

*Welcome! Haere mai!*

## **St John's Anglican Church, Otumoetai**



**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Baptism of the Lord**

*Dear Friends*

The 12 Days of Christmas came to an end on 6 January. But Christmas is not over. Christmas is a season of 40 days that ends with Candlemas (2 February but celebrated in church on 31<sup>st</sup> January). This is the pivotal feast day between Christmas and Easter which links the cradle with the cross, the incarnation with the resurrection.

We are in the season of Epiphany which celebrates three theophanies (manifestations of God), reminding us what Christmas is truly about and who the Christ child is for us. As well as the visit of the magi, Epiphany recalls two events which, between them, mark the start of Jesus' earthly ministry: his baptism and the turning of water into wine at the wedding at Cana, his first sign (miracle). The turning of water into wine is a sacramental moment. The wedding banquet symbolises the Kingdom of God and the bridegroom and the bride symbolise the covenantal relationship between Christ and the Church.

When we hear the account of the baptism of Christ in the Jordan, it serves as a reminder of our own baptisms. At the beginning of the new year, it is good to be reminded of the promises at our baptism, and that we have been incorporated into the Body of Christ, which is the Church.

Arohanui

*Sue (Vicar)*

## **WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021**

### **Sentence**

When Jesus was baptised, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove; and there was a voice from heaven saying: This is my beloved Son.

*Matthew 3:16,17*

### **Collect**

**Beloved Son of God,  
whose Way was revealed  
in humility, through water and Spirit;  
you received a baptism of repentance.  
Empower all who are baptised  
in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
to embrace that commissioning  
and to serve you faithfully in love.  
For you are alive and reign with the Father,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**1st Reading**                      *Genesis 1.1-5*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**                      *Acts 19.1-7*

**Gospel**                                *Mark 1.4-11*

### **Prayers of the People**

Today we pray for the staff of Anglican Missions and the Diocese prays for us, the people of the Otumoetai parish and our clergy.

We pray for those in need, especially those who have asked for our prayers: Cherie, Phyllis, Ron & Sue, Mike & Rachael.

## A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February from 10.30am until 3.30pm we will hold a **reflective and practical workshop with Alister Hendery** entitled **Losing and Grieving**. This is for anyone who wishes to reflect on their own experiences of loss and for people who want to support others who grieve.

Alister is an Anglican priest, currently serving in Hawkes Bay. Loss and grief have been a special focus of his ministry for the past 40 years. He has served as a parish priest, educator, counsellor, as well as specialising in funeral ministry.

*Further details and registration information will be available shortly. In the meantime, if you have questions please speak to the Vicar.*



## **This Week Beginning: 11<sup>th</sup> January**

**Monday**      9.00 am      No Walking Group

**Wednesday** 10.00 am      Mid-week Eucharist  
2.00 pm      SAYGo in the Hall

**Op Shop**      10.00 am - 4.00 pm      Monday to Friday (ph. 576 2422)

**Playgroup**      Closed: re-commences Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

**Toy Library**      Closed: re-opens 26<sup>th</sup> January

## **Service for 17<sup>th</sup> January – Epiphany 2**

9.00 am      Holy Eucharist

### **Contact Us**

**Vicar:**              The Reverend Sue Beverly  
**Ph:**                  576 9923 or Vicarage 570 0424 or 021 432 365  
**Email:**              [sue.beverly@waiapu.com](mailto:sue.beverly@waiapu.com)

**Parish Office:**      Lynda Wallace  
**Ph:**                  576 9923  
**Email:**              [admin.otumoetai@waiapu.com](mailto:admin.otumoetai@waiapu.com)  
**Website:**          [www.stjohns-tga.org.nz](http://www.stjohns-tga.org.nz)

**Wardens:**          Viv Heimann              576 6097  
Bill Aldridge              576 5789