

THE APOSTLE

Christmas 2019



St Aidan's 
Anglican Church

Glen's Foreword

As I recently mentioned in a sermon, we were fortunate enough to attend a performance of Les Miserables. Having seen this production more than once, I was struck afresh by the gritty themes of justice, compassion and grace set against a backdrop of desperation that was 19th Century France; it's ability to provide insights after so many viewings demonstrates its quality and character as an enduring story. In the same way, as we turn our focus towards Christmas, the narratives of Jesus' birth give new insights at every reading. However, beyond literary themes for contemplation, these accounts record the statements and events which reveal the pinnacle of God's engagement with humanity in order to bring salvation for everyone. Jesus Christ, born to Mary, is proclaimed to be God in the flesh and the one who will establish a kingdom of peace and justice. It was the songstress Joan Osborne who had us ponder in the mid 90's, 'What if God was one of us?', we need to consider afresh today the implications of the gospel accounts. What does it mean that God has come among us as a person, experiencing all the realities of daily life? What does it mean that Jesus will be given a throne and that, 'of his kingdom, there will be no end' (Luke 1:33)?

This year we are focusing on a particular phrase uttered by the angel who visited Mary. In the midst of statements involving miracles of conception and a kingly son, the angel says to Mary, "Do not be afraid" (Luke 1:30). This is a common encouragement when biblical figures encountered heavenly beings but also an interesting one in the context of such astounding news. In the huge variety that is our human experience, amidst our greatest hopes and aspirations, our worst fears and struggles, God comes and says, 'Do not be afraid'.

Hopefully we will see you over the Christmas period - our service and event details are all published within this issue. We wish you all the best for the season and the New Year ahead and that in some way, small or large, you encounter this Christmas, the God who is here and brings a life that is free from fear.

Glen



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Recent Events



Annual Bake-off - Thanks to Desley Simpson for agreeing to judge. The Winners were... Liz Fraser (Corn and Cheese) for Savoury Muffins and Patricia Maud (Candied Orange Peel) and Celia Finn (Banana and Chocolate Chip) for Sweet Muffins. Thank you to everyone who purchased a muffin (or two!) after the competition.



'Thank You' Morning Tea - There are many people who contribute to the life of the Parish and our ministries. This morning tea was to thank our many volunteers for their time, effort and skills.



St Francis Day Pet Service - Held on Sunday 6th October. Pets, teddies and photos were blessed by our Priest Associate Louise, and items donated to the SPCA were very gratefully received.



Regular Events at St Aidan's

Sunday Services	8:00am Holy Communion 9:30am Family Communion 5:00pm Evening service (4 th Sunday of 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.
Contemplative Prayer	Meets each Wednesday at 9.45am, 276A Victoria Avenue. Contact Anne Priestley.
Youth	Sunday at 9:30am service and Friday at 7pm. Contact Conor.
Kids' Church	All children aged 3-10 during the 9.30am service. Contact Sarah.
Friendship Group	Wednesdays at 10am in the Gathering Area. Join us for fellowship, games and morning tea.
Mainly Music	Wednesdays during term time at 9.30am. Music & play for families with pre-school aged children. Contact Sarah.
Choir Practice	Saturdays at 10am in the Bethel Room. New members welcome.
Home Groups	All welcome! Contact Sheryl Swanevelder or Louise for more information.
AAW	A women's afternoon fellowship group. Meets monthly on 1 st Tuesday at 1.30pm.
WEF	A women's evening fellowship group. Meets monthly on 3 rd Tuesday at 7.30pm.
Men's Ministry	Meets last Thursday of the month. Contact Glen for more info.
Pins & Needles	Meets monthly on 2 nd Monday of the month. Contact Marie Taylor on 524 8642.

St Aidan's Day

On St Aidan's Day our opening words to our service began...

We gather, looking back to see the paths taken, looking forward to see our path. We honour those who have gone before us, learning from their successes and failures. We celebrate who we are today, and welcome the possibilities and opportunities before us. We gather to worship God, the God of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

That was very much our theme for St Aidan's Day and whilst we recognize that we come to church as

separate individuals we are united and connected through our faith and our love of God. We represented this in a physical way as we wrote on separate strips of cloth our names, what we bring to this church community in terms of gifts and skills and what St Aidan's offers to others or we could offer in the future. The strips were woven together into one cloth which was processed back into the church and became our altar cloth for communion. Very symbolic of the saints coming together as one on St Aidan's Day bringing our separate identities but being united through God.

