

Welcome! Haere mai!

St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai



Sunday, 18 May 2025

Liturgy: p.404

Easter 5

Psalm 148

Greetings:

It's good to be back. We had a lovely time and got everything done that we needed to ... just not in the manner we planned (weather). Thank you, it was a good break.

This morning, we welcome our Archdeacon Rev Peter Bargh. I will leave Peter to introduce himself, but it's good to have him come and see what's going on here. It's always helpful to have a review from time to time and share ideas about what might be possible in our context. Peter, you are welcome here anytime ... as you are able.

The gospel today blends two things; one technical, the other very simple, albeit demanding. *Glorification* can be a difficult thing to get your head around, but if you think of it as giving God the best you can and then making sure He is recognised/given credit for what He has enabled you to achieve ... you're getting close.

The second is '*the New Commandment*' ... *that we love one another as we have been loved*. This requires that we have some appreciation of how much we're loved by the One Who created us and gave His life for us ... very simple in theory ... but *anybody can love the lovable*. Jesus calls us to a higher task ... to love *the others* on His behalf.

To do this, we must first love ourselves enough, and have confidence in Him to let Him lift us up and sustain us in the moments we dread ... to *truly love* those that we find it difficult to identify with/ understand/ be in the presence of ... *to the extent that we've been loved*. Big ask ... but no bigger than the effort it took to love us in the first place!

Grace and peace, *Tony*

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 18 May 2025

Sentence:

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God,
and God abides in them. *John 4:16b*

Collect:

Make us glad we pray You, gentle God, to give each other Your loving care; make us happy to receive it. May there daily grow within us a generous, trusting spirit. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

1st Reading *Acts 11: 1-18*

2nd Reading *Revelation 21: 1-6*

Gospel *John 13: 31-35*

Prayers of the People

Today we pray for the Anglican Chinese Mission in Aotearoa New Zealand, and for the people of the Holy Trinity, Tauranga Parish and their clergy.

We pray also for those in need, especially those who have asked for our prayers: Craig, Viv, Hazel, Lynda, Lawrence.

Lavender Craft

Lavender Craft meets this coming Monday at 10 am. Anyone interested in sewing, embroidery, crafts or knitting is most welcome. Meet at Liss Lloyd's - 20 Andrew Place (phone 021 160 5697).

Parish Office

Erica is on leave on Thursday 22 May so the office will be closed.

This Week Beginning: 19 May

Monday 10.00 am Lavender Craft meet

Wednesday 10.00 am Mid-week Communion
2.00 pm SAYGO in the hall

Op Shop 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Monday to Thursday
10.00 am - 1pm Saturday

Playgroup 9.30 - 11.30 am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Toy Library 9.30 - 11.30 am Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Service for Sunday 25 May –

9.30 am Holy Communion

Contact Us

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