

#APOSTLE

St Aidan's Day 2020



St Aidan's 
Anglican Church

Glen's Foreword

Well what a year it has been – we are experiencing one of the biggest global events in history and although in New Zealand we have managed to halt the spread of Covid-19, the pandemic rages on around the world. This has disrupted our lives for a time and there has been massive loss of life and yet we still wait for the full implications of this event. And while hand sanitiser has been in high demand (in the space of a few weeks, being both as rare as hen's teeth and as ubiquitous as the Holy Spirit) some phrases and words have become common parlance – social distancing, bubbles, alert levels and flattening the curve to name a few. And one word that we heard the most? Unprecedented. There's no doubting that, is there? A global pandemic, with its far-reaching implications for the way in which we now operate, something which the world has not experienced. It certainly fits that definition. But is Covid-19 alone in that? You don't have to look too far to find wars, natural disasters, and other events that would also fit the description. You could argue that our current pandemic is unlike others in its global scale and nature, but isn't it true that we live in a world of the unprecedented? Throughout history, people have always had to grapple with the unfamiliar and unique, the life-changing and life destroying realities which make up our human existence.

In this St Aidan's day edition of the magazine you will read of people's reflections on their time in lockdown. Below are some photos of how we continued to be 'church' during that time and you will read of various things that we have picked up again after lockdown. The good news of Jesus Christ is that while we experience a world that is frightening, unpredictable and full of unprecedented events, God is making a new world where, "Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." (Rev 21:4). Amidst an uncertain world, we can be part of the unshakable reality that God is bringing today.

Glen



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Post Lockdown

(Left) Level 2 social distancing enforcement in the church
(Right) Testing the Live Stream set up

Recent Events



Finn having fun playing his grandmother's ukelele at Mainly Music.



Team 'RED' the winners of our annual quiz.



Baptism for Josiah by his Uncle Rev'd Bryan Haggitt at the 9:30am service on Sunday 2nd August.



Confirmation by Archbishop John Paterson of Edward, Emily, Isabel, St John, and Sienna.



Monthly Evening Services restarted in June. We begin with a service at 5pm and end with shared kai.

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.
Prayer in the GA	Thursday mornings at 9am.
Contemplative Prayer	Meets each Wednesday at 9.45am, 276A Victoria Avenue. Contact Anne Priestley.
Youth	Ages 11+ at the 9:30am Sunday service and Friday at 7pm. Contact Conor.
Kids' Church	All children ages 3-10 during the 9.30am Sunday service. Contact Sarah.
Friendship Group	Join us for fellowship, games and morning tea, 2 nd Wednesday of each month at 10am in the Gathering Area.
Mainly Music	Wednesdays during term time at 9.30am. Music and play for families with pre-school aged children. Contact Sarah.
Choir Practice	Saturdays at 10am in the Bethel Room. New members welcome.
Home Groups	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.

St Aidan's Annual Quiz

Our Annual Parish Quiz was held on Friday 7th August in the hall with around 100 people in attendance.

Quizmaster Ryan Berry and his assistant Zorro (AKA Rev'd Louise Anderson) kept the pace of the evening, and Barbara Weir updated us all on the progress of HomeGround.

The theme was, 'A Night at the Movies', with costumes as varied as Footrot Flats farmers, Titanic passengers, Chess pieces, Nuns, James Bond and much more.

Alison Ross was the first winner taking out the Head and Tails competition. Team South Pacific won the prize

for best dressed team, Team Titanic were awarded best decorated table, and the overall quiz winners were Team Red.

The silent auction was a big hit, nearly \$2,000 from a total of \$3,760 raised. All funds will be donated to Auckland City Mission for equipment in the HomeGround dental clinic.

A big 'Thank you!' to everyone who made the night such a success - Quizmaster Ryan, Jenny Haggitt for her organisation, Sue and Fiona in the kitchen, all who donated money or silent auction items, and of course everyone who bought tickets and came along.

Visit our Facebook page for all the photos from the night: www.facebook.com/staidansremuera



Kia kaha Auckland
safe, be kind!

ST AIDAN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

SUNDAY

8.00AM, 9.30AM, 5.00PM

WEDNESDAY

11.30AM

OFFICE PHONE: 929 4670 | WEBSITE: WWW.STAIDANS.CO.NZ

WORSHIP | **CARING** | **MISSION**

Lockdown Reflections

Our staff were asked for their lockdown highs, lows, and what God was saying through it all.

Louise

High: A bonus was the feeling of all being in it together, a commonality. It didn't matter whether you were a parishioner, staff, Archdeacon, Bishop we were all at home trying to find a new normal, trying to find ways to stay connected with one another and to offer church and there was a shared sense of working things out because it was new for everyone. A highlight of lockdown was the ability to work all day and still be in my slippers at the end of it, and to be able to move my computer around the house finding lovely sunny spots. Being at home for that length of time allowed me to appreciate nature, and the time to be simply still was a blessing.

Low: The Easter season felt quite different and I entered into the various services keenly missing many of the physical aspects that usually contribute to Holy week. There was neither the very low of Good Friday nor the joyous sense to the Easter Sunday. It felt emptier compared to the experiences of previous years. I missed too the casual chats that occur with parishioners and I worried for those in the parish, particularly those on their own who were finding it hard, but knowing there was little I could do to change the situation.

What is God saying?

Taking time is important, we can get caught in the busyness of life and forget to be thankful for what we have, and to notice God all around us. Whilst we can appreciate the amazing building we have, it is the people that are the church. That catch phrase seems appropriate, 'The building may be closed but the church is still open'. Finally, God showed us that we are able to make changes which will heal the planet, and we saw a glimpse of that during COVID-19 as pollution eased and fish returned to the empty Venetian canals.

Right: Daisy's formal birthday celebration

Glen

High: Spending time with the family

Low: Working week spread out over 7 days

What is God saying?