Louise Anderson



Prison Ministry

We have two teams who visit Auckland Wiri Women's Prison. The teams alternate each month so the commitment is not too intense and sustainable.

We have Barbara Weir, Anne Priestley and Pip Colgan in one team. The other team being Hein and Sheryl Swanevelder.

This Ministry has been running for 10 years plus.

The Chaplaincy at Wiri continues to assure us that our visits are invaluable and the women benefit greatly from the spiritual input. It is encouraging to see the number who turn up, as it is a voluntary choice. The choice in itself must come with a certain amount of derision from some of the inmates, so it is a huge act of courage on behalf of the women who attend the services.

As we in a small way show them the unconditional love of Christ and the power of forgiveness, we trust that they are left with hope for the way ahead.

From another perspective, except for Anne who is a priest, we are all lay people following what was laid on our heart to do. The only 'course' one has to attend is the compulsory Induction Course, which is basically how to keep yourself safe in the prison environment, and a code of behaviour that is beneficial to both parties. This is refreshed every two years.

Any member of the team would be willing to talk to you if you feel that this could be a place you are called to.

We thank God that we are still allowed to take the word into prisons!

Sheryl Swanevelder

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Keith Simpson
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E k.simpson@barfoot.co.nz



Paula Izzard
M 021 284 1020
E p.izzard@barfoot.co.nz



We'd like to wish all our clients and parishioners at St Aidan's Church a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

barfoot.co.nz

Do not be afraid!

This year we are gifting our Mainly Music families a book entitled, “DON’T be AFRAID, GOD is WITH YOU.” The blurb in the book captures this imperative so well: “This is the story of God being with us. Of God in human form, coming to earth as a child, growing as a man, interacting with people. This is the story of God being revealed, rather than being mysterious.”

In the account of the birth of Jesus we see the attention God pays to those who were just everyday people. Mary, Joseph and the shepherds were ordinary folk going about their ordinary lives, but God met with them, exhorting them to not be afraid so that they might show the glory of God through their trust in him. The examples below also remind us of a faith and a trust in God that allows him to be at work; for our fears to be given to him; for a real and a true and alive God to be seen through ordinary people – to display his glory to the world so that others may know that God is indeed with us.

Anne Priestley

I was six months pregnant with our fourth baby and the builders were still working on the house we were going to move into.

Their plan: to finish in 3 months’ time, at Christmas.

Our plan: move in at once, hoping they’d hurry up – why wait for the baby to arrive?

God’s plan...?

Ten days later, weighing a little over 1kg, Alastair decided to arrive early. Far too early. Oh my goodness! While I waited for delivery, I found myself alternately talking to him and praying to God. ‘Kia kaha, little one.’ ‘Help!’

He had to stay in intensive care, while I was free to go – but before I left hospital a priest from St Aidan’s came to baptise him... God would take care of him beyond anything we could do.

Alastair stayed in hospital for 10 weeks, coming home a couple of days before Christmas. ‘Not quite five pounds yet,’ they said, ‘but near enough.’

During those 10 weeks we barely had time to think. The builders were still at work around us, the other children needed love and care in their new surroundings, John had his practice to attend to, I was trying to maintain breast milk supply.

Thank you, God, that we were able to afford some home help. Thank you, God, for Grandma in the granny flat. Thank you, God, for unseen angels in the wider community who took children to Playcentre and

dropped in meals. Thank you, God, for the prayers of St Aidan’s.

We brought Alastair to St Aidan’s during his earliest days at home. I remember John Blyth cradling him gently in his arms and praying over him. Like Simeon in the Temple, it seemed to me.



I am delighted to say that Alastair continues to make occasional appearances at St Aidan’s, as well as serving the Auckland Rainbow Community Church in many roles. An answer to many prayers. Thank you, God!

Margaret Goldsmith

Don't be afraid... you are mine I have called you by name...

My husband had three years of slow decline in health due to kidney failure. He was advised to find a living kidney donor, so I thought I would offer mine.

We were stepping into unknown territory. I failed my first test due to high blood pressure which I blamed on the elections!! Three months later I asked if they would repeat the 24 hour blood-pressure test - and this time passed. For several months I had a series of tests, all of which I passed as a suitable match and were given a date for the transplant - 20th March 2019.

We were nervous because we didn’t know what to expect and what the outcome would be, but church, families and Christian friends prayed for us throughout the country, many through their home groups.

We felt incredibly relaxed, safe and had an overwhelming sense of peace.

