



SAINTS A & A



Sunday 21st June 2020

Saints A & A

Birkenhead Northcote

Aotearoa New Zealand

Matariki and the Winter of our Lives

9- 9:30am - Gather for Breakfast @ St Aidans

10am Call to Worship (Cathy)

God has given us this beautiful earth
All that grows, all that lives upon it.

Thanks be to God

God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

Thanks be to God

God has gathered us into a community of care and worship.

Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving and praise.



Opening Prayer: Psalm 86: 1-10, 16-17 (Robin)

Opening Hymn: Life has its seasons

Reading: *Through winter cold* A poem by Shirley Murray (Rachel)

Through winter cold and drifted snow,
through bitter wind and biting frost
the silent seeds of spring will grow
and buried dreams will not be lost.

Within God's world, as seasons turn,
we sleep and grow, with changing need
to shed old concepts and to learn
the faith that sprouts like mustard seed.

It is compassion warms the day
and hugs the lonely or the cold,
speaks out for justice, come what may
when people's lives are bought and sold.

And as in winter, as in grief
the frozen heart of things is numb,
compassion melts our unbelief
and all is changed, for spring has come.

Table Talk 1 (Introduction by Cathy)

Question: *How do we cope with 'winter' in our lives?*

Feedback (Cathy and Rachel)

Hymn: Tell my People I love them
(Offering taken during hymn)

Dedication of Offering (Colin)

Table Talk 2

Question: *Blessings of winter – what are they and why do we have winter at all?*

Feedback: (Cathy and Rachel)

Hymn: Take my Gifts

Prayers for Ourselves and Others (Rachel/Cathy)

At Matariki, we pause to stargaze
 To dream our dreams
 And plan our actions for a better world,
 An earth transformed, made new.
 We think of the things we can do
 To make poverty history;
 To care for our mother the earth
 To savour and conserve her resources;
 To invigorate and sustain this community of faith.
 Aroha mai, aroha atu

Love towards us, love going out from us.

Let us celebrate our cultures and languages,
 Our spirit and our people:
 Nga tikanga, nga reo
 Nga whenua, nga tangata.
 Where we can right past wrongs
 Where we can support our nation's leaders to act righteously
 on our behalf
 where we can make a difference, by our attitudes of openness
 to what we do not know
 where we can honour the history of our tangata whenua and our
 settler or immigrant forebears
 where we can welcome newcomers: migrants and refugees,
 those who seek justice and freedom in a new country
 where we honour the aspirations of our young people
 whose dreams & language, music & culture
 we don't always understand
 where we can walk in others' shoes and share their load
 let us give of our lives, our resources, and our hearts.
 Aroha mai, aroha atu

Love towards us, love going out from us. Amen

Notices

Sung Blessing: Ma te marie a te Atua *The peace of God (Tune Old 100th)*

NOTICES – for ALL folk of Saints A & A and beyond

ZOOM will be operating each and every Sunday for those far-away and close-by:

Topic: Saints A & A Worship Service

Time: 9am – 11am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81451789516?pwd=UWkwVVV4RUhrbnFabmdDOTNKS0Fvdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5178 9516

Password: 518373

Dial by your location

+64 4 886 0026 New Zealand

+64 9 884 6780 New Zealand

Pastoral Committee Birthday Luncheon

Please come and help celebrate two Special Birthdays:-

Marjorie Nichol* *104

Rosemary Bold* *80

When: Wednesday 24 June 2020

Where: St Andrew's Church Hall

Time: 11.30 am – 2.30 pm

Please bring a plate of food to share, or a koha to help with expenses.

All welcome but **please RSVP** so we will have enough chairs for you!

Phone: Barbara Wesley 4809123 or Barbara Wadams 4860622

DON'T FORGET the Consultation process:

- **Papers have been emailed and hard copies for those who are not on email will be at the Sunday Services.**
- **REMINDER of Consultation dates**
 - **For St Andrews:**
 - Wednesday 24 June, 7pm to 8.30pm;
 - Saturday 27 June, 9am to 10.30am
 - **For St Aidan's:**
 - Thursday, 25 June, 7pm to 8.30pm;
 - Saturday 27 June, 11am to 12.30pm

NEXT WEEK: Thanksgiving Service Coming out of COVID-19.

The Church Council of St Aidans has approved and encouraged a

Thanksgiving Offering. As is common in many Parishes St Aidans operates on a deficit budget. Why do churches choose to show a deficit budget? The deficit is a reality. Current income does not match current expenses. However, without fundraisers and special requests the shortfall will come from invested monies. As many of you will appreciate living off investments has a limited life. The other question some may ask is, 'why do we not live within our means?' Great question.

Not to answer that question but to give some background. We tend to model our current practices from a period when churches didn't really need a financial plan. Everybody went to church or thought the church was a good thing. The church was the most effective charitable organisation in town, and church members all wanted a tax credit for their donations. All the church needed to do was disseminate information about annual expenses and projected budgets. The money would flow, and everyone would praise God on a Sunday. Done.

Times have changed, in fact some time ago they changed. This 'journey to a merger' is looking at many facets of 'church cultural' or 'behaviour' that we continue to operate under. We will be questioning the value and necessity of these behaviours to meet the challenges of a new era.

In the meantime, we value what we have and set budgets accordingly and to challenge ourselves in providing for the things we value we set a deficit budget and make it a joy to reach our goals.

Envelopes will be provided with your 'Offering number'.

Saints A & A Working "B" at St Aidans Saturday 27th June 1-3pm. This is an INSIDE working 'B'.

Other meetings this week:

- **St Andrews Church Council** – Tuesday 23rd June 7:15pm for a cuppa
- **St Aidans and St Andrews Getting to know you, Finance, Property, Resources** – Wednesday 24th 5pm St Andrews
- **Bert Sutcliffe Service** – Friday 26th 10:30am

NEWSLETTER - Do consider sending a contribution for the newsletter sometime too, either a short article or story or via Grace for her Notes. It's good to know what others are thinking or doing. Barbara Westra - bmwestra@gmail.com