

Welcome! Haere mai!

St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai



Sunday 22 February 2026

Liturgy: p.404

Lent 1

Psalm 32

Greetings:

Here we are in Lent once again. Time to take notice and clean house. Time to update your priorities and your preferences. Time to rest and reflect on your relationship with God. I can't help thinking sometimes that it would be more useful if this time was in Spring!

Our Lent study gets underway this coming Wednesday. The booklet "*We Are Not Alone*" is available through Erica in the office. Please don't hesitate to come and join us on Wednesday mornings or undertake the study in your own home or small group. The study brings us face to face with some challenging Scriptures and with some spectacular saints ... some of my favourites! I'm looking forward to it.

My friend Bp Peter of Christchurch has said this week about the passage from Romans (Romans 5: 12-19):

In the battle between good and evil, between life and death, between sin and righteousness, Paul here states clearly, carefully (i.e. logically) and conclusively (i.e. no Christian need be in any doubt about the matter) that goodness, life and righteousness are the winners. Sin abounds, but grace abounds more (15, 20). Death exercised dominion but now righteousness and life (17) as well as grace exercise dominion (21).

Continued...

All this comes about because 'at the right time Christ died for the ungodly' (6). So we journey through Lent with Jesus to the cross, not because we celebrate suffering and sacrifice for its own sake, but because through the cross comes life.

Grace and peace,

Tony

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 22 February 2026

Sentence:

We do not live by bread alone, but by every Word that comes from the mouth of God.

Matthew 4:4

Collect:

Living God, You know better than we, the temptations that will bring us down. Grant that our love for You may protect us from all foolish and corrupt desire. Praise to You our God; You answer prayer. Amen.

OT Reading *Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7*

NT Reading *Romans 5: 12-19*

Gospel *Matthew 4: 1-11*

Prayers of the People

Today we pray for those who move to new lands or travel the seas, and those who offer assistance and guidance to them, and we pray for the people of the Rotorua Parish and their clergy.

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

Holy Week Services

Sun 29 Mar	9.30 am	Palm Sunday
Thu 2 Apr	7.00 pm	Maundy Thursday Foot Washing and Holy Communion
Fri 3 Apr	9.30am	Good Friday Vigil
Sat 4 Apr	7.00 pm	Service of Light and Word with Eucharist
Sun 5 Apr	9.30am	Easter Day

This Week Beginning: 23 February

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

Friday 9.30 am Senior Chef

Op Shop 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday to Friday
10:00 am – 1:00 pm Saturday

Playgroup 9:30 – 11:30 am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
Toy Library 9:30 – 11:30 am Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Service for Sunday 1 March -
9:30 am Holy Communion

Contact Us

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