The surgery was straightforward and successful for us both, then six months later my husband had further surgery to remove his two native kidneys, again without any complications.

God was with us: a very present help in our time of trouble.

We are so grateful for the surrounding love we've experienced from so many. Grateful to be living in a country that can provide this treatment. Grateful to our skilled specialists. Grateful for the power of prayer and the visible knowledge of God's love as we ventured as a family into the unknown.



Sarah Ashworth

This is a loose ‘Do Not be Afraid’ anecdote, but also occurred at Christmas time about 11 years ago, just as we were expecting Lily to be born.

To give some background, Glen had been at Bible College and at the end of the year had not secured a position to go on to. This was complicated by our accommodation being at the Henderson Campus with students expected to move on when their study was completed. And so we found ourselves without a job, accommodation and with a baby due to arrive. It was a stressful and worrying time for us.

Through a series of coincidences, conversations, and events Glen started investigating a position as a lay minister at St Margaret’s in Hillsborough. After an interview and lots of talking and thinking it was still not clear if this was the right move for us and Glen in particular, being from a Pentecostal and Baptist background, was unsure of the change in worship style. We were encouraged by the church leadership to attend some services as a way of establishing some clarity and while it seemed like this was the right track for us, we still needed a push in the right direction.

One Sunday morning as we prepared to set off to St Margaret’s again we talked with some friends of ours, saying that we were still uncertain and felt like the decision and way forward was unclear.

Jokingly we said that we were going to ask God for a sign that morning, not intending to test God in any way, but as a way of lightening and adding some levity to what was becoming a big decision for us.

Our sign, as we were in need of a holiday, was that someone at St Margaret’s was going to offer us a bach to stay in.

At the conclusion of the service at St Margaret’s, a lady in front of us turned around and introduced herself. We chatted away and were pretty open with why we were there - looking at the church and seeing if it was

the right place for us. Towards the end of the conversation she looked at us and said, “I see you’re expecting a baby. You’ll need a holiday before then and we have a place on Waiheke which you are most welcome to use.” Glen and I looked at each other

in a stunned sort of way; surely God didn’t honour such ridiculous requests of signs and yet here was the most specific of signs.

What had begun as a fraught journey of the unknown was brought to a spectacular end, with a sign of God’s power and a sign that we really did not need to be afraid - God was at work – and God was with us through that time of decision making. Glen took the position, we lived in the old vicarage behind the church and of course the only inevitability of it all - Lily’s birth - happened too. As I look back now, it’s not only Lily’s birth that strikes me as inevitable. I feel that to God it all was; the inevitability of a position for Glen, a house for us and the inevitability of God again revealing himself as Immanuel - God is with us.

Quiz & Puzzle Solutions

Word Search - page 19



Crossword - page 19



AAW

(Association of Anglican Women)

The past few months have been busy for our group celebrating the 50th Jubilee of the formation of the Association of Anglican Women in 1969 which enabled all women to belong to any women's group regardless of their marital status or whether they were mothers. This was instigated by the women of the Anglican Church in New Zealand and has eventually been accepted throughout the world.

Our October meeting was dedicated to the Golden Jubilee and the Rev'd Louise Anderson led us in a special service before our meeting in the Gathering Area. The AAW banner (made by Jane Mason) was on display in the Sanctuary. Barbara Dixon, our Auckland AAW President joined us along with her sister Kaye for the celebrations. Barbara, Marie Taylor, Paulene Murdoch and Rosemary Atkins spoke as past presidents of Auckland, Waipapu and Nationally.

We also celebrated with Lillian Gnanasunderam with a special cake for her 100th birthday. Lillian has been a member of the women's groups at St Aidan's since joining the Parish and has been a leader, treasurer and committee member over the years.

A special service was held in the Bishop Selwyn Chapel in early October to celebrate the Golden Jubilee with all the groups of the Auckland Diocese. This was followed by a lunch and a birthday cake cut by Marie Taylor and Paulene Murdoch as past National presidents.

Our AGM was held early in November and chaired by the Rev'd Glen Ashworth. The various reports recorded that our group is in good heart and have been very generous in the mission work we have undertaken during the year. The committee members are very supportive of each other and it helps as we work as a team with no official leader at present.

Recently we had a visit by Shelly Vette, National Overseas and Outreach Convenor, who spoke to us about the AAW Jubilee Project in Ambae, Vanuatu. This project is set up to repair the damage at St Patricks College after the devastating volcanic eruption and will enable the girls to go back to school. We also heard about the AAW in Fiji.