Make time to connect with people in low tech ways... play board games, go for more walks, bike rides etc. Make time to be still – recognise the gift of simple, uncluttered time and grab it. Be aware of the unreasonable pressure/demands to complete certain tasks – the world will still be there tomorrow if I don't get x done now. How the gospel can speak into whatever situation we find ourselves – in stress, struggle and difficulty God can be seen.

Sarah

High: During lockdown every meal time became a high, with eating together helping us to maintain a routine and becoming more of an occasion than previously. For Daisy's birthday she requested formal wear for her birthday lunch and so I put on the most formal outfit I have – cue the wedding dress. Daisy dressed up for the occasion too.



Low: As I'm sure was the case for many people, lockdown threw our family into a spin. With Glen working to get church online and me trying to study and homeschool, things were a bit of a shambles for a while; definitely some low moments there.

What is God saying?

I realised at one point that the things I was prioritising as important i.e. study, homeschooling, quiet (!) were not as important as I thought. God was at work, helping me to realise that giving gracious and patient answers to my children were more important than a good assignment grade. Basic Christian living right there, but something I obviously still need to learn!



Isobell

High:

- Connecting more with people (especially my friends who live overseas).
- Like many out there, I had time to do some baking. Various baked goods may or may not have turned out the way they should though (RIP gluten-free cocoa cookies).
- I got back into my scrapbooking!
- I also enjoyed trying new food ideas, such as a homemade 'McMuffin', loaded wedges (garlic, bacon and cheese) and pastry scrolls.
- My dad helped me set up a surprise Mother's Day brunch (after we had moved down a level).

Low:

- I missed hanging out with my nephew... he grew up so much during the lockdown. At least we were able to video chat him!
- I missed being in the office with my co-workers. Zoom chats were appreciated for meetings, but there's nothing like a good ol' kitchen chat.
- I missed grocery shopping! I quite enjoy taking my time in the supermarket, scoping out new products to try etc.

What is God saying?

Remember to slow down sometimes. Live in the moment and appreciate 'the now'.

Conor

High: Time for reflection.

Low: We are not out of COVID-19 yet, so many people are still suffering.

What is God saying?

Lockdown for me was a state of listening to what was happening to me and my family but also what is happening in the community as the weeks go by.

Not just listening with your ears but with all your senses. Might have been getting a smile from someone on your walk or seeing tension on people's faces as they were at the supermarket.

Lockdown was a place of reflection even if you wanted to or not. A chance to reflect on what you are doing and where you are going.

Now as we head into normal it feels slightly strange to move to how things were when we made such big changes to adjust to what was going on.

My challenge for myself is to use the reflections that were made in lockdown to guide which direction I take. That may be by having more patience and empathy for people and practicing that. Or spending time with people because we are fortunate enough to have people over for a cup of tea. Also to be thankful for the essential workers who kept working for our benefit - from the people in the hospitals to the people in the supermarkets - they had patience for us as we panicked so we should have patience for them.

Anne

High:

- Setting my own hours - starting work at 6am and having a lazy afternoon, starting at 11am after a sleep in, or working after dinner until bedtime.
- Taking long walks in the sunshine with so many smiling strangers saying hello as we passed at a safe distance - around the Domain, along the Hobson Bay walkway, or up the hill to Remuera. And the rare opportunities to have conversations with friends in the driveway.
- Technology to connect with work, family and friends despite the social and physical distance.
- How amazingly quiet Auckland became without the traffic, and the birds that felt safe to sing and play in the trees. It felt much more like my Tassie home.
- Grocery shopping! It was a surreal experience having to line up and wait in long queues outside the supermarket, but fascinating to me at the same time and definitely an aspect of lockdown I'll never forget.

Low:

- An unexpected and unwelcome homesickness that left me wondering if I should have flown back to Australia when I had the chance.
- Being too close to the kitchen and letting my casual clothes lull me into a false sense of waistline width.

What is God saying?

Psalm 27:14 – Wait on the Lord, His timing is perfect. I have heard God tell me to “wait” before some major milestones in my life before, and once I allowed myself to relax and wait it out I began to enjoy the time in lockdown and it flew by.



Lockdown Reflections continued on page 14.

The Sustainable Life

Lockdown was a time of mixed feelings. Some times were great and some times were very bad. We learnt to appreciate the family time and realised how privileged we are to be in this peaceful country. We could hear the birds and the air we breathe felt fresh though we had masks; we were grateful for the food we had on our tables; we took inventory of our pantry and used our old stock. We produced less waste and less carbon. The world almost paused for a few weeks. I felt the silence.

Then there were talks/thoughts about sustainable life. There can never be a better time to think about it if not during/post lockdown. I believe almost everyone must have thought about this. When I was a kid my dad chose to live off-grid except electricity (means you get no supplies like water, gas and no garbage collection from the council etc). We had a well for water, produced our own bio gas from the cow manure, grew our own veggies/food and we made compost. Plastics were a novelty at that time (in the 90s - not long ago). Life was not so great, at least to me, because I didn't know why we were doing this when we could afford to live a better and easier life. I felt ashamed carrying a cloth bag and I am sure every kid in my little town felt bad about it too.

