



MARKINGS

St Mark's Anglican Parish Te Aroha

Archdeacon: Ven Val Riches

Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Geoff Lamason 0220807297

Permission to Officiate: Rev. Joan Power 8847058

Permission to Officiate: Rev. Ian Harrop 8849292

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Knowing + Sharing Christ's Aroha

3rd MARCH 2024
3rd SUNDAY IN LENT

THEME: The Wisdom of God.

SENTENCE: God spoke these words and said, 'I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.'
Exodus 20:1.

COLLECT:

Lord, help us to see:

to see what is eternally good and true,

and having seen,

to go on searching

until we come to the joys of heaven.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



READINGS INTRODUCTIONS:

Exodus 20:1-17. When the Israelites escaped from slavery in Egypt in the 13th century BC under the leadership of Moses, they developed a code of laws to govern their life, appropriate for the people of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25. Paul began the church in Corinth but had to sort out problems there on several occasions. In his first letter Paul begins by reminding them that God's wisdom is different from the world's wisdom.

Psalms 19. The heavens are telling the glory of God, revealed in creation and the law.

John 2:13-22. Whereas the other Gospel writers place the challenge of Jesus to the temple immediately before his arrest, John places it at a very early point in his ministry

Next week's readings:

Numbers 21:4-9. Psalm 107:1-3,17-22. Ephesians 2:1-10. John 3:14-21

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MAR	COMMEMORATIONS	EVENTS THIS WEEK
Sun 3	3 rd Sunday in Lent Wesley Day	10am Holy Communion Rev Geoff Lamason
Tue 5	Gospel Day, French Polynesia	
Wed 6		10am Holy Communion 2pm Church cleaning.
Thu 7	Perpetua and her Companions, Martyrs in Carthage, 203.	
Fri 8		1.30pm Craft Group
Sun 10	4 th Sunday in Lent Mothering Sunday	10am Holy Communion Rev Geoff Lamason

We pray for Cilla, Jemima, Jenny, Elaine, Gloria & Brian, Beverley, Tom & Corolyn, Jann and her family, Chrissy, Rori.

If you wish to add a name to the prayer list for the next 4 weeks, please contact Geoff (022 080 7297,) or Pat (8849182)

IN THE MISSION FIELD we pray for Diocese of Polynesia: Samoa and Tonga.

IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND we pray for

- **The Province:** Diocese of Wellington.
- **Our Diocese:** Clergy, People and Communities of Brooklands CP, Bryant Park CP, Cambridge.
- **Our Community:** Mayor, Chairpersons & Council Members.
- **Our Parish:** Women's Groups.



ST MARK'S MATTERS;

Prayer and the oil of anointing are always available after services – just ask the priest or members of the healing team.



✝ **VISITING:** If you know that a parishioner is unwell, please contact Geoff 022 080 7297, or Joan 884 7058.

WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

Fri 8 Craft Group
Sun 10 **Domain Day**
Mon 18 1.30pm Vestry
Thu 21 1.30pm Fellowship
Fri 22 1.30pm Craft Group

From Vestry:

- The Parish AGM will be held on Sunday 21st April, 2024 after the 10am service. At this meeting we will receive a report from the Restoration Team, and elect its members.
- Gayle Bebbington, Vicar's Warden, has agreed to be our Health and Safety Officer as well. Any accidents or near misses should be reported to her so she can ensure our building is as safe as possible for us all.
- June will produce a **Transmitter** before Easter, please have copy to her by **Friday 15th March**.
- December Minutes are on the notice board.

DOMAIN DAY - SUNDAY 10TH MARCH 2024

Only 1 week away!

Once again we have been allocated the old Bowling Pavilion, where we will sell food, tea and coffee. **On the day we will need plenty of biscuits and/or muffins, to supplement sandwiches for lunches.**

All contributions will be welcome!

We will need help at the pavilion on the day, to set things up, to sell the food etc, and to clean up at about 2pm. **Please add your name to the list at the back.**

Thank you in advance and thanks to those who have already offered.

FROM THE RESTORATION TEAM:

June has asked for a working bee on **Wednesday 6th March at 2pm**, to give the church building another clean and tidy up before the Domain Day on 10 March. Hope you can make it. PS: It won't be as intensive as the last working bee, mainly vacuuming and dusting. One of the restoration group has offered to be on site during Domain Day so we can have the building well-presented and open that day.

A PRAYER FOR THE RESTORATION TEAM.

God of compassion and grace;
grant wisdom, insight, and creativity to the team as they work to raise funding for the restoration of St Mark's Church, Te Aroha. May they be encouraged by our and the wider community's support and co-operation, be it be through word or action, so that together St Mark's becomes a beacon of hope and inspiration for all who live in our district. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.



A PRAYER FOR PEACE

Compassionate and gracious God we ask for your intervention, through men, women, and organisations of authority, to restore peace in nations engaged in armed conflict throughout each continent of our world. Protect and sustain all who are bringing medical aid, food, shelter, and comfort to the innocent victims of such conflict. This we ask in the name of Jesus, The Prince of Peace. Amen.

THOUGHTS ON THE READINGS.

Within Jerusalem's temple complex, dubious economic activities left some worshippers exploited and others with their access hindered. It was an abuse of the holy place, and Jesus was sufficiently outraged to plan and execute an act of civil disobedience. In some ways this was a symbolic gesture – he knows the traders would return – but his point was scriptural and was well made. Yet this was also symbolic in another way; for the sign demanded of the proof of his authority for this protest was to involve the destruction of another temple: his body, the true meeting place between God and humankind. *RSCM Sunday by Sunday*

Psalm 19. A psalm of David.

¹ The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship.

² **Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known.**

³ They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard.

⁴ **Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world.**

God has made a home in the heavens for the sun.

⁵ It bursts forth like a radiant bridegroom after his wedding. It rejoices like a great athlete eager to run the race.

⁶ **The sun rises at one end of the heavens and follows its course to the other end.**

Nothing can hide from its heat.

⁷ The instructions of the LORD are perfect, reviving the soul. The decrees of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

⁸ **The commandments of the LORD are right, bringing joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are clear, giving insight for living.**

⁹ Reverence for the LORD is pure, lasting forever. The laws of the LORD are true; each one is fair.

¹⁰ **They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold. They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb.**

¹¹ They are a warning to your servant, a great reward for those who obey them.

¹² **How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults.**

¹³ Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.

¹⁴ **May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Thought for the week:

In order to understand God we must stand under God.