



SAINTS A & A



Sunday 19th July 2020

Saints A & A

Birkenhead Northcote

Aotearoa New Zealand

Matariki

2020 was 20th June – 15th July, and so

for another year, they move from our night sky. Astronomy, for most cultures, is woven into all facets of life. Experts would observe the sky, making notes on star and planet movements, the relationship of those stars and planets to the moon and sun, while noting what was happening around them on land and in the oceans, lakes and rivers. As with many of our ancestors around the world, the celestial objects were given names. In many cases, mythologised and no less so than in Aotearoa Māori names and their stories were woven into everyday life.

Matariki, the Māori name given to the Greek Pleiades. Matariki the internationally recognised star cluster that can be seen all over the world. The rise of Matariki in the winter skies above Aotearoa is an important time in the Māori calendar, as it signifies the start of the lunar New Year. Historically, new year celebrations provided the opportunity for communities to come together to acknowledge the year gone and make plans for the year ahead; to celebrate with kai, kōrero, rituals and entertainment.

For a time, these celebrations dwindled in popularity. Still, at the beginning of the 21st century, a cultural renaissance occurred, making this particular time of the year an important part of the Māori calendar. Today, everyone in Aotearoa has the opportunity to celebrate the unique places we live in, show respect for the land we live on and to share and grow together, with traditions continuing in Matariki Festival celebrations each year.

9:30am

Sounding of the gong

Singing: Be Thou my vision

Welcoming Space

Come in.

Come into this place

which we make special by our presence.

Where the ordinary is sanctified,

the human is celebrated,

the compassionate is expected.

Together we make it a holy place with our every act of celebration.

Haere Mai, Aere mai, hwan-yeong, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Afio mai, Ulu tonu mai, Talofa Lava, Foon Ying, Selamat Datang, Vitajte, Welkom, Welcome

Wisdom from the Religious Traditions

“Wisdom is not just special knowledge about something.

Wisdom is a way of being, a way of inhabiting the world.

The beauty of wisdom is harmony, belonging and illumination of thought, action, heart and mind.”

We listen for truth, yet it is elusive - a thought here, a verse there.

May we collect it all, write what is worthy on our hearts, and let the rest spill past our consciousness leaving us clear and whole.!

Reading: Matthew 13: 24 - 43(30-36)

“Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.”

Reflections:

Offertory/Singing: God with Joy we look around us (Tune: Regent Square)

Offertory prayer :

Prayers for others:

Notices / Celebrations:

Singing: Celebrate a new day dawning (Tune: Joyful Joyful)

Sending out:

E hoa ma, Friends lets us go now in joy and service –
Scattering like tiny seeds.

Trusting that we are in the right place.

Rooted in the soil of infinite love.

Accepting the invitation to emerge.

Breaking up the pavement of war and oppression.

And blooming in joyful bunches.

We are the irrepressible weeds of peace. Amene.

At this time, we will move into our Congregational Meeting. Everyone is invited to stay and contribute. However, if you are planning in leaving now is the time.

Congregational meeting:

Singing: Spirit of the living God

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

NEXT WEEKS SERVICE: @ St Aidans – Café service with a celebration of Margaret Kings life.

Congregational Meetings of St Aidans & St Andrews 19th July 2020

Agenda:

Prayer:

Introduction:

Resolution moved / seconded:

The recommendation to each separate congregational meeting on 19th July 2020 is that:

“The merger of St Andrews and St Aidans is approved in principle, permitting phase 2 of the merger process to be undertaken as set out in the 19 July 2020 ‘Reference Document for Congregational Meetings’ and in accordance with Book of Order requirements”

Discussion:

Motion put:

General Business:

Discussion - That the times of Church Services be 10am in the winter months, that is NZ Standard Time. During ‘daylight saving time’ services will be at 9:30am

Song: Spirit of the living God

Sending out Prayer:

Matthew 13:24-43 New International Version (NIV)**The Parable of the Weeds**

²⁴ Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷ “The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’

²⁸ “‘An enemy did this,’ he replied.

“The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’

²⁹ “‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’”

The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast

³¹ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

³³ He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds^[a] of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

³⁴ Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. ³⁵ So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet:

“I will open my mouth in parables,
I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.”^[b]

The Parable of the Weeds Explained

³⁶ Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

³⁷ He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

⁴⁰ “As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴² They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

ⁱ (Gretta Vosper/ab)