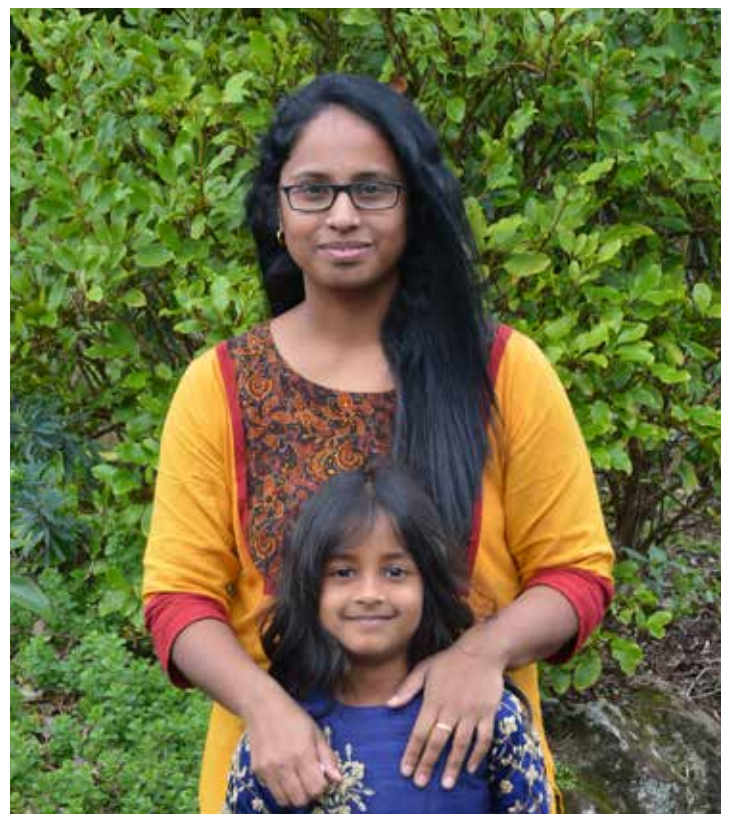
After 20 years when I look back now I treasure the not-so-easy childhood life. The Good Life ain't easy! Things have changed now and most of us now are very well educated about climate change. We can't go back to the stone age, but we can at least find environment friendly alternatives to save the planet. That's why I have become a Sustainability Champion representing St Aidan's to implement the Diocesan Zero Carbon Plan.

Goals of the Diocesan Zero Carbon Plan are:

- Provide educational events on climate change
- Reduce our carbon footprint (transport, waste, consumerism)
- Use of renewable energy
- Carbon sequestration (including tree planting, biochar & carbon gardening)
- Creation care in liturgical practice
- Social and political change (advocacy and activism)

If you are interested to be part of this change, please contact me or the office. Let's start!

Emily Paul



SEASON OF CREATION 2020



MONTH OF PRAYER AND ACTION FOR THE CARE OF CREATION



The Season of Creation is an annual celebration of prayer and action to protect the environment. Since 2009, the Anglican Consultative Council has called on provinces to include the Season of Creation in their yearly pattern of worship. Each year, from 1 September to 4 October (the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi), Christians from around the world will reflect on our relationship with creation and our mission to safeguard the integrity of creation.

The Evening service at St Aidan's is a once a month gathering that is informal and interactive. A spot for all ages, we are keen to build community and connections both with God and with each other as his followers. As part of the season of Creation, we will focus on the care of creation Evening Service style, so keep an eye out on the newsletter for details.

Sunday 27th September at 5pm



St Francis Day Pet Service

Sunday 4th October, 4pm in the Gathering Area

Bring your pets along for a celebration of our animal friends, or if your pet is unable to come with you bring a photo, and receive a blessing.

Yvonne Kennedy will be collecting old sheets and towels, as well as pet food, for the SPCA in the lead up to the Pet Service. Please leave any donated items in the box under the table in the Gathering Area.



Crossword Solution
page 19

M	A	G	I	C	I	A	N	T	R	A	M
O	I	R	B	U	T	A					
R	I	N	S	E	R	A	B	B	I	T	S
S	G	E	A	L	L	A	N	T			
E	X	H	A	L	E	D	E	A	G	L	E
A											
T	E	M	P	E	R	G	R	U	B	B	Y
H											
E	A	R	T	H	L	E	A	D	I	N	G
M	I	E	A	G	O	R					
A	T	F	I	R	S	T	R	E	C	T	O
L	T										
L	O	S	T	A	D	H	E	R	E	N	T

Sudoku Solution
page 20

5	6	9	4	8	1	3	7	2
3	4	2	5	7	6	9	1	8
8	1	7	3	2	9	6	5	4
7	3	1	8	6	2	5	4	9
2	8	5	9	4	7	1	3	6
6	9	4	1	3	5	8	2	7
4	5	6	2	9	3	7	8	1
9	2	3	7	1	8	4	6	5
1	7	8	6	5	4	2	9	3

Pins & Needles

What a year we are having!

After the excitement of a new decade, 2020, little did we know what lay ahead of us!

Thank you all for the exceptional way you have responded to care for those in need of warm bedding and clothing over the winter months. The exquisite knitting you, your family and friends have produced during lockdown has been quite amazing. Never have we had such a large quantity of fabulous baby clothes and blankets to give to our recipients – the Anglican Trust for Women and Children, Counties Manukau Community Midwives, National Women's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and Age Concern.

We have a new member who makes wonderful patchwork children's cot and bed blankets and these have been much appreciated and admired by all who have seen and received them.

Our 'outworkers' throughout the North Island continue to amaze us with their generous contributions and we are most grateful for all they make and do.

Our thanks must go to Gail Hodder for her encouraging newsletters and for keeping up our supply of yarn through her willing supplier during lockdown. We could not have achieved these results without our basic materials.

We meet on the second Monday of each month in the St Aidan's Gathering Area from 10am to 12 noon to exchange ideas, have fun and share morning tea.

We welcome all sewers and knitters to join our happy and informal group. We are delighted to teach and encourage, provide material and patterns, as we care for God's children with enthusiasm and love.

Marie Taylor



"Thank you so much for your drop off of squares this week! They were perfect to finish off a boys blanket in browns and deep reds! Very timely Marie!" - Diane, Kings School



"We have been like little kids at Christmas picking out pieces to take! Please, once again, pass on our thanks to Pins & Needles for all their generosity and hard work." - Kathy, Counties Manukau Community Midwives



"A big thank you for the wonderful donation of hand knitted blankets, jumpers, beanies, booties and soft toys you very kindly gifted. Your generosity and thoughtfulness to ATWC helps us in assisting our families." - Judy, ATWC

Home Groups

Just as women gather and chat over a cup of tea and men exchange ideas over a coffee or beer, just so, many Christians gather once a week to do exactly that, except the focus of the conversation will be different.

Home groups are fun, in the sense that disagreement is welcome and vigorous debate has a place. Once the voices have expelled their passion and frustration, there is generally a consensus that God reigns; He is in control and Jesus personifies love.

