



## Updates from Rev Rosie

Over the past months I have been encouraged by the deeper sense of connectedness that appears to be happening within the parish and a sense that we are strengthening our community of faith. I am also aware that there are a few that are struggling with the hurts of the past and I appreciate that we all grieve in different ways and take different lengths of time to process our issues. Jesus is our model of forgiveness, love and grace. I have always said I am available to talk through any issues. Openness and honesty is our way forward. So if you become aware of anyone struggling please let me know or point them in my direction or to John.

The Wednesday morning service continues to be a place of real fellowship and encouragement. Numbers are usually between 10 and 12. The chats over a cuppa are really appreciated.

We have had a number of celebrations in the past months. On Pentecost Sunday we celebrated with a shared breakfast with the two congregations, 8.00am and 10.00am, giving us an opportunity to fellowship together. St Barnabas Day was another time for celebration when both congregations joined together for a 10.00am service and then enjoyed a lovely Braai, thanks to Tony and Suselle for offering to organise it. Special thanks go to Suselle and her family for all the work they put into making such a lovely meal for us all.

In July we had the joy of welcoming Sylvie into our church family.

These times of celebration offer opportunity for fellowship and a deepening of relationships that help to build trust and a sense of community.

Messy Church and Children’s Church are other opportunities to offer support to our young ones and their families.

Over the past months we have engaged in two community projects. One was the pyjamas for children at the hospital. This was well supported and greatly appreciated. Also, this month we have been collecting food bags for the City Mission. I had originally hoped we could fill 40 but reduced my challenge to 20. At the time of writing this we have over 20 bags. Many thanks to all have supported these projects.

I am aware that there are many people that help and support the smooth running of our parish, and for that we give thanks. Recently there has been a run of “maintenance problems” that seem to keep appearing. I know Pam will have her report, but I want to thank you Pam for all the time and effort you have spent on this.

Recently we had a meeting to reform the Pastoral Care group. Thanks to those who are willing to be part of this group. If you know of people who would benefit from a visit or have specific needs, please contact myself or the office and it will be passed around the group. Also, thanks to Lee for agreeing to co-ordinate meals when the need arise.

It was encouraging to see so many attend the Diocesan Roadshow in Tawa and six of us attended the Diocesan Training Day in Palmerston North. These days are opportunities to fellowship with our wider community of faith

May we be led by the power of the Holy Spirit, working together in unity and love. At times leading can be a challenge, but we are encouraged by these words from Isaiah 40:31

But those who hope in the Lord  
will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,

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## BLESSINGS OF SAME-SEX MARRIAGES OR CIVIL UNIONS

Jesus said:

*“My command is this: love each other as I have loved you.”*

*John 15:12*

And again

*“I pray for those who will believe in me ... that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us, ...so that they may be brought to complete unity...”*

*From John 17:20-23*

Bishops Justin and Eleanor recently held several roadshows around the Diocese to brief members of our diocesan family on matters discussed at the General Synod in New Plymouth in May. A key part of the discussion related to decisions made at Synod on the issue of blessings of same-sex marriages and civil unions. A number of people have requested further information on this, and in particular what process will be followed.

It is important to realise that the issue of blessings for same-sex marriages and civil unions has been a matter for discussion in the whole of the Anglican Province of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia for at least six to eight years now, and has been the subject of a number of reports to General Synod. In the earlier years, much of this discussion centred on matters of theology, as it was clear that there are varying interpretations of biblical authority on matters relating to homosexual relationships. A range of very different views are held by Anglicans who are nevertheless genuinely seeking to do what is pleasing to God.

This debate led in due course to the 2018 decisions of General Synod which are intended to establish mechanisms by which those who hold differing perspectives on the issue of blessings can remain in communion with one another while preserving their integrity. These arrangements have multiple dimensions, but in brief (as they impact on Parishes) decisions will be made by Bishops on a Diocese by Diocese basis (or Hui Amorangi by Hui Amorangi basis in Tikanga Maori) on whether or not blessings of same-sex marriages and civil unions will be permitted in their episcopal unit. The expectation is that they will not be permitted in some dioceses (for example Nelson) while others (for example Auckland) will allow them. +Justin and +Eleanor have announced that they will permit the blessings in the Wellington Diocese, but this will not be a blanket approval and a small committee has been established to work out the process by which applications to conduct blessings can be approved. It follows that the default position is that (without approval) a Priest cannot conduct a blessing.

The Wellington Diocesan committee looking at the process that should apply is unlikely to finish its work much before the end of the year, so at this stage it is premature to provide information on how a process might operate. However, there are some broad parameters which General Synod has set.

- In the first place, as outlined above, it's up to the Diocesan Bishop to decide whether (s)he will permit blessings to occur in the Diocese or not. (Our (Wellington Diocese) Bishops

have indicated that they will, but with limitations which presumably will be clarified in time.)

