. I have prepared the following table which summarises the result for the year and compared it with the previous year.

Parish of St Aidan's - Summarised statement of Income and Expenditure of the Operating Account for the year ended 31 December 2016		
	2016	2015
Income		
Auto payments, envelopes and cash collections	242,900	216,205
Donations and bequests	24,039	30,265
Income from the hall, weddings and funerals	54,493	53,879
Fundraising	17,615	14,734
Rent	10,314	17,364
Interest	2,746	2,582
Total income	352,107	335,029
Parish Expenses		
Clergy stipend, travel and allowances	75,865	79,478
Wages and salaries	80,534	71,632
Repairs and maintenance	20,440	65,507
Other expenses	73,334	79,477
Total Parish operating expenses	250,173	296,094
Giving outside the Parish		
Diocesan contribution, NZ Mission etc.	41,159	43,634
Total net surplus/(deficit)	\$60,775	\$(4,699)

The graph below shows that automatic payment and envelope giving and fund raising increased over what they were in 2015. The most significant increase was in envelope giving, which increased by more than 25% on 2015.



The graph below shows that ministry expenses have increased slightly due to increasing the hours for some staff. However, the cost of other categories of expenses fell, particularly property expenses. The latter is due to the reduction in repairs and maintenance due to not yet resigning a new Programmed Maintenance contract. This contract expired during 2015, however, Vestry recognises that the lower level of repairs and maintenance expenses is not sustainable in the longer term.



In summary, the 2016 financial result of \$60,775 is a significant surplus which will enable us to replenish the reserves of the Parish. This level of surplus was not anticipated at the beginning of the year and arose due to some unexpected factors including:

- While Archbishop John was Priest in Charge he did not live in the vicarage so for a short period we were able to rent the Vicarage,
- When Glen moved into the Vicarage, we were able to collect the rent on No 8 Ascot Ave.
- Envelope giving increased over previous years by much more than expected.
- The repairs and maintenance costs were significantly less than anticipated as the Programmed Maintenance contract, which had expired late in 2015, has not yet been renewed or replaced.
- We had a couple of months with only one stipended priest.

In addition, we always knew that the stipend cost was going to be lower than it would otherwise have been, because half Glen's stipend was funded by the Diocese under a scheme which helps fund the first placement of Deacons.

Future position

It seems that, at least from a financial view point, we never seem to have a "normal" year. In 2017, for the first time in a few years we look to have a full complement of clergy and staff. The budget reflects the resulting increases in costs, as well as showing a more normal level of repairs and maintenance as that budget item has been based on the average cost over the last four years. Income has been budgeted to increase slightly and the net result is a budgeted surplus of \$15,720.

However, this surplus is very reliant on the rent we will receive from the Associates House as we are very fortunate in Pam being happy to live in her own house and travel into Remuera each day. But for this income we would have a deficit budget.

The summarised budget is:

Parish of St Aidan's - Summarised Operating Account Budget for the year ended 31 December 2017		
	2017 Budget	2016 Actual
Income		
Auto payments, envelopes and cash collections	243,300	242,900
Donations and bequests	24,400	24,039
Income from the hall, weddings and funerals	57,500	54,493
Fundraising	14,750	17,615
Rent	29,250	10,314
Interest	2,700	2,746
Total income	371,900	352,107
Parish Expenses		
Clergy stipend, travel and allowances	101,162	75,865
Wages and salaries	91,446	80,534
Repairs and maintenance	40,000	20,440
Other expenses	80,465	73,327
Total Parish operating expenses	313,073	250,166
Giving outside the Parish		
Diocesan contribution, NZ Mission etc.	43,107	41,159
Total net surplus/(deficit)	\$15,720	\$60,782

Mission Shop

In addition to the net surplus in the Operating Account which is shown above, the Mission Shop had a very successful year with income before donations paid of \$16,018 compared with \$13,535 in the previous year.

Donations made by the Parish

Donations in 2016 from the Mission Shop, specific fund raising and general giving included:

New Zealand Anglican Board of Mission	\$13,000
Tear Fund	\$2,500
Barnabas General Fund	\$2,500
Elevate Christian Disability Fund	\$2,000
Hospital Chaplaincy New Zealand	\$2,000
Red Cross	\$500
Disability, Spirituality and Faith Network	\$1,140

Audit requirements

With the changes in the reporting requirements of organisations registered under the Charities Act, the Parish's financial statements are no longer required to be audited, however they are included in the consolidated financial statements for the Anglican Diocese of Auckland, and are subject to audit procedures as part of that audit.