Home groups may choose well known theologians and listen to their teaching, often supported by a DVD presentation. Sometimes a book of the Bible is examined in great detail and we leave wiser and more enlightened than when we arrived. We will never understand all there is to be understood in the Bible, the options are endless. The studies are a democratic choice by the group and the leader.

The main focus is to stretch our faith, draw closer to God, and to our fellow men and women as well, as we journey through life. Fellowship is definitely an integral part of the meeting. We pray for each other and for all the pressing issues of life.

The gatherings, whatever time of day they are held, are very relaxed, with tea, coffee and biscuits on offer.

If you are not part of a group think about starting one, or joining one!

Sheryl Swanevelder

A retrospective view on the impact of COVID-19...

Home groups formed a natural 'connect group' during lockdown. Members phoned one another ensuring that people were not isolated and pastoral care for one another was top of the priority list. A few prayed with one another regularly over the phone, some groups emailed out reading material, whilst another group managed to get in a few meetings via zoom. COVID-19 certainly didn't or couldn't stop the strong connections between our home group attendees!

From Louise's desk

Budger the Cathedral Cat

While Anne and David Cotton were in the UK and Europe late last year the opportunity was taken to visit Norwich, the city of David's birth, and in particular to attend a service in the 900 year old Norwich Cathedral where David was baptised. Thus it was that on 29th September David took a seat at the 8am service. However no-one attending had any idea of what was to unfold.

Approximately 15 minutes into the service, Budger the cathedral cat awoke, stretched, yawned and thought he might mosey along and join the service. He marched down the nave in front of everyone (chuckles and giggles scarcely suppressed), into the sanctuary and tried to catch the eye of the minister who so happened to be occupied with other matters. After a minute of this Budger gave it up as a lost cause and turned his attention to the altar table. You could almost read his mind: "shall I hop up there or not"?

Fortunately he thought better of it for he then wandered over to the Assistant Priest who was sitting over to the right, and jumped up onto her lap. Unfortunately for Budger the Assistant Priest also had other matters on her mind and Budger quickly found himself on the wrong side of a nearby outside door.

A couple of days later when we were due to continue our travels David went to the cathedral again for a last look. To David's amusement, Budger was sound asleep on his red velvet cushion in the 17th century choir stalls. A cathedral assistant nearby happily informed that the cushion was Budger's very own and where he was curled up is the only place he would accept.

What a life!

David Cotton



WEF

(Women's Evening Fellowship)

On Tuesday 21st July Women's Evening Fellowship held our first get together since lockdown. We had a stimulating and fascinating talk from Anne Priestley who told us about St Isaac of Nineveh – who he was, where he came from (Mosul, Iraq), and a little of life in his time of 600 to 700 AD. St Isaac belonged to the third of three strands of Christianity.

The close connection with New Zealand was established in the early 1970s by Clementina Gordon from England. She was captivated by the teachings of St Isaac and found the ideal place in the Hokianga where she bought land for St Isaac's Retreat. This was to be a place of silence, prayer and hospitality, where anyone may seek God, and God will be found. Anne was privileged to be a recent warden of St Isaac's for several years, and she told us how rewarding this was and how much she enjoyed it.

The evening concluded with much talk of what we achieved and experienced in the lockdown, while enjoying hot fruit punch and supper. Many requested the delicious punch recipe, so here it is:

Ingredients:

2 oranges	8 whole cloves
1½ litres apple juice	1 cinnamon stick
4 Tbsp honey	¼ tsp ground nutmeg
500 ml pineapple juice	3 Tbsp lemon juice

Directions

Preheat oven to 180 C, stud oranges with cloves and bake for 30 mins.

In a large saucepan, combine the apple juice and cinnamon stick. Bring to the boil, reduce heat to medium and simmer for 5 mins. Remove from heat and stir in nutmeg, honey, lemon juice and pineapple juice. Serve warm in a punch bowl or crockpot with the baked oranges sliced and floating on top.

Jan Evans



AAW

(Association of Anglican Women)

The AAW Fellowship Group met again on Tuesday 7th July after the COVID-19 lockdown and we had a great turnout which led to a wonderful buzz in the Gathering Area as our members spent time catching up with each other. Several of our members were presented with badges for being members of the AAW for 50 years.

The speaker at our meeting on Tuesday 1st September will be Julie Chapman, Founder and CEO of KidsCan.

We are really looking forward to having Julie along and learning about the wonderful work this charity does in lower decile schools. Our group is extending a welcome to all in the parish and also friends who would like to come to hear Julie speak. We meet at 1.30pm and begin with a short service in the church before moving to the Gathering Area for the talk followed by afternoon tea.

Mary Parkinson



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Mission Shop

After being closed for twelve weeks during the various levels of Lockdown, we reopened the shop on Thursday 18th June with some of our regular customers waiting at the door, very pleased to see us. In addition to our advertising on Facebook, Neighbourly and the Remuera New World Electronic Screen, we advertised on the ZB Community Radio, which is sponsored by Danske Møbler. That was still being aired in late July. Some people who came into the shop mentioned that they had heard it. Also people have been telling us we are now on Google maps for Remuera op shops. All the extra advertising has brought in more customers so hopefully that will help us make up for the lost time.

We had many donations waiting for us from people doing their 'lockdown clear-outs', so thanks to those people who thought of us.

All our volunteers were happy to be back in action and we look forward to lots more sales of winter woollies before spring arrives.

Jenny Haggitt

www.facebook.com/staidansmissionshop



Lockdown Reflections

To the national slogan, "Stay Home, stay safe, be kind," here's how some St Aidan's parishioners saw their time in isolation:

Robyn Bridgman

During the lockdown, I made it my business to go through cupboards and drawers and sort all kinds of things – most for our church fair and garage sale. Then I did spend quite a lot of time in the garden which benefited. My daughter did my shopping each week so I managed very well. Then another thing I did was to go through the Parish Directory and I phoned everyone (except two) and having spoken, asked them how they were getting on during the lockdown. It was very beneficial as, although I know most people, I do not always spend time talking to each and every one in our congregation. I then gave a longlist to Anne with deletions, change of addresses or change of emails, people who had moved and so on. For me it was a special time and I enjoyed every moment of the lockdown.