- On a Parish by Parish basis it is up to the Vicar/Priest in charge to decide whether (s)he wishes to apply for approval to conduct a blessing.
- However, there is a clear expectation that there is to be good faith consultation with the parish Vestry before a decision to apply - or not to apply - is undertaken. My understanding is that permission is unlikely to be given if the Priest and the Vestry are of differing minds on the subject (i.e. the default of no-blessing would apply in such situations).
- As with marriage the priest always maintains the right to decide not to proceed on a blessing request. (As a church, we are in favour of relationships being “right ordered” in the sense of monogamous (faithful) and committed for the long-term etc...).
- Neither Bishop nor Priest can be disciplined for a decision either to take or not to take a service of blessing for a same-sex marriage or civil union.

Our Bishops made it clear that they will be looking at approvals within a Parish context: that is, Parish Priests will not be given approval to move into another Parish to conduct a blessing. Further, General Synod has approved the liturgies that can be used for such blessings.

We are now commencing a series of discussions in Vestry about how we should approach this matter within this Parish. In the meantime, if you wish to seek factual clarification in relation to the above comments, John Whitehead (who was at General Synod and two of the three roadshows) would be happy to meet with you.

It is likely that in Onslow Parish as elsewhere in our Church, parishioners will have differing theological views on the question of blessing same-sex marriages and civil unions, and no doubt that debate will continue. The current decisions recognise this reality, and seek to find a way for us to continue to worship together in communion and with integrity despite those differences. Should you feel troubled – either spiritually or otherwise – please approach Rev Rosie, Rev Ted, Deborah or John to discuss your concerns.

## Onslow Anglican Church

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[Local Lively Loving](#)

## Sarah's Sunday Tea contribution

We had some parishioners ask for Sarah's recipe for the cake that she made for morning tea. She was kind enough to share it with us.

### Gluten Free Orange and Almond Cake – Patrice Meikle

- Orange (1 large or 2 small)
- 6 eggs
- ½ tsp baking soda
- Heaped tsp baking powder
- 250g ground almonds
- 250g castor sugar

Put the orange in a pot with cold water. Simmer for an hour (covered). Drain & cool.

Quarter the orange and pulp it in a food processor.

Add all other ingredients, and blend until mixed.

Pour mixture into a 20cm Springform Tin.

Bake at 180 degrees for an hour. Check it after 45 mins, or until a skewer comes out clean. You may need to cover with tin foil at the end of the cooking time.

Cool in the tin, and serve with yoghurt or put some sliced almonds or icing sugar on the top!

*Sarah Boyle*

## Towards global sustainability.....



- ⇒ Vestry is selling as a church fundraiser **reusable produce bags** so as to reduce the amount of smaller plastic bags used when buying fruit and vegetables. Packs of five cost \$22.50. Preferred payment is by cash or cheque made out to Bridget Hodgkinson. Please place in a sealed envelope with your Name and 'reusable produce bags' on it. Please give the envelope to Bridget or hand in to the church office.
- ⇒ We are having a **quality clothes recycling fundraiser in late spring. Dates to be confirmed.** So please hold on to any clothes you no longer want. More details later about this.
- ⇒ **Reading glasses** can be recycled by taking them to Specsavers in Johnsonville for the Lions club to distribute to the Pacific Islands. Other optometrists have similar practices

*Bridget Hodgkinson*

### **Fun, fellowship and fund-raising**

As a parish we have been better placed recently to fund some maintenance goals ie. wall washing of the church and "closing the draught" above the chapel. However, we have other jobs to do: repairing the disintegrating driveway as it's a health and safety problem, and attending to the leaking flat roof over the hall lounge. These together amount to around \$15,000 (best scenario) and we are considering ways to pay for them. This could be partly from improved parish finances, partly from donations, and assisted by events which bring us together over the next few months and make some money along the way. Your participation would be appreciated as a participant, an organiser, part of a team or just in spreading the word among friends, family and neighbours:

**Concert (and high tea?)** A great success last year! A small team is needed to assist **Jonathan Berkahn**

**Pub quiz night** to be organised by **Raewyn**

**Reprinting the very-popular parish cookbook.** – a must-have for many. With enough orders we'll order a repeat, probably \$15-\$20 depending on today's print cost. All files are available but a **Co-ordinator** is needed

**Hyndman publishers calendars, diaries and cards,** all below retail price, plus we get \$4 profit per item sold. Great Christmas gift ideas. Leaflet/order form from the back of the church or from Pam.

**Film night at The Lighthouse Petone** About \$8 profit per ticket; more by incorporating a sales table for sweets or snacks. **Very easy to organise but needs a Coordinator.** Please see Pam if interested

**Details and dates to be decided**

*Pam Barraclough*



# FUNDRAISING

WITH LIGHT HOUSE PETONE

# FUNDRAISING

WITH LIGHT HOUSE PETONE

## What you need to do

- 1 Choose a film that you would like to screen for your guests.
- 2 Choose a cinema size that you think you'll be able to fill. We have 10, 31, 45, 80 and 112 seat cinemas.
- 3 Choose a date! We recommend at least 3 weeks in advance so you have ample time to sell your tickets. Please note: We hold fundraisers from Sunday - Thursday.
- 4 Choose a time from either of our two evening sessions.
- 5 Let us know what you are fundraising for and what your choices are and we'll book you in! Our list of coming soon films are on our website: [www.lighthousecinema.co.nz](http://www.lighthousecinema.co.nz)

**We will do our best to provide you with your first choices!**

## Other information

Cinema hire is \$11.50 per seat (incl GST) for 2D films. Most people sell tickets for \$20 thus making a \$8.50 profit for each ticket sold. You can of course sell your tickets for whatever price suits your purpose.