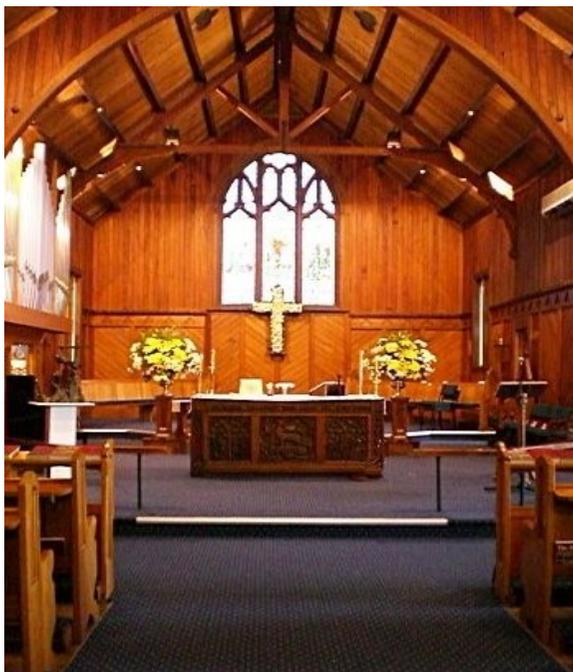
St Aidan's Endowment Trust

This trust received donations during the year of \$8,350, had investment income of a further \$8,602 and now has over \$136,000 invested for the future benefit of St Aidan's. We are also aware of Parishioners who have included the Trust as a beneficiary in their wills during the year.

Motion to be proposed at the SGM

I would like to put the motion that this Special General Meeting of Parishioners adopts the unaudited annual financial accounts for St Aidan's, Remuera for the year ending 31 December 2016, as prepared by Trust Management and based on information supplied by St Aidan's and notes that these financial accounts will be audited as part of the Diocesan consolidated accounts audit.

-- Russell Florence



Anglican Youth Ministries

So what is Anglican Youth Ministries and what does AYM actually do?

We facilitate youth ministry in the Anglican Diocese of Auckland. We offer parishes in the Diocese of Auckland combined youth group events – both social and spiritual – as well as diocesan-wide discipleship and evangelistic camps. We also provide communications networks to promote events, resources, to share news and photos of events.

We provide youth minister networks for support, training and resources. For young leaders, we run a leadership development program called “BOLD”. We offer diocesan and national leadership opportunities for youth and young adults through The Abbey, The Grace Collective, Three Tikanga Synod and Youth Exchange.



We offer churches consultancy services, advice on safety issues, and are advocates for young people in the church and society. We support building relationships with our Three Tikanga partners, mission agencies, parachurch youth organisations and other denominational youth leaders.

Grace Collective

The Grace Collective is a community of young adults (18+), all about life and faith and how those things go together. The GC is facilitated by Anglican Youth Ministries in the Diocese of Auckland, New Zealand.

As a collective, we all bring our best. Whether it's sharing our story, baking cupcakes, taking photos, connecting people or communicating a vision, as the GC, we are big on using the talents God has given us. As part of this we have what we call our 'core team' – these are the people who meet regularly to eat chocolate brownie, dream of what could be, pray, plan and lead our GC crews.

-- Conor McGrath



The Mission Shop



We had a remarkable year last year thanks to a large donation from the proceeds of a very kind parishioner's garage sale in December. We have work in progress on how and where to distribute our earnings from last year.

We have many and varied donations from all over coming in all the time. Thanks go particularly to the Thursday teams who deal with the copious bags of clothes which have come in during the week. Thanks also to three new

volunteers who have put their hands up for the months when we have a fifth Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

We are grateful for the extra help. We regretfully farewell Jane Bellamy who has been with us for two years, as she moves on

to new adventures in her busy life.