Jenny and Bryan Haggitt

We entered lockdown early at our family's request, so the only member of the family at that time allowed out was shopping for himself and four other families until Dave, our son-in-law, took over. Living near the Orakei Basin we had lots of passers-by to admire our teddy bear collection. Finding food at the bottom of the freezer required some imagination to turn it into meals, in this case, haggis fettucine with tomato and basil – surprisingly tasty! At Level 3 a surprise visit from the North Shore family lifted our spirits. Keeping in touch locally and globally by phone, email, also Facetime, WhatsApp, Zoom and family messenger groups etc. made us become quite tech savvy, and

having the almost daily then weekly contact with St Aidan's was quite wonderful. But best of all was the birth of our grandson on the last day of Level Two Lockdown.

Barbara Weir

"If there is one thing I have learned from lockdown..."

As I have caught up with friends again since the move to Level 2 of lockdown, I have found that all of us were keen to expand on what was the 'one thing' we had learned from our Individual experiences of lockdown. Not surprisingly, our conversations centred around what it was that we really valued in our lives and how these values were reflected in the day to day activities which we most enjoyed.

Lockdown, by definition, imposed restrictions on most of these activities of ours. Out of bounds, in no particular order of importance, was our ability to pop into the neighbour's for a cuppa, take our grandchildren to the park, gather with others for worship at church, report for duty as a volunteer, meet a friend for coffee, go to the cinema or a concert, visit the Library, enjoy a family celebration meal at a restaurant, drive out of the city for a walk along a remote beach...

Recognising what was truly important was indeed a valuable lesson. Yet it was where this recognition further led me that became for me the most valuable lesson of all.

Being deprived during the weeks of lockdown of doing what I most enjoyed gave me a direct experience of what it must be like to live your life in a something of a permanent state of lockdown - a lockdown where you face each day with boundaries imposed on you because you are chronically sick; physically disabled; vision or hearing impaired; suffering from mental health issues; elderly and frail; living on a low income.

It is true that I have often given thought to the difficulties faced by those whose lives are impaired in some way and I have acknowledged that the fullness of life as taken for granted by me is not possible for them. But I have had no direct experience for any length of time of what it is like to have to live such a life, nor of the feelings of isolation and anxiety and depression it could bring.

Lockdown brought me into a direct experience of a life that is constantly bound by restrictions and there is no doubt that direct experience offers a much greater and sharper Insight.

And so my post-Lockdown prayer is this:-
Compassionate God, help me to hold on to what I have learned from walking a mile or two along the road that someone else travels every day.

Lilian Gnanasunderam

Living long and loving it

After the lockdown, which I enjoyed with my family, I came to church on Sunday 5th July and, oh what a warm welcome I received!

I came to church by taxi and on the way I told the driver that, as we are having a service every Sunday at 3pm in the Meadowbank village where I live, and also I just passed 100 years and am slowing down, I think I will give up coming here.

But the welcome was so full of love and sincerity that I decided to continue to attend St Aidan's where I have been for 50 years, and until Jesus calls me home to eternity.

John 13:34-35



Zoom chats after the 9:30am service Live Stream

David Cottton

Lockdown quince jelly

Some time ago I was given a couple of plastic containers of juice left over when the fruit was cooked for a dessert. They sat frozen for several months until one day during lockdown the containers came to light while sorting out contents of the freezer.

A quick search on the internet pulled up a suitable recipe which required 1 cup of sugar per cup of juice. A quick check, yes, sufficient sugar is on hand so into a large pot went the juice and then started pouring in the sugar. After 2/3 of the sugar had been added, the sugar mountain size in the pot really struck home.

"Perhaps I'll cut it back to 80%".

Heating then commenced, followed by a couple of hours of simmering to reduce water. Testing for skinning then started by a couple of drops cooling on a plate and looking for signs of skinning on the surface.

While this was going on, the jars were washed & rinsed in very hot water and left to dry. Then the best stage of all - using a ladle to spoon the jelly into jars.

The end result is shown below.

Thus was David's first attempt at quince jelly which proved a welcome change from the regular fare of commercial jams and marmalades.



Bake-off 2020

Sunday 11th October



All entries welcome for this year's Bake-off.

This year's category is **slices**.

Items will be sold after the judging as a 'fun'-draiser for our upcoming Garage Sale.

Antoinette Pope

Using my cellphone to combat lockdown isolation

Life for me was spent in Wellington with family members working from home so working hours meant being out of earshot in my room relieved by fighting the winds on steep slopes during daily walks. Outside work hours I also had a Gran's delight in encouraging my grandson as he mastered walking. My cellphone was my window to the world as I followed discussions on COVID-19 and choir, services, concerts and St Aidan's Facebook.

One exciting link was that with Margaret Poynton. She is a missionary working in Dogura PNG. Last year I met her at St Aidan's when she spoke at an evening arranged by my home group leaders, Sheryl and Hein. I had felt very isolated and was asking God what I could do with my life for Him under lockdown. I sent off what I hoped was an encouraging email to Margaret who was certainly more vulnerable to the COVID-19 situation than I could be in my cosy room.

What joy it was to get her reply. God was using the provision of the hand-turned sewing machine sponsored that night at St Aidan's. Local women could learn skills as they made face masks. St Aidan's folk will remember how I spoke in church about their local Bishop's aim to have 1000 Good News Bibles for their clerics and laity. Margaret mentioned how having copies available, aids to her ongoing bible study work.

Now Margaret has replied again updating further. Sharing her news was one item she especially asked for when I asked what she needed most. Following is her letter:

Dear Antoinette

How lovely to receive your email and to hear news from home.