We are now looking forward to our Christmas Meeting in the first week of December beginning with a service in the church followed by a special Christmas afternoon tea prepared by the committee and finishing up with carol singing accompanied by Bill Purvis.



I wish you a joyous Christmas as you spend time with your families and safe travels over the holiday period.

Blessings to you all.

Mary Parkinson

BOLD 2019

This year the BOLD team has accomplished a lot as we get ready for our trip.

We started our journey in July with our Senior Winter Camp. We had a chance to meet everyone who we are journeying alongside with and get a taste of what our year would entail. The team then organised fundraisers from the Opshop ball to Quizzes and even selling chocolates.

The Team worked hard and with support of their church communities we have met the amount we were fundraising for.

Now the team are preparing themselves for what to expect in Fiji as we have a weekend to learn how we can best honour our hosts we are staying with.

We will be in Fiji for 10 days as we experience their culture and how God is at work there.

Please pray for us and in particular the seven young people going on this trip.

I look forward to sharing with church in the New Year when we get back what we have experienced and learnt.

Conor McGrath

Youth Pastor and Young Adults Facilitator

Top: 2019 BOLD Team

Above right: Winter Camp

Below Right: Youth Group Sushi Night

Below: Youth and Young Adults being silly at the end of year shared dinner and fireworks night



Christmas Hacks

- ☆ Empty tinfoil/glad wrap boxes or Pringle tubes and paint or cover with wrapping paper to make great gift boxes for homemade cookies and shortbread.
- ☆ Hang ornaments from a light fixture to transform it into a Christmas chandelier.
- ☆ Use a bread clip to stick on the end of your sticky tape so you can easily find end of the roll.
- ☆ Use two different sizes of lights to make your Christmas tree more magical.
- ☆ Three small candy canes taped together make great place card holders.

Post-Christmas

- ☆ Repurpose a wine crate or a garment bag to store your wrapping paper rolls and keep them tidy.
- ☆ Use egg cartons to safely store smaller Christmas tree baubles and delicate decorations.
- ☆ Wind Christmas lights around a clothes hanger before putting them away to keep them from getting tangled.
- ☆ Play-doh is an easy way to clean up glitter, just squish on and peel off.

Christmas Crafts



Toilet Roll Nativity scene

Toilet rolls (one per character)
Scraps of cloth, soft paper, raffia, paper doilies, tinsel
Shoebox
Matchbox for the manger
Crepe for the floor

Use your imagination to make the characters. There are plenty of ideas on Google. The scene is in a modified shoe box which then serves to store it until next Christmas.

Reader's Digest Angel

1 Reader's Digest (old ones with more pages are best)
1 Satay skewer
1 ping pong ball
1 stainless steel scourer
Glue
Can of metallic gold or silver spray



Fold the pages carefully to get the shape shown (it can be quite fiddly). Do not fold the covers. Glue the satay stick to the spine and pierce a small hole in the ping pong ball to sit on the top of the skewer as shown, glue the scourer to the ping pong ball. Fold the bottom of the covers to halfway up the spine, forming the wings, and glue (or tape) into place. Spray in a well-ventilated area, ideally on an outside table with plenty of paper underneath. When dry, pick up your angel by the pages, not the head!

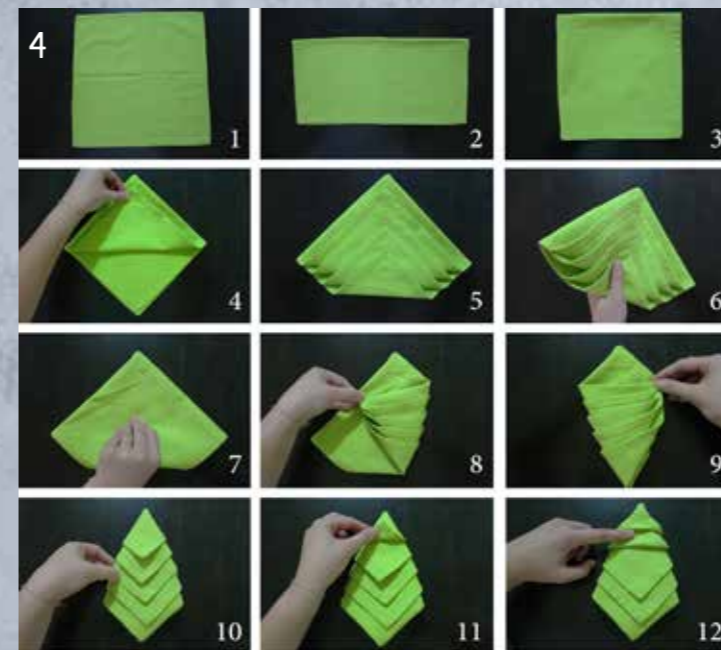
2



3



4



1 Grinch Santa Fruit Sticks

Using a cocktail stick, skewer a grape and push to the bottom. Add a slice of banana, followed by a strawberry. Top with a mini marshmallow.