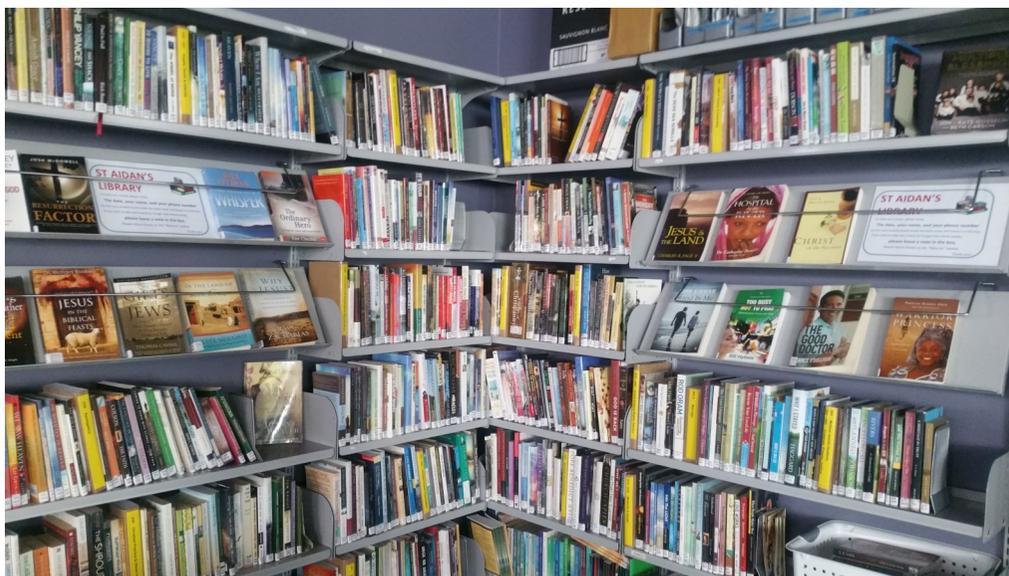


We have entered our fourth year of business hoping for another bumper year!

-- Jenny Haggitt

Library

Over the past few months we have checked and re-organised the library and sorted the DVD collection. You may have noticed the shelf blocks denoting subject areas and a corresponding list of subjects and their numbers on the wall.



There is no shortage of good reading already in the library but we are now ready to add some new titles. We would welcome suggestions of titles or topics that you think would make good additions. If you have a book or DVD you have found worthwhile and would be prepared to donate it for consideration, we would be very grateful. Email one of us or leave a message in the Returns basket.

Above all, take time to browse in the library corner, or look over the DVDs at morning tea. There is bound to be something that will catch your interest.

-- Jocelyn Whyte

AAW

The first meeting this year of St Aidan's Association of Anglican Women's Fellowship was held on Tuesday 7 March 2017. Twenty three members carpooled to the Anglican Trust for Women and Children, Beatty Street, Otahuhu where we all gathered at the chapel situated in the ATWC grounds. Jeny led us in our service with Antoinette playing the piano. Our gifts of knitting and toiletry packs for the many families they work with were blessed by Jeny before being presented to the CEO Judy Matai'a. Afterwards we adjourned to the Kenderdine Lounge where we held our meeting and enjoyed afternoon tea.

Judy thanked the AAW group for all the contributions made over the years and also encouraged us to look



at and share the ATWC Facebook page showing through words and photos all the wonderful work they do. Here is a several photo of this special afternoon.

We are organising a full year's programme meeting on the first Tuesday of the month in the Church Gathering Area at 1.30pm with a short service, a speaker and afternoon tea thereafter. Everyone is welcome.

Our April meeting was on Tuesday 4 April starting at 1.30pm and our speaker was Bishop Peter Atkins. His topic was "Signs and Symbols of Easter". We Look forward to meeting you next time. Please contact Christine on 0274 882472 with any queries.

-- Christine Kennedy

Men's Ministry

In the not so distant past there were great men's events at St Aidan's, when manly voices could be heard booming proudly and good times were had by all. The women of the parish have continued to meet all this time and the men have not. It was decided that this cannot be, so a manly gathering was held to rectify the state of affairs. The ideas flowed, the joy swelled and so the rebirth of manly get-togethers began...

One of our recent events was a day out on the Hauraki, once again on 'Marnine', a classic 50 ft wooden boat. Overall the fishing wasn't great and bites were few and far between. When fish were landed they were undersize. Then, after about an hour of this, Glen our Priest in



Charge, hooked into something much more substantial. After playing it for about 5 minutes we finally saw a good sized kingfish come to the surface. The fish was netted and brought up on to the boat but unfortunately in a comedy of errors the fish managed to slip off the deck on the back, down on to the boarding platform and at the same time managed to lose the hook. We then all watched dumbstruck as it slipped back into the water and swam to the depths. It was very disappointing but after much discussion we put it down to the sustainable fishing model we chose to follow at that point.