You ask what I need, first let me say thank you for the support of the sewing ministry. It got off to a great start after Easter and is on the way to becoming self-sustaining with enough money brought in to buy another sewing machine which will be for the first girl who produces and sells enough garments to buy their own machine at discount price (20% off retail) that's about 100 plain skirts or 70 dresses. We make other clothes as well.

Most of my time is now spent preparing and leading bible studies. The clergy here are poorly trained, many with only a Standard 2 (year 4) education and more often than no formal theological training. So they

have been included in my brief on the basis that if the church here is to be relevant to the women the clergy need to lead the way. Mondays I host a bible study looking at the next Sunday's readings. The next three months will see clergy from all over the diocese coming together 10 at a time for training in bible study and sermon preparation. We're aiming to do this training quarterly.

Tuesday mornings I have an ongoing group working our way through the bible from Genesis to Revelation.

Tuesday night the youth - under 35's meet for fellowship - praise and worship. I have been given the 'teaching' slot which is about 40-50 minutes.

Each day I visit the mothers in Labour ward - they are usually there for a month before baby arrives so it is a good opportunity to build relationships and encourage them as parents, I get to spend time with them when they come to hospital clinic and we can have group discussions about maternal issues. Another group come on Fridays for family planning.

If there are children in hospital I do my best to combat the boredom for them and their parents. Bible stories and activities help here.

So how can you help? The biggest needs I have are:

1) Prayer support - life is very different here to the convenience of New Zealand city life.

2) Meeting my monthly CMS budget for my living allowance.

3) Awareness of overseas Missions in the NZ churches. (Sharing my emails and newsletters.)



ANZAC Day was one of many events commemorated very differently during lockdown, however Louise's ANZAC biscuits were still a traditional favourite

St Aidan's Hall Heating Project

For several years now the heating in St Aidan's Hall has been of increasing concern. The existing heaters are approaching 60 years old and fragile. Some have failed completely while corrosion means efficiency is reducing. Being ceiling-mounted means they are 8 metres above floor-level and therefore of reduced effect anyway.

In recent years a new generation of comfort heating has evolved which utilises infra-red technology. These heaters are not designed to heat the surrounding air but instead heat objects in the path of the infra-red beam. With proper design, if the object contains water (such as a human being) the effect can be enhanced.

Prompted by Glen, Louise and Anne who were fielding an increasing level of complaints from hirers of the hall, the Maintenance Team embarked upon designing a new heating regime.

From the outset, it was accepted that this enormous space could not be heated to a typical comfort level of 18-20C – the cost would be prohibitive. However, the latest generation of infra-red heaters were worth investigating, especially those with carbon elements.

Options were discussed and discarded, electrical capacity in the hall determined and eventually ideas were refined down to three options. The final contender was selected on criteria which included output, expected service life of the heaters and - as new wiring had to be installed - utilise the capacity of this wiring to the maximum permitted by the wiring regulations.

Despite initial misgivings, installation turned out to be relatively easy. Brown trunking was ordered and found to blend in extremely well when run along the existing pelmets. Nine heaters were ordered and are arranged with three down each side and a further three on the wall adjoining the foyer. Connecting them was arranged so that it is possible to run the heaters on a half or full setting, whilst also ensuring both settings offer maximum coverage.

Installation commenced on the weekend of 18-19 July and saw all the wiring and most of the trunking installed. The following weekend saw the remaining trunking and seven heaters installed (hooray!) and then a series of tests and checks around safety, electrical load balancing and cable performance. Some unexpected maintenance issues also came to light which required attention.

At the time of writing we are waiting on two heaters. Even without these the hall comfort level has improved

noticeably. The feeling of warmth as one walks past a heater is remarkable. Even approaching the middle of the hall, warmth can be felt.

In short, the outcome has been highly satisfactory and it is hoped the hall will become more attractive to potential hirers.

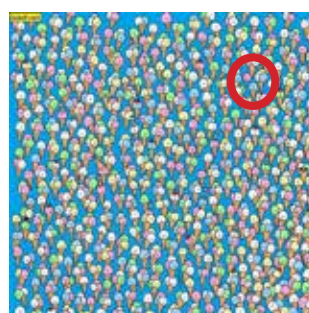
The Maintenance Team

Feedback from one of our hiring groups – one lady who has been coming to St Aidan's hall for 27 years said this is the warmest it has ever been!

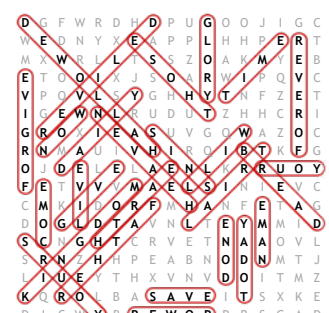


Kids' Zone Puzzle Solutions

Find the Lollipop - page 22



Findaword - page 22



Cover photo - St Aidan of Lindisfarne

St Aidan travelled from a monastery on the island of Iona off the north-west coast of Scotland to Northumbria in England. He came at the request of King Oswald who desired his people to be converted to the way of Christ.

Aidan replaced a former austere monk, unsuccessful in his mission, who spoke harshly of the people. Aidan suggested that it might be better to “gently instruct with the milk of human kindness”. Installed as Bishop he walked long distances meeting and teaching. King Oswald presented him with a horse which was soon given away because, Aidan said, “it raised me too far above the people”.

In the church window depicting St Aidan the upper window shows a burning torch, symbol of his missionary faith, while the lower window (as shown on the front cover) depicts his blessing and teaching of the king and people of all ages.

Chad, one of his students became Bishop of Mercia in central England, which later became the Diocese of Lichfield. This links us to Bishop Selwyn who returned there after his time as Bishop of New Zealand.

Exerpt from, "The Windows of St Aidan's Church" booklet. Text by Anne Mercer. Available for purchase from the office \$5 per copy.



Guiding our families with care
and compassion for over 100 years



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www.sibuns.co.nz

Habitat Curtain Bank

The Habitat Curtain Bank continues to work toward fitting double lined, full length curtains into the homes, mostly rental properties, of low income families. Habitat reports that too many families are using blankets to cover their windows, too many families have mouldy, ill-fitting curtains and too many families have no curtains at all. The reality is that the fitting of curtains is not a requirement under the legislation that sets standards for rental properties in New Zealand.

