

Welcome! Haere mai!

St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai



Sunday 3rd September 2023
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Greetings:

I love the way that Paul talks about *the marks of the true Christian* in the reading from Romans this morning: “*Let love be genuine, hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good ... for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.*”

It seems to me that sometimes, even in his most serious moments, Paul has a sense of humour. I’m not sure this is the most important reason for feeding one’s enemy or giving them something to drink, but it sure does give us something to think about.

We are often told that *it’s not the what, it’s the why*, but again, I think the real message from Jesus might be: “*I don’t care why you feed your enemy, just do it ... give him a reason to think hard about why you are in his bad books. Do what you can to get out of them ... make a connection for the good of the kingdom.*”

I know that there are things we can’t compromise on, but very few of them have anything to do with feeding people (or not) and making their lives more comfortable. I’m sure this is what Paul is really trying to get at too ... but he makes it so easy to give him a hard time.

Grace and peace,

Tony

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 3rd September 2023

Sentence

If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny yourself, take up your cross and follow him.
Matthew 16:24

Collect

**God of unchangeable power,
our strength at all times;
guard us from all dangers
and support us in all difficulties
that we may live victoriously now and forever;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.**

1st Reading *Jeremiah 15:15-21*

2nd Reading *Romans 12:9-21*

Gospel *Matthew 16:21-28*

Prayers of the People

Today we pray for the staff and clergy of the Diocese of Polynesia and for the Waiapu Board of Diocesan Trustees.

We pray for those in need especially those who ask for our prayers: John, Isabel, Sheryll, Taylor, Viv, David, Nikki, Kerri, Jo L, Craig.

Purcell's The Tempest

The Scholars Baroque Aotearoa, known for their superb choral sound, present Purcell's The Tempest at 7.30 pm on Saturday 9 September at St Peter's, Mount Maunganui. Tim Cross will be the lead baritone in the role of Neptune. Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$30 for 65 years+ and can be purchased via: https://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2023/sep/the-tempest-mt-maunganui?atc=calendar_The_Tempest_by_Purcell. Door sales will be available as well.

Word and Light OUR PARISH MAGAZINE

The theme for the next edition will be “**The Colours of Spring**”. Articles on other topics are also welcome. Photos add interest. Please send your contributions to Lynda, the Parish Administrator, by **10th September 2023**.

This Week Beginning: 4th September

Tuesday	12.00 noon	Fish n Chips and Games
Wednesday	10.00 am 1.30 pm	Mid-week Eucharist Golden Age
Thursday	1.00 pm	Books and Friends
Op Shop	10.00 am - 4.00 pm 10.00 am - 1.00 pm	Monday to Friday (ph. 576 2422) Saturday
Playgroup	9.30 - 11.30 am	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
Toy Library	9.30 - 11.30 am	Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Services for Sunday 10th September –

8.30 am Holy Eucharist
10.00 am Holy Eucharist

Contact Us

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