2 Kit-Kat Sleigh

2 large or 4 small candy canes
Kit-Kat
8 assorted mini chocolates
Curling ribbon
Sellotape
Scissors

Stick the candy canes to the base of the Kit-Kat, hook side up. Pile mini chocolates in alternating direction on top of the Kit-Kat (bottom layer 3, middle layer, 3, top layer 2). Tie curling ribbon around in both directions, curl ends with scissors.

3 Reindeer Hot Chocolate Gift Bag

2 Piping Bags
Hot Chocolate
2 tbsp Mini Chocolate Chips
1/3 cup Mini Marshmallows
1 Red Pom Pom Ball
2 Google Eyes
1 Rubber band
1 Brown Pipe Cleaner
Glue
Ribbon
Scissors

Pour hot chocolate mix into piping bag (get it all the way into the tip). Twist bag closed and wrap with the rubber band. Trim off the top of bag. Put bag into another piping bag and flatten. Layer in mini chocolate chips. Add layer of mini marshmallows. Twist and tie off with ribbon. Glue pom pom nose near tip of bag. Wrap brown pipe cleaner around top for antlers and shape.

4 Christmas Tree Napkin

Follow the step by step guide.

Mission Shop

Pins & Needles

Lilian's 100th Birthday Celebration

The Garage Sale clothing, sold in both the Mission Shop and on the stage, made a total of \$2,200 - almost the same figure as last year so a really great result. The more prominent signage on the stage pointing customers to the shop was a great help. A lot of stuff was put back into the shop after the sale, but by opening on Thursday most of it was sorted. As usual a lot of leftover clothing was taken to ATWC in Otahuhu thanks to Robyn, Annette and Terrie.

We have now changed the winter clothes for summer, keeping only the best winter clothes for next year.

Our total for the shop to the end of October is \$11,925. Not quite the amazing total of last year, but still very significant. August was particularly slow; might it have been the miserable wet weather? We made up for a bit with Terrie and Sarah taking \$356 on one Thursday. The take continues to be totally random, as that Thursday take alone was more than some of the August weeks.

Our advertising on the New World electronic screen continues, and for that we thank the Remuera Rotary Club.

Jenny Haggitt

www.facebook.com/staidansmissionshop

Congratulations and sincere thanks to all our wonderful knitters and sewers who have continued to create such beautiful baby garments during this past year for those less fortunate in our midst.

Your industry is much appreciated by those whose need is greatest as you would have heard from the Counties Manukau Community Midwives who visited us this month. They were so interesting to hear from as they told us of the joy their clients expressed when they received your gifts.

We welcome you all to our final meeting for the year on Monday 9th December with a Christmas morning tea celebrating the birth of Christ the King.

Blessings to you all!

Marie Taylor



My 100th birthday celebration was a day to remember. Let me thank Glen and Louise who, in spite of busy schedules, agreed to officiate at the thanksgiving service for me. Lots of people said what a wonderful service it was.

Also, thank you to my church family who celebrated my birthday on Sunday 30th October. Annmarie Raffel, who is like a daughter to me, gave me the gift of the birthday cake and refreshments which I'm sure all enjoyed.

Thank you Conor, the drummer boy, and Karel Lee for your nightingale voice, and Glen for the strums of the guitar which helped to make the two hymns joyful and praiseworthy. Certainly the Psalms tell us to sing heartily to the Lord. Thank you Antoinette and Chris for the music. Thank you to Gail and her team who arranged the flowers.

Last, but not least, my sincere thanks to Bishop Peter who gave me the gift of my 100th year birthday hymn.



With love to all,
Lilian Gnanasunderam

A brief summary of Lilian's life was printed in the August edition of 'The Apostle'. If you would like to read her extraordinary story you can find it at www.staidans.conz/magazines/

Home Groups

Home groups at St Aidan's continue to thrive and flourish.

