

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

We hope you find God's presence in the service today. Please join us for a cuppa after the service and share our hospitality and fellowship

Happy Birthday!

We extend our best birthday wishes to **Terry Bardwell**, celebrating his birthday on **Friday 21st September**.



Blessing of the Animals—St Francis of Assisi Service
Sunday 7th October - Christ the King Church 9 am
All pets welcome (suitably restrained).

Leprosy Mission

On **Sunday October 14** Gillian Whitley will be speaking to us about the work of the Leprosy Mission. We will be taking a special cash offering to support this vital mission, so you might like to bring something for this.



Barnabas Fund is an international aid agency that supports Christians in countries where they are a minority and suffer for their faith. An opportunity to find out more about the work and mission of the Barnabas Fund. **Sunday 16 September 7pm** in the Church Building across from Bennett's Cafe. See full notice on the board.

Christianity, Creation and Climate Change

- How is climate change affecting our Earth and our country?
- What does our faith tell us about how to live in "our common home"?
- How can we respond?

An ecumenical and community event on **Saturday 13 October, 1.30 pm at Christ the King Church**.

Auckland Heritage Festival: "Hatched, Matched and Dispatched"

An exhibition featuring christening gowns, wedding dresses and mourning items. October 5-14, 10am to 4pm daily in the Selwyn Library, 8 St Stephens Avenue Auckland. See the poster on the board.

Bible Study: "God Rescues His People"

We have begun a new series using the "Conversations" method of Bible study. The focus will be the Book of Exodus. Studies are available on the entry table. This week: Moses Encounters God, Exodus 3:1-22. Wednesdays, 10am at Christ the King Church.



Mangawhai Market Fundraising Stall—Labour Weekend - Volunteers needed!

We are planning another fundraising stall at the Mangawhai market, **Saturday 20th October**. If you can help on the day, setting up, (8 am), selling items, or packing up (after 12 noon) please let Wayne or Fay know.

Wayne's Word

A weekly column by our Priest in Charge

BEARING THE CROSS

There's a blues song with the title: "It's Not My Cross to Bear". These are not words that ever came from the mouth of Jesus! In chapter 8 of Mark's gospel Jesus is very clear about the way he is going, that he had a cross and that he would carry it. For Jesus it would be a literal cross. He carried a physical and actual cross from the place of his trial and conviction to the place of crucifixion. It was his cross to bear ...

... however when it became too much for him; when Jesus in his weakened state began to stumble under its weight, a bystander was dragged in and forced to carry Jesus' cross. This was Simon of Cyrene, and he could have been the original singer of that blues song, because it was most definitely not his cross to bear! But bear it he did. Simon carried the cross for Jesus.

At the time I imagine he might have been resentful, angry, hurting. Why him? He obviously looked big and strong and that's why he was singled out. But it was a worry – what if they forgot he was carrying the cross on behalf of someone else ... It was not Simon's cross, but he bore it. Later he may perhaps have looked back on this as a privilege: who else could say that they had carried the cross for their Lord? In Mark 15:51 their names are mentioned so the thinking is that Simon, along with his sons Alexander and Rufus, later became part of the fellowship of Jesus' followers.

Maybe Simon's cross carrying, and seeing Jesus later hanging on that same cross, had something to do with it. It was not his cross to bear, but he bore it. Jesus bore a burden not his own on that same cross. Because of this we all have forgiveness of sins and a new beginning. That's the glory on the other side of the burden of the cross.

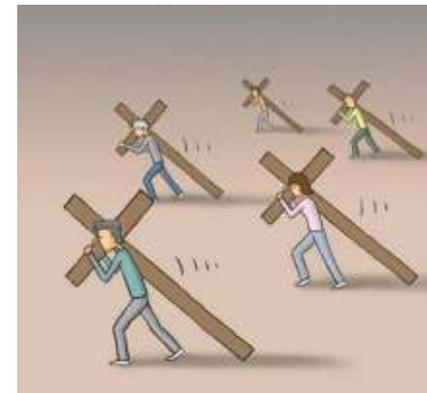
Jesus says very clearly that each of us has a cross: a burden to bear, a price to pay, something to expend in order to be his follower. Each one of us does indeed have a cross to bear. That's a line that features in a number of blues standards, as well as – of course – many hymns.

Following Jesus is ultimately worthwhile, but it is in no way easy. It is no stroll through the bush. Jesus pulls no punches and no wool over the eyes. Plain and simple: there is a cost to being a follower and it's not the same for everyone. Jesus says, "You must take up *your* cross". So, have you identified your particular cross? Have you picked it up? Are you carrying it?

I imagine Simon of Cyrene felt immense relief when he was finally able to put down the cross. Jesus says when we carry our cross and follow in his footsteps it leads not just to being able to be relieved of our burden, but a great reward.

Be encouraged and keep going. The load may be heavy and the burden great; but the result is even greater!

Shalom, Wayne





Please keep in your prayers:

Bernard Chivers, Rev. Edith McCarthy; Trewby and Rosemary; Ann and Neville's grandson, Chris; Helga and Terry's nephew, Wayne; Bob and Jan Vartan; Bev. Jaques; Peter Burnett; Robin Morgans; Diana and Grant; Margot's sister Susan; Jocelyn Cullen; Marjorie Blake; Judith Brown; baby Jonathan; Sibyl Canning and Elspeth Cooze.

Visiting: If you are aware of people you think need or would appreciate a visit, or home Communion from Wayne, please let him know.

What's on: 17—23 September

Tues.	18 Sept	Rhythm 'n' Riggle	Christ the King	10.00 am
Wed.	19 Sept	Holy Communion Bible Study	Christ the King Christ the King	9.00 am 10.00 am
Thurs.	20 Sept	C + K Craft Group	Christ the King	9.30am—3pm
Sunday	23 Sept	Holy Communion	Christ the King	9.00 am

Next week

23 September Service at 9 am
Theme: **The Greatest?**

Readings: Psalm 1
Mark 9: 33-37

MISSION DISTRICT CONTACTS

Priest in Charge: Reverend Wayne Thornton, 431 4122
Priest's Warden: Lindsay McCaw 431 3460
Co-People's Wardens: Ann Dowson 431 5913
Lynda Wintle 431 4766
Office Administrator: Fay Burnett - Fridays 8am – 12 noon, 431 4122
Assisting Clergy:
Rev Derek Christensen, Rev Edith McCarthy, Rev John McClean,
Rev Dr Tony Stroobant
Christ the King Church: 9 Molesworth Drive, Mangawhai Village
Postal address: PO Box 58, Mangawhai Village, 0540



Pew News

16 September 2018
Theme: Taking Up the Cross

Theme & Readings

Prayer Book P. 404

OT: Isaiah 50: 4-9a
Gospel: Mark 8: 31-38



Scripture for the Week (Sentence)

Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for the sake of the gospel will save it. (Mark 8:35)

Prayer for the Week (Collect)

Almighty God, you are Alpha and Omega, beginning and end, the Word made flesh; grant us the courage to take up our cross, and bear it gladly for the sake of the gospel, risking mockery and rejection, following the example of Jesus, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Prayer Cycle

In our Diocese we pray for the Parishes of Papatoetoe, Otahuhu and Mangere East; and the Diocese of Polynesia Tongan and Samoan congregations. In our Mission District we pray for Bible studies and small groups. In our community we pray for our Member of Parliament, Mayor and Councillors, District Council, local boards and committees.

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12 noon
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Christ the King Mangawhai, St Michael & All Angels Hakaru, St Paul's Kaiwaka