The policy was left in abeyance however - after a few hours with nothing to show for our toil we managed to land a nice sized trevally, a snapper and a gurnard which were all quickly put into the bucket. Apart from a great day of beautiful conditions, good food and banter, we were able to go home with something of a feed.

If you'd like to get involved with this group, get in touch with Glen to see what's coming up.

Kids' Church

What a delight to have such an enthusiastic bunch of people to talk about Jesus with. So far in Kids' Church this year we have been learning about the miracles of Jesus; how God is in control of all things; how we can trust Him with our lives; how His gift of love for us is completely free! We have been using the Jesus Storybook Bible to understand more about the stories and life of Jesus and we have been eating, dancing, singing, creating and playing as we learn about the joyful life God has given us through His son.



Highlights for me so far have been Vaughan performing the caterpillar during one of our songs (no photos of that yet, sorry!); seeing Isaac enjoying the music (and the playdough); watching Georgie and John laugh their way through the blindfold course; seeing Lachlan throw himself off all available objects; watching Emily 'jump and hop'; hearing that Elsa can recite memory verses (Go Elsa!); Daisy—well, you've got to love her determination to have her own way; Finn—great muscles during our jump up and down song; and



Lily you help me so much! It's hot work at the moment, but God is with us and convinced that this ministry is so important to the future of God's church. I love to see those little faces on Sunday morning and my hope is



that their lives will grow in the hope and love of Jesus.

-- Sarah Ashworth

Mainly Music

Mainly Music continues to be a flourishing ministry of St Aidan's Church and I feel privileged to be a part such a vibrant group. Of late we have had 25-30 children coming each week and



when we add caregivers to that there are a fair number of people! We continue to be wonderfully supported by an efficient and very friendly bunch of volunteers who make tea and coffee for tired mums and make sure our mornings run smoothly. The children love to see Glen leading the music sessions and he now has a merry little band of followers who 'walk and walk with their two feet' and 'give him 5'. I think it is significant to have Glen representing this link between St Aidan's and Mainly Music and I feel that it really does send a message that Mainly Music is important to our church.

I have recently been encouraged through attending a seminar run by Mainly Music; encouraged because I believe God really is reaching people through this wonderful ministry. I have come away with many ideas of what we can be doing with this ministry, but also that this is a 'grassroots' programme that is actively spreading and promoting the word of God.

My many thanks to the volunteers who so generously give of their time to support this ministry and I would encourage us all to pray for our group; that God would make His presence known through us, through the music there and through our conversations.

-- Sarah Ashworth

Pins & Needles

St. Aidan's "Pins and Needles" group have recommenced meeting after the summer holiday break. It was good to see everyone back again, to exchange our experiences and to "show & tell" the fabulous knitting created during the break. Our enthusiasm has not waned. We were glad to acquire more wool, patterns and ideas for the coming winter months.

Some members of the group went to the Anglican Trust for Women and Children (ATWC) with the afternoon Fellowship group in March and were delighted to have the knitting and toiletry packs blessed by Jeny Terrell before they were received by the Trust staff with much acclaim and many thanks.

If you would like to join this group and be part of our mission to help so many deserving young children in need, we would love to welcome you on the 2nd Monday of each month at 10am in the Gathering area for morning tea\coffee and loads of fun and laughter! See you there!!

-- Marie Taylor



A summer Cruise!

With our main focus on Easter at this time of year and its powerful messages of sacrifice and hope, I approached the writing of this article with a little trepidation. What does sailing have to do with Lent and Easter? Very little, on the surface, but as with most secular activities, a relationship can always be found if one thinks about it. Jesus was a carpenter, but many of his disciples were fishermen. When things got a bit hot for Jesus with crowds putting pressure on him and his ability to think clearly, he jumped into a boat to get some space.

Jesus spent a huge amount of his time around the Sea of Galilee, where he performed most of his miracles and delivered a lot of his parables. In short, the sea and boats played a big part in the life of Jesus before he became involved in the events we share and celebrate at Easter. So, on this basis, I feel more relaxed than I probably should over taking a big lump of Lenten time away from St Aidan's and going out on the water. If this action offends, I am sorry. Just don't read the article!



Samsara at sunset off Great Barrier

As some of you "St Aidaners" know, I have been involved in sailing most of my life. I enjoy the challenge of keeping boat and crew safe from perils, of planning a route around our wonderful coast taking account of potential hazards, and of being able to find sheltered secluded anchorages away from the noise of the city

and the irritation of motor-driven recreational equipment. All this allows time for contemplation, time to enjoy life without the trappings of TV, newspapers and radio, and time to sit quietly and watch nature at its best.