We offer fresh in-house food and a wide selection of fine beer and wine, locally made beverages, supreme coffee and a wide selection of teas. We also offer a catering menu at an additional cost, which changes seasonally.

You are welcome to bring food for your guests and we are happy to set up tables for home baking, cupcakes, goody bags...whatever you choose to spoil your guests with. Our only exclusion is popcorn and alcohol, and we ask that you let us know in advance what type of food you would like to bring.



## Help Onslow Anglicans raise much needed funds...

Wondering which offers in the 2018 | 2019 Entertainment Books and Digital Memberships are the most popular with Members so far this year? Check out this list of offers you could be enjoying once you've purchased your NEW Entertainment Membership. Plus buy from us today and you'll also be supporting our fundraising.

**SUPPORT US NOW**

(Subject to availability)

Get your Entertainment Membership now and you could enjoy these top 10 most popular and valuable offers!

1	THE CRAB SHACK	UP TO \$25 value	6	McDonald's i'm lovin' it	2-FOR-1
2	RESTAURANTE ITALIANO	2-FOR-1	7	SUSHI L.A. GRUBB	2-FOR-1
3	RESTAURANTE ITALIANO	2-FOR-1	8	KFC	2-FOR-1
4	THE SPEIGHT'S ALE HOUSE GENEROUS TO A FAULT PETONE	2-FOR-1	9	LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA	Two for \$22
5	C	UP TO \$20 value	10	WELLINGTON ZOO	2-FOR-1

## *This Month—July & August*

### *We Celebrate*

### *We Remember*

Alexandra Elizabeth Frances Bolt	01 July 2001	Donald John Smith	04 July 2004
Timothy David Wallace	07 July 2000	Muriel Rhoda Barber	06 July 2003
Harry William Nicol Jennings	08 July 2007	Evelyn May Lenihan	07 July 1998
Emily Elizabeth Jane Bolt	11 July 1999	Stanley Philip Pushman	07 July 2000
Emma Rose Law	11 July 2004	Elsie May Sayers	08 July 1992
Georgia Lucy Simms	22 July 2007	Hilda Winifred Callender	08 July 2016
Hugo Oliver Tengvall	23 July 2000	Phyllis Edith Martin	10 July 2012
Jessica Grace Cunningham	24 July 2005	Frank William Sworder	12 July 1991
Isabella Frances Austen Sinclair	25 July 2004	Ruth Munro	15 July 2000
Judd Marcus Campbell Adamson	25 July 2004	Michael John Huelin	15 July 2002
Sophia Evangeline Kalafatelis	27 July 1997	Alan David Martin	17 July 2011
Andrew James Latter Prain	03 August 2003	John Alexander Lemon Gibson	19 July 2009
Fletcher Henry Edward Kerse	06 August 2004	Doreen Sutherland Dowdall	19 July 2011
Ryan Cross Keall	07 August 2011	Mary Hannah Smith	22 July 1988
Renee Louisa Keall	09 August 2009	Judith Marion Hyatt	22 July 2015
Adam John Blackwell	10 August 1997	Mary Hilda Hickey	24 July 2008
Tayla Jessica Anstiss	10 August 1997	Alfred Bruce Jensen	27 July 1997
James Harrison John Shepherd	11 August 2013	Evelyn Mary Gorringer	30 July 1999
Olivia Rose Elizabeth Cruickshank	14 August 2016	Lois Cameron	30 July 2003
Alice Florence Harrison	15 August 1999	Richard Rutherford Babbage	30 July 2010
Alisha Jane Duncan	22 August 1999	Elisabeth Marriott	01 August 1997
Molly Ruth Olivia Fenemor	22 August 2010	Doris Augusta Siverson	03 August 1995
Lucy Eliza Turner	31 August 2003	Robert Anthony Leighton Batley	03 August 2004
Meghan Louise Schwarz	31 August 2003	Brian Leonard Timmings	04 August 2001
Tilly Eva Schwarz	31 August 2003	Ngaire Williams	06 August 1995
		Elsie Marian Crompton-Smith	08 August 1996
		Ruth Margaret Turner	11 August 1991
		Gladys Maude McGill	12 August 1997
		Kenneth Christie	12 August 2000
		Godfrey Dymock Godfrey	12 August 2002
		Alan Adrian Revell	13 August 2001
		Mildred Alice Binning	14 August 1995
		Nesta Harrie Barbara Spencer	18 August 2009
		Audrey Steer-Ward	18 August 2012
		Catherine Ngaire Lockie	18 August 2016
		Rev Walter John Durrad, 7th Vicar of St Barnabas	22 August 1954
		Horace Victor McHalick	22 August 1984
		Muriel Stella Burnell-Higgs	22 August 2011
		Dorothy Kelman	25 August 1986
		James Frank Wright	31 August 1997