At present the most significant referral pathway to the Curtain Bank is via the Healthy Homes Initiatives - a government programme set up to work with children who have been admitted to hospital for illness related to living in damp and cold conditions. The balance of referrals are either self-referrals or come from social service agencies.

For the period 01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020, the Curtain Bank has supported 423 households by fitting 5,058 curtains. During the 48 hour window prior to lockdown, sewing machines were installed in the homes of the Habitat seamstresses and those who volunteer to sew. There were machines in living rooms, in garages, even in bedrooms and ample supplies of material were also delivered. In excess of 400 pairs of curtains were made with this stockpile ready to go into homes as soon as lockdown was over.

Rags to Bags: This is a new initiative for the Curtain Bank. Curtain off-cuts, or curtains that cannot be reused, are washed and made into the *Rags to Bags* range.

In December last year, St Aidan's participated in the sale of these bags. We were able to raise approximately \$900 for the work of the Curtain Bank. In addition, two of our parishioners volunteer to sew the bags from home. More volunteers to take on this task would be hugely welcomed.

In the year ahead, Habitat is planning to market the Rags to Bags range to boutique shops and to offer online sales. All the proceeds will go directly to the work of the Curtain Bank.

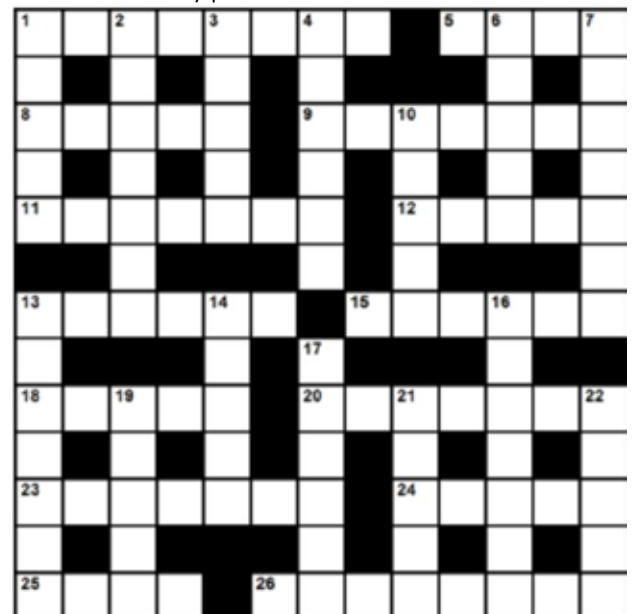
St Aidan's will continue to be a drop-off point for donated curtains.

If you would like to support the work of the Curtain Bank either by sewing bags or by donating curtains, or by making a donation to Habitat, please speak with me.

Barbara Weir



Cryptic Crossword



ACROSS

1. Christmas visitors can include one conjuror (8)
5. Some extra money provided for a form of transport (4)
8. Hair treatment provided by barber in Seville (5)
9. Jewish teacher on back street finding animals (7)
11. Poor Alex, he'd expelled air (7)
12. Wild glee when trapping a bird of prey (5)
13. Paddy is moderate (6)
15. Dirty food emptied bakery (6)
18. Huge cost of soil? (5)
20. Foremost metal in front of gate (7)
23. Trees seen in middle of Seattle initially (2,5)
24. One side of paper clergyman does not finish (5)
25. Missing lieutenant takes in old soldiers initially (4)
26. Notice present provided by National Trust supporter (8)

DOWN

1. Code for a TV detective (5)
2. Going without Oscar, bad actor needed material (7)
3. Native American has left basket for fisherman (5)
4. Scrape a beard off (6)
6. Regretting destruction by leader of Goths (5)
7. Flower in my control (7)
10. Dim British king on stage (5)
12. Clothes line in high road to palace (3,4)
14. She is entertained by the queen somewhere in Surry (5)
16. Oscar, going to church, tucked into cheese roll (7)
17. Over the moon as family members run away (6)
19. First breaks, then splits! (5)
21. See eye to eye in Gretna Green (5)
22. Old coin Rex found in butter! (5)



Lockdown Live Stream

Community Noticeboard



AYM Quiz Night

Anglican Youth Ministries are running a fundraiser for E-Fest this year! Sign up for their Quiz Night to help raise funds for E-Fest this year (going towards subsidies for campers fees).

When: Saturday 12 September

Where: St Aidan's,
5 Ascot Ave, Remuera

Cost: \$25 - Individual ticket
or \$160 - Table of 8

To sign up (as an individual or a team) fill out the form:

forms.gle/sbUeMuzBicijexKt7



Community Centre Activities

Did you know St Aidan's hall is home to fitness classes, dance classes and clubs, martial arts lessons, and much more? Visit our website to see what's happening: www.staidans.co.nz/community-centre-activities/

Remuera Library

The Remuera Library, located on Remuera Road, often hosts events for a range of ages! Keep up to date with their events on their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/remueralibrary/



Auckland City Mission

There has been a huge increase in demand for food parcels due to the economic downturn as a result of Covid-19. The Mission is now handing out 1000 parcels a week compared to 450 several months ago.

The most needed items which we are being asked to collect are: canned fish 160g, canned tomatoes 400g, canned spaghetti, canned fruit, packet rice, jars of spread e.g. peanut butter/jam.

While we aren't able to bring them to church right now, please consider setting items aside for later when we are in a position to collect and pass them on.



Sudoku

			4					2
3			5	7		9		
	1	7			9	6		
		1	8	6			4	
2				4				6
	9			3	5	8		
		6	2			7	8	
		3		1	8			5
1					4			

We know many of you will be wanting to know if upcoming events are still being held in the coming week(s). The various leaders will be in touch but please give them time to make decisions based on the latest advice. We don't want to make lots of cancellations unnecessarily but we also want people to be safe.