There is just nothing nicer than to sit in the boat cockpit of an evening and watch the sun go down in a blaze of glory behind Little Barrier Island. Wave after wave of coloured shafts of light changing as the sun goes down. Other features change shape when moving from direct sunlight to being silhouetted in dark relief, until eventually all is quiet and only dim shapes remain around you.

Many people ask me: “what do you do all day when the weather goes bad?” On the northern coast, the weather is so unreliable one has to be able to cater for those times to prevent crew frustration. I do not remember a single cruise I have been involved with where the weather stayed perfect for the whole trip. This year we spent 6 days holed up in the marina at Whitianga, only venturing out to “wade” up to the Supermarket for supplies, or to take a cold shower at the marina base.

My permanent crew Jeanette H. is an intelligent academic whizz, so crossword puzzles are a must! The more difficult the better! We keep a very large dictionary on board which covers most of the options, but we do sometimes need to resort to Mr Google to resolve an argument over more obtuse words, usually in that devilish Kropotkin puzzle which only appears on Saturdays. Good books are also important, though I have to say I am not a great reader when frustrated.

This year, for one of the cruise legs I was again fortunate to have St Aidan’s Andrew McLean join the ship in Whitianga. We hoped for a nice week of relaxation around the coastal islands from Mercury Bay south, but the weather bomb experienced all over the North Island put paid to a good part of the week. Eventually, we escaped from the marina with a sigh of relief, and

sailed out to Great Mercury Island, where we spent a day or so looking at a superb example of how to run a farm where cost control is not a major consideration. We remarked on the well-maintained farm buildings, the presence of a lot of healthy stock, and the undoubted sense of involvement the farm staff have when working for the island owners. This island has recently become “pest-free” after the owners contributed \$1.5m towards the campaign DOC waged to remove all predators. Monitoring is ongoing, but the last rodent caught on the main island was in last October, and staff even know where it came from! All in all, a great example of cooperation between owners and Government agencies.



John G. Fred M. Jeanette H.

After a day around the farm, it was time for Andrew to return to Auckland, and this part of the trip turned into a bit of a nightmare. Very like the storm on the Sea of Galilee! The wind was well over 30 kts, and the sea so confused it proved impossible to pick out foul ground markers until we were almost on top of them. Poor Samsara was barely making way against the short confused seas, and at times was down to under 2 kts. However, at a critical time, just like the miracle, the wind abated somewhat and we were able to get back into Whitianga with just enough time for Andrew to return to Auckland for an important meeting. Phew!

We were also very lucky to have an old “St Aidainer” in Fred McElrea join us at Whitianga for the last week of the trip. He arrived on the “Naked Bus” from Auckland and announced he always brought good weather with him! He was right! We left Whitianga with a nice breeze to take us out to Great Mercury Island where we spent a peaceful night catching up and deciding on the timetable for the next few days. We had a great sail under reduced canvas out to Cuvier Island to look at the only remaining lighthouse-keepers’ establishment in NZ (now used by DOC); a pretty rough ride up the eastern Coromandel coast; several memorable anchorages with us as the only boat to be seen; and suddenly we were back to civilisation with a thud!

Our pre-dinner graces, taken turn-about, helped bring our minds back from secular thoughts to spiritual ones. Couple this with memories of all those wonderful stories set around Galilee we learned at Sunday School and Bible Class, and one begins to feel that perhaps going away during Lent is not such a bad thing after all. I certainly believe that to be true. I have to: I am the Captain!

-- John Glenie

St Aidan's Endowment Trust

A bequest in your Will is a wonderful way for you to help build the Endowment Trust's funds and help secure the future of St Aidan's for your children, grandchildren and future generations.

If you already have a Will and wish to add a gift to the Endowment Trust you should contact your solicitor or trust company and ask for the following clause to be inserted.

"I give to the St Aidan's Endowment Trust the sum of \$xx (or a x% share in the residual of my estate) for its general purposes and I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or other duly authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my executors."

