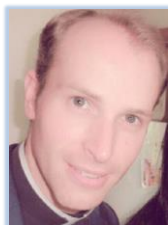




All Saints  
Anglican  
BIRKENHEAD

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
DECEMBER 2018

From the Vicar...



It is that is that time again. The time of waiting and expectation as we await the great gift of Jesus of Nazareth. There will be many gifts given in the coming weeks, new iPads, new bikes, and many socks!

But none of these gifts are really important when it comes to the great gift of Christmas. More and more we see the consumerism of Christmas going to new heights. In a way consumerism is the new God, promising happiness through material goods. But we know that this sort of gift-giving doesn't in fact fill our needs. The yearning for love, forgiveness and acceptance that we all seek cannot be remedied by the latest gadget. And so it is to Christ that we look, that vulnerable child who came amongst us and changed everything. Let us prepare as we receive this gift, the gift of God.

Blessings, Jordan, *Vicar*

**DATES FOR DIARY**

**Monday 26th November**

Days for Girls Sewing Day - 10am

**Wednesday 28th November**

Mother's Union Service - 10am

**Saturday 1st December**

Parish breakfast - 8am

**Sunday 16th December**

Nine Lessons & Carols - 7pm

**Thursday 20th December**

Carol singing for Mission - 6.30pm

**Monday 24th December**

Children's Christmas Service - 5pm

**Monday 24th December**

Christmas Eve - 11pm

**Tuesday 25th December**

Christmas Day - 8am & 9.30am

WHAT'S COMING UP

**CHRISTMAS AT ALL SAINTS**

Join us as we celebrate the great feast of Christmas, the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. Christmas Eve begins with carol singing at 11pm with Mass beginning at 11:30pm. Christmas day is celebrated with two services, 8am and 9:30am. We look forward to celebrating with you.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

An opportunity for the children to hear the Nativity story through song, activities and possibly a bit of chocolate. 5pm start in the Church, all children (and the young at heart) are welcome

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

There is no Christmas Pageant this year. The children will be participating in the Children's Christmas service at 5pm on Christmas Eve and retelling the Christmas story.

**NINE LESSONS & CAROLS**

Our annual Lessons and Carols service on the 16<sup>th</sup> December. A retelling of the Christmas story through scripture and song that leads us towards Christmas. Parishioners are invited to bring a plate for supper following the service. 7pm start.

**CAROL SINGING FOR CITY MISSION**

Every year we gather to sing carols to the Birkenhead shops and businesses with all the proceeds going to the City Mission. All are welcome no matter your voice. We gather at 6.30pm outside the Church on Thursday 20th December.

**WEDNESDAY SERVICES**

There will be no Wednesday 10am services on 26th December and the 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Starting again on the 9th January.

**MORNING TEA JANUARY**

We will continue to have morning tea in January 2018.

**FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING**

Christ the King celebrates Jesus' reign over all of creation. It is the last Sunday in 'Ordinary Time' before we start the liturgical year again with the Season of Advent. We were going to have a Festive Eucharist (incense) to celebrate the feast but are now being joined by the All Saints Scouts who will be celebrating their 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It will be a said service instead.

## PARISH BREAKFAST

Join us on Saturday December 1st as we gather together for the annual parish breakfast. 8am start with a guest speaker. Please let Chris Ball at cball@xtra.co.nz know by the 25th November if you are attending so we have an idea of numbers. Please note there is no Men's Breakfast this month due to the breakfast.



Sunday School continues in December on Sunday 2nd December & Sunday 16th December. Then taking a break through January.

## WOMEN'S BREAKFAST



There is no women's breakfast in December. Returning in the New Year.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

There is no Men's breakfast this month due to the Parish combined breakfast, returning next year.



## CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE - TAIZE

Our last contemplative service takes place on the 4th Sunday of the month 25th November at 5pm. This uses elements of Taize worship incorporating chants, silences and scripture. All are welcome.



## DAYS FOR GIRLS SEWING DAY

A morning of knitting, craft and chat, all are welcome. Monday 26th October, starting at 10am.



## MOTHER'S UNION

Join us for the Mother's Union service on Wednesday 28th November starting with a Eucharist at 10am (all are welcome). The Mother's Union will be having their final meeting of the year with Lunch.



## TRADE ME FUNDRAISING

Do you have any goods you could donate? Geoff Newton (480 8538), with help from Rachel Haggie (444 1438), continue to raise funds by selling goods on TradeMe. You can donate goods for auction or Geoff will sell on your behalf with a small commission (minimum of 10% for larger items) going to church funds.



## LIBRARY NOTES FOR NOVEMBER - DECEMBER'18 - JOURNEY OF FAITH

Our Christian faith is always on a journey, carrying the vision of God's Kingdom in all the circumstances of life. Read Brian McLaren's inspirational book, **The Great Migration**, about God's activity constantly moving forward, renewing the world. At a more basic level, read Eric Metaxas' book, **Everything You Always Wanted to Know about God (but were afraid to ask)**, set out in an easy-to-read question and answer format. **But is it Real?** asks Amy Orr-Ewing- **Answering 10 Common Objections to the Christian Faith**, defending the faith in London with grace and intelligence. And two English Bishops, Stephen Cottrell and Steven Croft, have teamed up to present another attractive little book of guidance, **How to Live - a Guide to the Christian Journey**. As the year winds up at a more hectic pace, take some time out to read a book from our unique parish library, and keep your faith quietly growing.

### Contact Details

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