The leadership has maintained a stability over the years, which shows mature commitment from all involved. This, together with the fact, that new groups continue to sprout, demonstrates the keen interest, and need that people have in being part of a Home group.

Home groups at St Aidan's vary in a number of ways, they vary in their interests and in the frequency of meetings. Most groups follow a Bible study of sort but the wonderful thing is that there is latitude of choice, so each group is unique!

It is not only a relationship with God which is strengthened and deepened, but also relationships between people.

To be a Christian means to be part of the body of Christ, we are all working together and we can't do it alone. We benefit from the strength, wisdom, encouragement and support of the group.

For people who prefer a more contemplative approach Anne Priestley, John Pearce and Pip Colgan have started a group that meets those needs.

Glen Ashworth leads the Colloquium group. Louise Anderson has started a new group with two time slots. All in all we have nine different groups meeting throughout the month.

To all the Leaders who serve in this ministry, Christmas blessings and may God continue to inspire you in all you do.

Sheryl Swanevelder

All articles printed in the Parish Magazine are at the discretion of the Vicar. Content and size may be edited to fit publication. We welcome your photos. Please email contributions to the office. Deadline for next Parish Magazine is 10th March 2020.

WEF (Women's Evening Fellowship)

Women's Evening Fellowship enjoyed delicious Christmas desserts at their last meeting for the year. This natural pear jelly with fresh cubed pears and sliced strawberries was sprinkled with white chocolate, which comes in a packet with jelly. The Jellyologist Jelly kit with 12 cones was used for the shapes.

A very quick, easy and tasty dessert.

This is a new product available now at Countdown and Farro's before Christmas.

Jan Evans

Mary and Joseph on their Advent journey

Mary and Joseph are looking for kind families to accommodate them for one or two nights as they make their journey through the season of Advent - the time of preparation for Christmas. Fill in your name and address on the roster in the Gathering Area if you would like to have them visit.

Families are invited to take some photos of Mary and Joseph, e.g. while eating dinner, reading books, playing a game... use your imagination! You can email the photos to Sarah children@staidans.co.nz or remueramainlymusic@gmail.com

We will then compile the photos and show everyone what those guys have been up to. It's your responsibility to make sure that Mary and Joseph get delivered to their next home for the night - you'll be provided with the address of the next family. Sometimes you might have them for more than one night if Mary and Joseph are particularly tired from their travelling or if there isn't anyone to take the next day slot.

Many thanks to the exceptionally talented Gail Hodder who has brought these gorgeous characters to life.



Neighbourhood Carol Singing

Wednesday 18th December

Meet at the church at 5:45pm where we will begin our informal carol singing on the church lawn, then go on to sing at a couple of local homes

If possible please wear something red or Christmassy

Open Door

Wednesday 8th 15th & 22nd January

10am - 11:30am

Tea and coffee available

Come along for a chat, to knit, to play Scrabble or Mahjong.

The Gathering Area will be OPEN

Lots of things close down in January but not us!

St Aidan's Anglican Church



The New Wine summer festival is all about churches coming together, getting to know one another, laughing, worshipping, becoming equipped for the year ahead where we seek to see God's kingdom in everyday lives.

They're quite simply uplifting and give us as individuals, families and communities space to deepen our understanding of what an authentic kiwi Christian life looks like.

"Whānau in the Presence of God" celebrates 25 years of the New Wine Festival, 16th to 20th January at Kapiti College.

Register online at newwine.org.nz or complete a registration form available in the Gathering Area.

Blue Christmas

A service of remembrance and hope

Sunday 1st December 6:30pm

St Aidan's Anglican Church
5 Ascot Avenue, Remuera

You're invited to **CHRISTMAS** at St Aidan's, Remuera

'Do not be afraid'

Blue Christmas
1st December at 6:30pm

Nine Lessons and Carols
15th December at 7pm

Community Carol Singing
18th December at 5:45pm

Christmas Eve
24th December at 4pm Kids' Service
7pm Communion Service
11pm Midnight Communion & Carol Service

Christmas Day
25th December at 8am and 9:30am (Family Service)

We'd love to see you!

St Aidan's Anglican Church
5 Ascot Avenue, Remuera
www.staidans.co.nz

Community Noticeboard

Santa is coming to Remuera

Santa and Mrs Claus will be roaming Remuera Village handing out lollies on Saturday 7th, Friday 13th, Saturday 14th, Wednesday 18th, Friday 20th and Saturday 21st December from 10am to 11.45am. Photo sessions* will be available for the family and kids at Santa's Grotto located at Remuera Library, from 12pm to 2pm on the same days. Also live Christmas Jazz on Saturday 7th, 14th and 21st December. Bring the whole family and join in the festivities. (*Photos to be self taken on the day from your own device(s). Professional photography is not supplied).