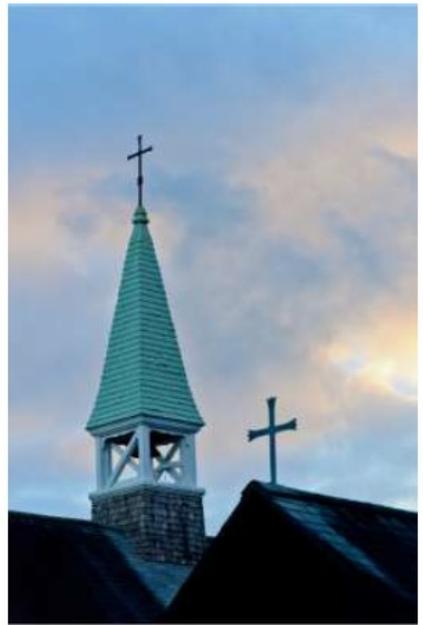
The same example wording can be used to help you put in place a new Will.

Bequests can be made in cash, shares, real estate or other property and can be made by way of a gift during your lifetime or can be bequeathed in your Will.

If you require more information on the Endowment Trust or how to make a gift, either during your lifetime or in your Will, please contact the Parish Office and request a brochure endowment@staidans.co.nz. Or click [here](#) to go to the brochure.

-- Russell Florence

St Aidan's Endowment Trust



*Honouring the past
Acknowledging the present
Securing the future*

Regular Events @ St Aidan's

Sunday Services	8:00am Holy Communion 9:30am Family Communion with Youth and Kids' Church 5:00pm G@5 (not on 2 nd Sunday of each month) 7:30pm Taizé Contemplative worship (2 nd Sunday each month)
Wednesday Service	11:30am Holy Communion without music .
Morning Prayer	9am Monday to Saturday - in the Gathering Area.
Prayer Meeting	7pm Wednesday - in the Gathering Area for ½ hour.
Youth	School aged youth (11 and over), Sun at 9:30am service and Fri at 7pm .
Kids' Church	All children aged 3-10 during the 9.30am service . Contact Sarah Ashworth.
Friendship Group	Wednesdays at 10am in the Gathering Area. Join us for fellowship, games and morning tea.
Mainly Music	Wed during term time at 9.30am . Music & play for families with pre-school aged children.
Choir Practice	Wednesdays at 7.30pm in Bethel Room. New members welcome. Contact Chris.
Home Groups	All welcome! Contact Sheryl or Glen for more information.
AAW	A women's fellowship group. Meets monthly on 1st Tuesday at 1.30pm.
W.E.F.	A women's evening fellowship group. Meets monthly on 3rd Tuesday at 7.30pm.
St Aidan's Vestry	Next meet on 21 June at 7.30pm in the Gathering Area.

Contacts @ St Aidan's

Office: <i>Mon-Fri 9– 3.30</i>	Emily Paul W 929 4670 ext 1 E office@staidans.co.nz	Accounts:	accounts@staidans.co.nz or contact the office
Priest in Charge: Sun-Thurs	The Revd Glen Ashworth W 929 4670 ext 2 M 027 457 4105 E: pic@staidans.co.nz	Prayer Circle:	Anne Mercer 520 2861
Priest Assistant: Tues-Fri + Sun	The Revd Pam Tizzard W 929 4670 ext 4 M 027 472 6352 E: priestassistant@staidans.co.nz	Pastoral Care	Anne Mercer 520 2861 &
Bishop's Warden:	Pip Colgan 027 459 6433	Co-ordinators:	Marie Taylor 524 8642
People's Warden:	Pete Macaulay 021 488 485 peter@no1.co.nz	Pins & Needles:	Marie Taylor 524 8642 mariertaylor@xtra.co.nz
Kids' Church:	Sarah Ashworth W 929 4670 ext 3 M 021 562 205 E children@staidans.co.nz	Women's Evening Fellowship :	Jan Evans 578 1505 jannigel@icloud.com
Youth	Conor McGrath	Library:	Jocelyn Whyte 528 4824 Joan E-L 579 5958
& Young Adults:	M 021 081 90306	Mission Shop:	Jenny Haggitt 524 5254 <i>Thurs, Fri, Sat:10-2</i>
		Music:	Chris Graham 027 444 7615 cjgmusic@hotmail.com
		Home Group	Sheryl Swanevelder 578 2520 &
		Coordinators:	Glen Ashworth 929 4670 ext 2
		Mainly Music:	<i>(school term only)</i> See Sarah staidansmainlymusic@gmail.com
		AAW:	Christine Kennedy 027 488 2472

Social media contacts:

www.facebook.com/staidansyouthremuera

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Bank Account number: St Aidans Church Remuera 06-0257-0052666-13