April to August 2020

Funerals

Roger Boyd

Confirmations

Edward Bridgman Emily Jennings

Isabel Bridgman St John Lyon

Sienna Lyon

Baptisms

Josiah Thomas David Finn

Impossible Pie

470 ml milk
4 eggs
1/2 cup flour
3/4 cup sugar

1 cup desiccated coconut
1 tsp vanilla
8 Tb butter, melted
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg

Preheat oven to 180°C. Grease and flour a pie plate.

In a blender or mixing bowl, add all the ingredients and roughly mix together with a whisk. Be careful not to over mix.

Transfer batter to the pie dish and sprinkle some ground nutmeg on the top (optional).

Place in the oven for around 45 minutes. The pie will have a slight wobble to the surface. That will set as it is cooling. Allow to cool and refrigerate until completely chilled. For best results, chill overnight.

Variation:

Swap nutmeg for the juice and zest of half a lemon.



Upcoming Events at St Aidan's

Come and hear Founder and CEO of KidsCan

Julie Chapman

The AAW is extending a welcome to all interested people to come and hear Julie speaking about the wonderful work KidsCan does in lower decile schools.

~~CANCELLED~~ POSTPONED
Tuesday 1st September, beginning at 1:30pm with a short service in the church before moving to the Gathering Area for the talk.
Afternoon tea will follow.



Mainly Music

Join us for a 'Parents Day' celebration
9:30am on Wednesday 2nd September



mainly music

Mainly Music is held on Wednesdays at 9:30am in the Hall during school terms. It's a fun music session for families with young children to enjoy together and for children to grow developmentally.

St Francis' Day Pet Service
Sunday 4th October, 4pm



St Aidan's

Bake-Off

Sunday

11th October

This year's competition
will be **slices**



Barn Dance / Ceilidh

6:30pm, Saturday 7th November



Our first church dance for many, many years!
Come as a family, come alone, come to
watch or come to dance, you don't even
need to know the steps!



Blue Christmas

Service

Sunday

6th December

6:30pm



Don't forget you can donate your old toys, clothes or games to the Garage Sale coming up on 17th October.

We hope to see you on the day - there will be lots of tasty treats, things to do, and new toys, clothes and games to buy!!!

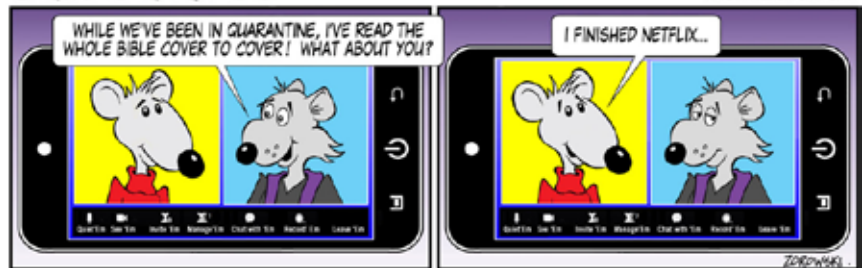
Just for Laughs

I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.

I'm so excited - it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?

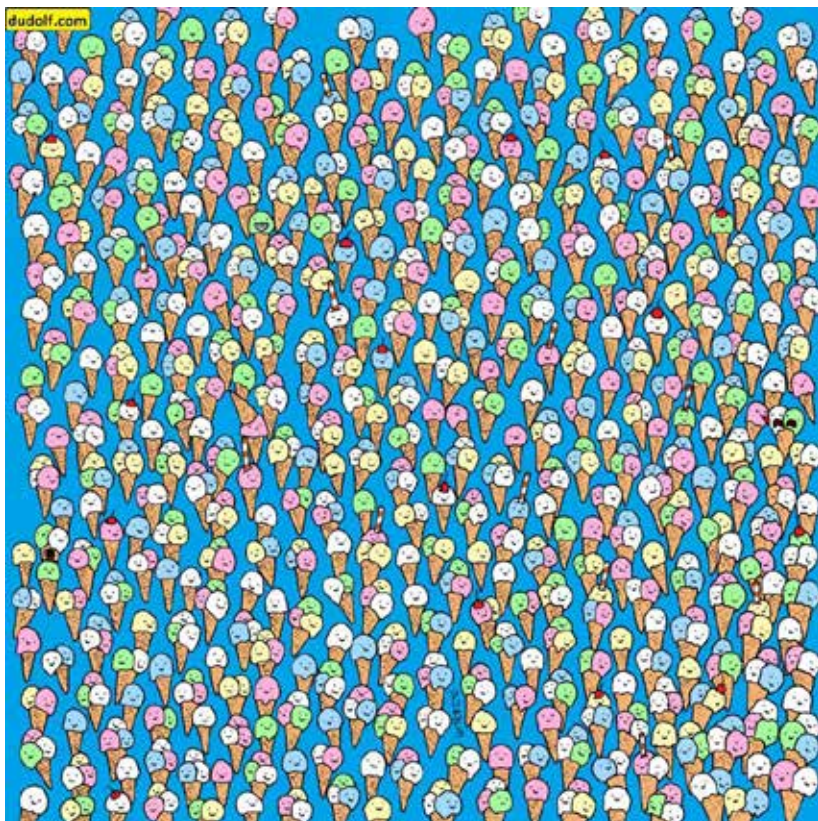
Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



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Find the Lollipop amongst the Ice Creams



The Lord's Prayer Wordsearch

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

Our **Father** in heaven, **hallowed** be your **name**,
your kingdom come, your **will** be **done**, on **earth** as in **heaven**.
Give us today our **daily bread**.
Forgive us our **sins** as we forgive **those** who sin against us.
Save us from the time of **trial** and **deliver** us from **evil**.
For the **kingdom**, the **power**, and the **glory** are **yours**
now and **forever**. Amen.

Season of Creation 2020



Psalms 24:1

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.

Get in Touch

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www.instagram.com/staidansremuera
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People's Warden

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proclaiming | engaging | gathering | sharing
faith-building | service | fellowship | caring