Christmas Carols on the Green

Sunday 1st December, 5:30pm at Vellenoweth Green, Tamaki Drive, Saint Heliers. Bring the whole family along to this free annual Christmas community event bought to you by the Ōrākei Local Board. There will be carol singing, stage entertainment, food stalls and so much more. Help share the Christmas joy and bring an unwrapped toy for the City Mission.

Handel: Messiah

Join Auckland Choral to celebrate Christmas with the magic of Handel's Messiah. Experience the freshness, inspiration and joy of a truly timeless classic. Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th December, 7:30pm in Auckland Town Hall. Tickets from Ticketmaster: (09) 970 9700 or ticketmaster.co.nz

Carols on the Lawn

St Mark's Church, 95 Remuera Road, Remuera. Friday 13th December, 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Market stalls, ethnic food, honey, bouncy castle, lavender, wood carving and more.



Habitat Curtain Bank

Bags for sale to support the Curtain Bank

Shopping bags, totes and small bags will be available to purchase on the first two Sundays in December. All bags are hand-made from recycled curtains and donated fabric by dedicated volunteers. Every bag purchased helps to reduce unnecessary waste into landfill and 100% of the profits from the bags go back into the Habitat Curtain Bank, supporting our work in the community through providing curtains to low income families in Auckland.

Shopping Bags - \$ 10.00
Tote Bags - \$10.00
Small Bags - \$8.00

These bags are great for your shopping and would make great stocking fillers.



From the Registers August to November 2019

Weddings

Audrey Lal & Reuben Crowther

Funerals

Alfred Were
Kay Anderson
George (Mark) Graham

Baptisms

Lucy Pilkinton
Monty McMullen

Obituary - Barbara Hale

St Aidan's Parishioners were saddened to hear this month that Barbara Hale, a long time member of our Parish, had passed away.

Barbara and Bob joined St Aidan's in the mid-1960s and immediately began serving in every way possible. Barbara, as a trained teacher, became very involved with leading our junior and later senior Sunday Schools with great enthusiasm, and with her caring and warm personality instantly drew children and their families around her.

Barbara and Bob moved on to lead St Aidan's teenage youth group for many successful years. Known as the 'YES' group – 'Young Enthusiastic Saints' – they flourished in every way – BBQs, camps, picnics and adventures all followed.

Following in the footsteps of her famous grandfather, Walter Nash, Barbara's contribution to our community was immense.

We will always remember Barbara for her kindness, her thoughtfulness, and her interest in and care for us and our families.

Our memories of Barbara will long remain as we remember her with love, with admiration and with grateful thanks.

May she rest in peace.

Marie Taylor

Melting Moments

A nice alternative to shortbread at Christmas time, you can join two together with icing but keeping them single means you get twice as many biscuits!! (The recipe was given to me in ounces so the grams are not nice rounded figures)

8oz butter (227 gms) 4oz cornflour (112 gms)
6oz flour (170 gms) 2oz icing sugar (71 gms)

Cream butter and sugar. Add sifted dry ingredients and mix until smooth. Spoon lots onto a tray and push down gently with a fork. Bake at 180 Celsius for 15-20 mins. When cool, ice with vanilla icing.

Louise Anderson



Gingerbread Loaf

This recipe comes from the Chelsea Sugar calendar.

50g butter	1 cup flour
1 Tbsp golden syrup	1 tsp baking powder
1/2 cup soft brown sugar	1 tsp mixed spice
1 egg	2-3 tsp ground ginger
1 tsp baking soda	
3/4 cup milk	

Preheat oven to 190°C and line a loaf tin with baking paper. Melt the butter and golden syrup together. Add the brown sugar and egg, mix well then add all the dry ingredients except the baking soda. Mix the baking soda into the milk and then stir in to the rest of the mixture. Pour into the loaf tin and bake for 30-40 minutes until a skewer inserted in the centre comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack. Ice if desired with 1 cup icing sugar, 2-3 Tbsp lemon juice and 1 Tbsp chopped crystallised ginger.

Garage Sale



A massive thank you to everyone who helped make, bake, cook, sort, lift, deliver, dust, polish, sell, buy, serve, donate, stand, install, hammer, count, busk, blog, post and give in so many ways. Thank you also for your prayers and to all the shoppers who support our event. The day was a fantastic success – our best ever.

