

*Welcome! Haere mai!*

## St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai



**Sunday 28 June 2026**

*Liturgy: p456*

*Ordinary Time 13*

*Psalm 13*

### *Greetings all:*

Our texts this week are interesting. They include the Binding of Isaac, a tough but important story. For Muslims the son is Ishmael. Both Jews and Muslims site this story on Mount Zion on the rock inside the beautiful Dome of the Rock Mosque. It makes this site both sacred and highly contested. Bonnie and I experienced the gracious welcome of the Palestinian Muslim guardians of the site, and the aggressive intimidation of Jewish settlers provoking a fight. There is much to pray for.

Our gospel reading is the end of Jesus' instructions to his disciples as he sends them out as participants in his ministry, living God's way esteeming those honoured in the Beatitudes - the invisible and silenced. It is all about welcoming and being welcomed. Most of us are good at welcoming people into our space. By good I mean we are good at deciding who to welcome and who not to welcome. We are in control and the risks are few. But we are invited into a riskier welcome. And many of us are a lot less comfortable with **being** welcomed. That involves joining those first disciples venturing out and taking risks, letting go and being vulnerable. It offers the possibility of rejection. Brian McLaren in "We Make the Road by Walking" says that the way of Jesus, the way of vulnerability is "...a summons, a challenge, a life-changing invitation. Do we dare to step out and follow Jesus, to make the road by walking, to risk everything on an uprising of peace, an uprising of generosity, an uprising of forgiveness, an uprising of love? If we believe, we will make it real." (p.150)

*John Hebert PSSF.*

## **WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 28 June 2026**

### **Sentence:**

The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 6:23*

### **Collect:**

Almighty Father,  
grant that we your children  
may never be ashamed  
to confess the faith of Christ crucified,  
but continue his faithful servants  
to our lives' end;  
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**OT Reading**    *Genesis 22: 1-14*

**NT Reading**    *Romans 6: 12-23*

**Gospel**            *Matthew 10: 40-42*

### **Prayers of the People**

Today we pray for the Bricks of Life and give thanks for the remarkable transformation of a Northern Ethiopian village because of this project, and we pray for the New Zealand Church Missionary Society.

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

### **Past Vicar – The Rev. Alan W. Arrowsmith**

A former Vicar of St John's, **The Rev. Alan W. Arrowsmith** (1974–1980), sadly passed away on 4 May 2026. His daughter Cathy would love to hear from anyone who remembers her father or the family. The family is also exploring the possibility of installing a commemorative plaque on our Memorial Wall. If you have any memories, stories, or photographs you would be willing to share, please contact Erica.

### **Women Seafarers Annual Drive**

Prior to our Sea Sunday service on July 19<sup>th</sup>, please consider donating toiletries and other items that the women seafarers would appreciate.

### **Soup and Rolls Tuesday July 14th**

St John's Women's Fellowship Annual Soup and Rolls lunch with entertainment provided by the St John's Singers. \$15 entry and raffles - \$2 each of 3 for \$5. A signup sheet is at the back of the church.

### **Office Closed**

Erica will be on leave from Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June and returning on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July. Calls and emails can still be made to the office as the messages will be picked up by Lynda.

### **This Week Beginning: 29<sup>th</sup> June**

<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 am	Mid-week Communion
	2:00 pm	SAYGo in the hall
<b>Thursday</b>	12:30 pm	Books and Friends at Kunul Cafe
<b>Friday</b>	9:30 am	Senior Chef
<b>Sunday</b>	9:30 am	Holy Communion

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

Playgroup    9:30am – 11:30 am    Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

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

## Contact Us

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