

ST BARNABAS ANGLICAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

June 2011

St Barnabas Anglican Church, 470 Glenfield Rd, Glenfield, Auckland
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Diary Notes from Rev. G Thorn

Greetings everybody!

Sunday the 19th of June is Trinity Sunday, that time of the year when we both reflect on and celebrate the Holy Trinity. Of course it hasn't always been this way since the time of Christ. Theology of the Trinity was something that developed over the first four hundred years of the church's life. Our creeds are pivotal in the formalised understanding of the Holy Trinity. After Trinity Sunday we move into the main part of the church's year, we assume the colour green for our liturgical vestments and, in this country anyway, hunker down for the winter season.

It is a time of hibernation and gestation. A time when nature renews from the inside out and prepares for the season of new growth. It is the same for us human beings as well, in some ways. The winter seasons of our lives are often construed as the cold and harsh times. However they can also be times of pruning back and assessing, a time of shedding the old and preparing for the new.

I don't wonder if the life of our churches isn't a bit like this natural process in some ways. However, I also wonder how prepared we are to allow this to happen. Or do we think that, rather than seasonal cycles, we should carry on in a straight line.

It seems to me that our winter seasons, whether they be personal, climatic or of the church, are important in the life cycles of our natural and communal life and if we cooperate with them, when new growth begins, the new growth is stronger and more abundant than that which we previously had.

So, as we move into the green of ordinary time, let us prepare for the abundances of the forthcoming spring.

Yours in Christ
Gregory

Bible Study

From last month:
Enoch and Elijah

This month

A little different this time.

Which of our creeds formalises the Trinitarian God?
You may need your prayer book for this.

Something to tickle your funny bone

?

Q Why are giraffes slow to apologise?

Q Why can't skeletons play music in church?

Q What do lions call antelopes?

Q What do you call the small rivers that run into the Nile?

!

A It takes them a long time to swallow their pride!

A Because they have no organs!

A Fast food!

A Juveniles!

St Barnabas Day and Matariki Celebrations

St Barnabas Day and Matariki were celebrated with a special service on the 12th of June. A shared Brunch followed the service. The themes that we reflected on were *Renewal*, *Praise*, *Remembrance* and *Thanksgiving*. Fr. Pereme opened the service with a prayer. In the weeks leading up to St Barnabas day, we had asked members of the church to donate fruit trees so that we can begin creating an orchard as part of our community garden. We had a great response and members of the community groups that use the hall also came forward with trees. We've received a rosemary plant, 4 olive trees, 3 feijoa trees, 5 lemon trees, a fig tree and a guava tree!

The trees and the planting of our orchard marked the theme of *Renewal*. The theme of *Praise* was celebrated through the songs in the service. Members of the congregation were also handed a blossom and a moment of reflection followed during which we thought about those things in our life and in the life of St Barnabas over the last year we give praise for. The theme of *Remembrance* was incorporated into the intercessions where a special prayer was created to remember the people of St Barnabas, the work we do and our community and country. The Great Thanksgiving portion of our liturgy wrapped up our celebrations with the fourth theme of *Thanksgiving*.

Unfortunately, due to the weather and condition of the grounds, the planting of the fruit trees did not take place immediately after the service. However, they were planted on the 19th and are doing well. We can all look forward to a "fruitful" future!



Congratulations!!

A special congratulations and our best wishes to Paea Tohi and Villiers De Souza who are engaged to be married.

A Special Occasion

Fr. Gregory blessed Owen and Dolores' boat. The boat has been lovingly restored by Owen and lovingly turned into a home away from home by Dolores!



Our People



This month I have been talking with Frank Milner. Frank has been with St. Barnabas ever since he moved to New Zealand in 1987 and has been a dependable part of this church and

this congregation through the years. He lived in a house just behind the vicarage from 1988 until he moved to Lady Allum Retirement Village last year. It's a rare Sunday when Frank's favourite seat in church is empty! His wife Elsie created the beautiful alter frontals that we use every Sunday and also knitted the figures for the nativity scene we put out every Christmas.

I discovered that Frank is a great story-teller and has some wonderful stories to tell. He told me that he and Elsie used to have a tandem bicycle that he bought for £10/-. He then sold that and bought a motorcycle... for £10/-. He then added a sidecar. Every Friday through the summer, until the kids were about 13 years old, Frank and Elsie and their two children would go down to Pocklington, near York in England.

Ahhh - but Frank is not just a sweet family man. He has an individual side that none of us would have ever guessed at. When the motorcycle got too old, he dismantled it and buried it (and the sidecar) in the woods nearby! I would love to be around when future archeologists dig up that site!

Frank believes St Barnabas is becoming more "special". He is proud of the way the rooms have been done up and would love to see the church grow some more.

Talking with Frank reminded me that we have a precious treasure in the older members of our family at St. Barnabas. They are the keepers of the stories. I highly recommend catching hold of Frank and asking him to tell you some stories - you will have a huge laugh.

In and Around St. Barnabas

Online Garage Sale: We are still collecting any items you might have for sale on Trade-me for our online garage sale to raise funds for the church.

Library: Wendy has a brand new book for the library. The book is called "The Chocolate Seller on Broadway and his Kids" by Chris Grantham. It is the life story of a remarkable young man, Mark Grantham, written by his father. Mark was born severely disabled with cerebral palsy and is wheelchair bound. However this has not stopped him from living an amazing life. For the past 17 years he has been selling chocolate bars every Saturday from his wheelchair in Newmarket. With the money raised he supports 5 World Vision children. Mark has had many adventures travelling to many different countries. His life is an inspiration. The library is housed in "The Hub" and has a great selection of books.

Your Newsletter: This month, Owen and Dolores have shared their pictures from the blessing and launching of their boat. We want to know what you are up to and would love to share in your special moments. Please send me pictures and stories that I can include (My contact details are listed below). The deadline for each newsletter is the 10th of the month.

Hall for Hire: Please promote your church hall as a venue for birthdays and anniversaries, a seminar venue, a place where classes can be held, etc.

Fundraising and Social calendar: As we looked back over the year on St Barnabas Day, it was great to see all the events that we have been a part of and that we have organised here at St Barnabas. We want to continue to meet socially and we also need to organise some fundraising events to raise funds to make up our deficit. So put your thinking caps on and come up with some ideas for our social and fundraising calendar.

2 July: Teen Movie Night for 13–18 year olds is the first Saturday of every month at 7PM. The location rotates around participating churches. For more information – contact blackdove@outreach.org.nz

4 July: Family Service. The children should wear their Black Dove T-shirts.

10 July: Management Team

16 July: 5pm. Wine and Cheese evening to discuss fundraising ideas.

Your Pastoral Care Team: Lyn Richards, Wendy Dowsing, Kathy Porter, Antoinette Van Schalkwyk and Noel Tresslor

Your Management Team: Alison Vedder (Vicar's Warden), Malcolm Heinrich (People's Warden), Bruce Vedder (Maintenance & Treasurer), Owen Cunliffe (Synod Rep), Kathleen Porter (Pastoral Care Team), Pauline Tohi (Synod Rep), Lyn Richards (Pastoral Care Team), and Shireen Tresslor (Vestry Secretary & Projects).



Please ensure the church has your updated contact information – Names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses if you have them. This will guarantee that you stay up to date with any events. We would also like to celebrate that very blessed of days – the day you were born! Lyn Richards has the birthday calendar so, if you haven't already, please write down your birthday.

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Deadline for material – 10th of the month

Tell me what you think of the newsletter! If you have anything that you would like to see included in your newsletter, please contact me – I would love to hear from you.