

*Welcome! Haere mai!*

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



**Sunday 7 September 2025**

*Liturgy: p.476*

*OT 23*

*Psalm 1*

### *Greetings:*

In our liturgical calendar this week we have commemorated three extraordinary individuals each worth appreciating as heroes of the faith, even if they leave us feeling a little tired when we consider what they achieved. They are each well worth a Google search.

**Albert Schweitzer** (1875-1965) was one of those truly gifted Christians who set aside a life of potential fame and fortune to be an academic in history and natural science, a doctor of medicine, a missionary in French Equatorial Africa, a theologian, a musician of note and an author. He used his extensive talent to raise funds and build a 350 bed general hospital, as well as a leprosy hospital for 200 patients by holding organ recitals throughout Europe.

**Mother Teresa** (1910-1997) is well known for her work and life among the poorest of the poor in India, but she ignored the criticisms of those who said that she did nothing to alleviate the causes of that poverty, or address the social injustices that accompanied it. Instead she focussed her energy and talent on those suffering its consequences; she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979.

A little closer to home was **Charles Fox** (1878-1977). A missionary, historian and anthropologist, he served the Anglican Church in Melanesia for over 70 years. He came to NZ as a 6 year old when his father was appointed the Vicar of Gisborne. He first went to the Solomon Islands in 1903 and set up a school for boys on San Cristobal, but also worked for 11 years, as the only European member of the Melanesian Brotherhood. During the Second World War he was a coast-watcher and successfully evaded capture by the Japanese with the help of the Melanesian people. He was an expert in the local language and published several books about the people. He also translated the *Bible* and the *Book of Common Prayer* for local use.

Grace and peace, *Tony*

### **WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: 7 September 2025**

#### **Sentence:**

Whoever does not carry the cross and follow Jesus cannot be His disciple. *Luke 14:2*

#### **Collect:**

**Servant God, grant us opportunity, give us willingness to serve You day by day; that what we do and how we bear each other's burdens, may be our sacrifice to You. Hear this prayer for Your love's sake. Amen.**

**OT Reading**     *Deuteronomy 30: 15-20*

**NT Reading**     *Philemon verses 1-21*

**Gospel**             *Luke 14: 25-33*

## **Prayers of the People**

Today we pray for the Anglican Church and people of Papua New Guinea, and for people of the East Coast Parish.

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

### **Young at Heart Festival**

The Young at Heart Festival, 1- 8 October, is a week of community-led events that celebrates Tauranga's older community. The festival wraps around the official International Day of Older Persons on Wednesday, 1 October 2025. From fitness classes, a Musical Festival to workshops, the festival includes great events to get involved with. To see what is on offer visit the [Young at Heart webpage](#)

### **This Week Beginning: 8 September**

<b>Tuesday</b>	7.00 pm St John's Women's Fellowship meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00 am Mid-week Communion
	2.00 pm SAYGO in the hall
	3.15 pm Communion at Radius Matua
<b>Friday</b>	9.00 am Senior Chef

<b>Op Shop</b>	10.00 am - 4.00 pm Monday to Friday
	10.00 am - 1.00 pm Saturday

<b>Playgroup</b>	9.30 - 11.30 am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
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<b>Toy Library</b>	9.30 - 11.30 am Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
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### **Service for Sunday 14 September -**

9.30 am Holy Communion

## **Contact Us**

**Vicar:** The Reverend Tony Kippax  
**Ph:** 576 9923 or 021 0267 1495  
**Email:** tony.kippax@waiapu.com

**Parish Office:** Erica Orrick                      Ph: 576 9923  
**Email:** admin.otumoetai@waiapu.com  
**Website:** www.stjohns-tga.org.nz

**Administrator:** Lynda Wallace              Ph: 027 780 3653  
**Email:** admin.otumoetai@waiapu.com

**Wardens:** Roger Clark                              027 683 8466  
Angela Stensness                              021 040 6748