

Please keep in your prayers:

Kevin, Helga & Terry, Trewby & Rosie, Lynne & Eddie, Gus Holgate-Simpson, Amanda, Nigel, Paul Brom, Jan W, Judith and Jonathan. Margaret Haverfield, Lindsay, Jim Wintle, Nathan Sarah, Joss, Jan Pedrotti

If you would like to add people or situations, and having made sure the people would like to be on our list, please phone 431 4122, or email [admin@mangawhaianglican.co.nz](mailto:admin@mangawhaianglican.co.nz)

### Next Week

Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Morning Prayer	Christ the King	9.00am
Thurs 7th Sept	Rhythm n Riggle	Christ the King	9.30am

### Next Week

### Readings 10<sup>th</sup> September

**Exod 12:1-14**  
**Ps 149**  
**Matt 18:15-20**

### MISSION DISTRICT CONTACTS

Interim Priest in Charge:	Archdeacon Jonathan Gale	021 2543791
Priest's Warden:	Lindsay McCaw	022 032 6360
People's Wardens:	Jo Sarah	027 2104 166
Office Administrator:	Hilary Green -	. 09 431 4122

### Assisting Clergy:

Rev John McClean, Rev Dr Tony Stroobant,

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# Pew News

P 476

**Christ the King, Mangawhai**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023**

**Theme: The World On Fire With The Presence Of God**

### Readings

**Exod 3:1-15**  
**Matt 16:21-28**

### Scripture Sentence

**God said to Moses, "I am who I am....this is my name forever and this is my title for all generations. Exodus 3: 14-15**

### COLLECT

**god of all the generations, and our God, when you choose to speak the whole world catches fire with your Spirit. Help us to recognise such moments, that we may be inspired to work with you for a more just and kinder world. Amen**

### PRAYER CYCLE:

**In our Diocese we pray for Bishop Ross, Archdeacon Jonathan, our clergy, and all our people, the Archdeaconry of Auckland, Parish of Mt Eden, Telugu Mission District, Asian Mission District, Parish of Grey Lynn, Mission District of Waiheke Island, Great Barrier Island, Clergy with permission to officiate, Nancy Barnard-Starr (Rick), Penelope Barnhill, Lilian Barrett, Ann Batten (Peter), Don Battley, Ken Bennett (Lorrie), Ellen Bernstein, Colleen Binns, Judith Binns, Richard Binns.**

Office Hours: Friday 8am – 12 Noon

Phone 431-4122 Email: [Admin@mangawhaianglican.co.nz](mailto:Admin@mangawhaianglican.co.nz)

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Christ the King Mangawhai, St Michael's & All Angels Hakaru, St Pauls Kaiwaka

## WELCOME TO CHRIST THE KING

We welcome Rev. Dr Tony Stroobant who will be holding Holy Communion and preaching today.  
We hope you find God's presence in his service this morning.

**Please join us for refreshments following the service**

Archdeacon Jonathan's next Prayer Meeting will be on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September, 10.00am. Jonathan had asked us to prepare for the August meeting by listening to N.T Wright in a short video [How to Pray For the World, Psalm 70:1-2]. The meeting was cancelled due to Jonathan being unwell so we will continue on with this at our September meeting.

We wish to advise that Hilary has resigned her position as Office Administrator. We take this opportunity to thank her for her efforts over the past year.

Should you have any notices you wish to have included in the Pew News, could you please email to [admin@mangawhaianglican.co.nz](mailto:admin@mangawhaianglican.co.nz).

While we have asked recently for articles to be included in our quarterly magazine. We have decided, due to time constraints, to leave this until the December issue.



## Tony's Word

Today's gospel reading includes these words:

Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers let them deny themselves, and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."  
**Matthew 16: 25-26**

It is not surprising that many might be troubled these days by those words of Jesus. Not only do they sound most unattractive, they seem quite at odds with what most of us have been taught, which is to find our true, our authentic, selves and to cultivate a healthy self-esteem.

So what is going on here?  
And how are we to understand these words, which I think could hardly be less fashionable in this day-and-age?

I'm sorry, I not only have no easy answer, I have no answer that makes sense simply put in words alone. The answer to what Jesus might have meant, if there is one, is found in living the gospel. "Experientially", as some writers put it.

The paradoxes (apparent contradictions) that Jesus outlines above are testified to by countless "saints" across the ages- that is, people trying to live a gospel life according to Jesus' words and examples.

Paradoxically, such people have found that as we give ourselves in love and service to others, we find ourselves, not diminished or emptied, but filled and renewed. And one of the great ironies of life seems that if we wish to receive the best of what God has to offer, then it needs to be done with open hands - and the emptier the better.

God probably is not calling you and me to be a Mother Theresa or a St Francis (but who knows!) but I believe we are called to "let go" of some of the things we hang onto- our possessions and our sense of self-importance, for example- in order to receive the abundant blessings God has in store for us.

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