

**St Mary's
Anglican
Church.
Gordonton.**

2014



Vicar: David Smithson 027-4213200 A/H 07-8492761 Email: stmarysgordonton@hotmail.com

Vicars Warden: Roger Jennings 07 824 3712
People's Warden: Sally-Ann Riddell 07 824 3850.

Recorder: Roger Jennings 07-8243712
Parish Bank Account:
02 0410 0103053 00

SERVICES FOR August and September

Sunday August 10th:

Godparents Service with Family Communion
Refreshments – Brenda Kebbell

Sunday August 17th:

Praise Service with Children's Church/Junior Youth
Refreshments – Brenda Stobie

Sunday August 24th:

Family Communion Service
Refreshments – Sara Kimpton

Sunday August 31st:

Fresh Expressions
Refreshments – Melanie Holdsworth

Sunday September 7th:

Patronal Festival of St Mars Communion Service
Refreshments – Gail Hendricks

Sunday September 14th:

Care of Creation Service – Native tree planting
Refreshments – Sally Ann Riddell

Sunday September 21st:

Praise Service with Children's Church/Junior Youth

Parish Office Hours

The Vicar is available at the church each Friday, 9am to 2.30pm in vestry/office. Please feel free to drop in! The church is also open for prayer and quiet reflection.

Considering Confirmation?

If you are considering confirmation, a confirmation service will be held on the 12th of October 2014 at the Cathedral. If you would like more information on being confirmed at this service, please see the Vicar.

A Special Thank You

Thanks to Alpha Electrical for donating their time to looking at our broken heater! If you need electrical maintenance, consider using their services! Contact
Alpha Electrical
14 Euclid Ave, Te Rapa, Hamilton 3200
07-849 0073



"What makes you think this room wasn't wired properly?"

Vicars Verbatim

I have pondered mortality since my father-in-law passed away recently. If death is natural, why is it so terrible? Seeing it occur certainly was not good – yet when Jesus died, we call that day Good Friday – why!?

It is good because when Christ died, he carried all the sin, evil, and pain of the world, forever.

It was also an act of war with our greatest enemy, death itself. Jesus himself experienced unfairness, cruelty, and agony, on his way to do battle on death's own turf. His friends and followers on that day knew that he had gone to the place of death. But they didn't understand that he was there to do battle. He had descended to the darkest of places so that he could shine his light into all its otherwise hopeless corners.

Jesus won the battle, as he was resurrected from the dead. He defeated death's despair, and transformed death itself: it was no longer hopeless for those who longed to see God; the doorway to Him was opened. People who had died prior to Christ dying on the cross went to a dark shadow world named Sheol, a holding place before heaven or hell. After dying, Christ went to Sheol and liberated them into paradise. The Christian Hope is that because of this, we can rest in peace with Him in Heaven.

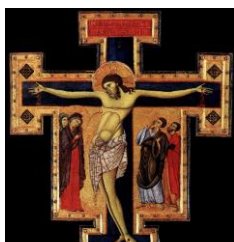
However we are missing Trish's dad very badly right now. Death is still separation and loss for us here, and in that sense it is still a horrible enemy. Christ fully defeated spiritual death, but he let physical death continue for a season. Someday he'll bring that to a complete end, too. In 1 Corinthians 15:54-57 Paul wrote: *"The last enemy to be defeated is death, for this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:*

"Death is swallowed up in victory."

"O death, where is your victory?"

O death, where is your power to hurt?"

Death's power to hurt is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But we thank God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!?" - David



St Mary's Christmas Advent

On Thursday 7th August, I attended the latest St Mary's Advent Craft Club. What a fantastic evening of craft and friendship! So far this year, we have learnt to make patchwork baubles, felt stockings, hand decorated hearts, decorative boxes and much more!

We have great plans for future Advent Craft Club evenings, including making jams, curds, sweets, fudges, and more exiting Crafts for sale.

Please join us next month! I can guarantee you will learn something new and enjoy some laughs along the way! Maybe you have a special talent you can share with us – I know I need tutoring in jam making...

Next Club evening is Thursday, 4th September, 7pm at the Hukanui School Rooms.

Katy