Blessed with a beautiful spring day the bargain hunters arrived early and we did not disappoint. Each year the parish, aided with donated goods from the local community, offers up a vast array of good quality merchandise. This consistency, sense of community, charitable giving, camaraderie and well over 100 volunteers makes the St Aidan's Garage Sale an institution.

Thank you all again and see you next year – Saturday, 12 September 2020.

Karina Richardson



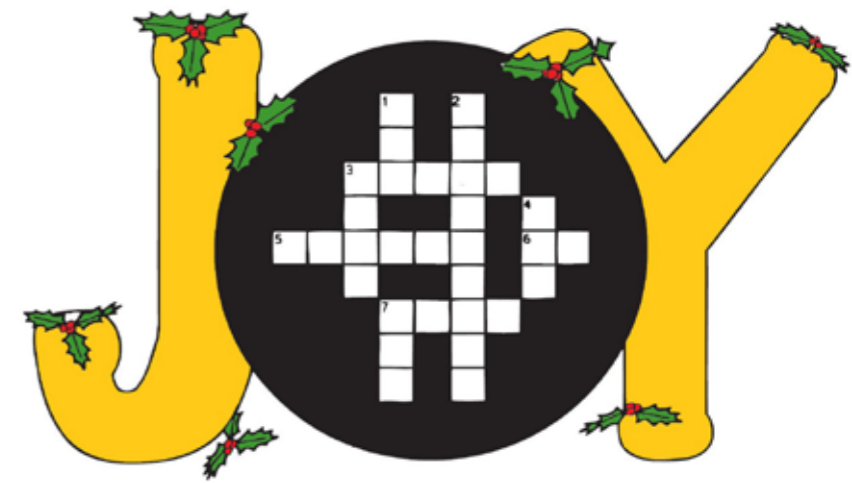
Kids' Zone

Word Search

E	R	T	Y	M	T	H	U	J	K	I	O	L	P	E	D	I
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S	J	G	O	D	G	D	O	K	I	U	Q	A	D	F	H	H
E	L	Z	D	E	R	G	B	N	U	D	F	J	O	N	H	F

JESUS	ELIZABETH	SHEPHERDS
MARY	JOHN	INNKEEPER
JOSEPH	ZACHARIAS	ANGELS
GOD	GABRIEL	CAESAR AUGUSTUS

The Birth of Jesus - Luke 2: 1 - 12



Across

3. In verse 9 the shepherds saw an "_____ of the Lord."
5. "_____ also went up from ... Nazareth" is in verse 4.
6. The word after "because" in verse 4 is _____
7. "And there _____ shepherds" is from verse 8.

Down

1. "Room for them in the _____" is in verse 7.
2. "_____ were watching their flocks in verse 8.
3. The third word in verse 4 is _____.
4. "He is Christ _____ Lord" is in verse 11.
7. The fourth to the last word in verse 2 is _____.



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582 Remuera Road, Remuera, Auckland 1050 | 09 520 3119 | staff@sibuns.co.nz
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I THINK YOUR LIGHTS MIGHT BE TOO
BRIGHT THIS YEAR

Luke 1:26-38

The Angel said to Mary, "Do not be afraid."
Colour in the picture and bring it back to church. All returned pictures will be displayed on the noticeboard.



Get in Touch

office@staidans.co.nz or 09 929 4670 ext 1
5 Ascot Avenue, Remuera, Auckland
www.facebook.com/StAidansRemuera
www.instagram.com/staidansremuera
www.staidans.co.nz

Contacts at St Aidan's

Office

Mon-Fri 9am- 3.30pm

Anne Godman

W 09 929 4670 ext 1

office@staidans.co.nz

Vicar

Sun-Thurs

The Revd Glen Ashworth

W 09 929 4670 ext 2

M 027 457 4105

vicar@staidans.co.nz

Priest Associate

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sun

The Revd Louise Anderson

W 09 929 4670 ext 4

M 0274484467

louise@staidans.co.nz

Vicar's Warden

Juli Mercer 021 429 345

davidandjuli@xtra.co.nz

People's Warden

James Parkinson 09 579 7930

jandjparkinson@gmail.com

Kids' Church & Mainly Music

Sarah Ashworth

W 09 929 4670 ext 3

M 021 562 205

children@staidans.co.nz

Youth & Young Adults

Conor McGrath

M 021 081 90306

youth@staidans.co.nz