

Saint Mary's Newsletter: November

Vicar: David Smithson 027 4213200 Fridays

07 842761 Afterhours

Peoples Warden: Sally-Ann Riddell 07 8243850

Vicars Warden: Roger Jennings 07 8243712



SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2014

Sunday November 2nd:

All Souls service with Children's church & Junior Youth. Please bring a framed photo of your passed loved one

Refreshments - Katy Cockerton

Sunday November 9th:

Baptism service of Jo, Abby & Rebecca Dudson

Refreshments - Brenda Stobie

Sunday November 16th:

Praise Service with Children's Church & Junior Youth

Refreshments - Valerie Crowther

Sunday November 23rd:

Family Communion, then decorating the church for the Christmas fete

Refreshments - Stephanie Landon

Sunday November 30th:

Family Communion - Advent

Refreshments - Trish Smithson

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.

Some important Dates:

Mon 24 Nov onwards: Decorating church for the Christmas Fair

Sat 6th Dec: Christmas Fair

Sat 13th Dec: Church open to public to see our church decorated in Christmas themes

Parish Bank Account:

02 0410 0103053 00 Thanks for your weekly A/P contributions to keep our Parish running!

A Prayer for this month:

Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow; the same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you tomorrow and every day. Either He will shield you from suffering, or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace, then. Put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations, and say continually: "The Lord is my strength and my shield. My heart has trusted in Him and I am helped. He is not only with me but in me, and I in Him."

Parishioner Profile

Our family is made up of Colin May, Gail Hendricks, Olivia May – 12yrs, and Sarah May - 10yrs

Gail was raised in Canada – Vancouver Island, Colin was raised in New Plymouth

They met in Rarotonga, Colin was on a work conference and Gail was one a holiday – that was 16 years ago.

They have been living in the Gordonton area for 8 years, at Redbrook Drive.

The girls are active in swimming, winter sports (soccer and hockey) plus Sarah takes guitar and singing lessons.

The family spends most of their holiday time offshore – Canada, but in the summer they love to camp in New Zealand plus they usually spend a lot of time boating and waterskiing at the lakes in Rotorua (Tarawera or Rotoiti)

They have had a number of pets since living in Gordonton – two favourites are Syd and Frank our 16yr old cats. We also have Lola - Olivia's pet Calf, plus they have two bunnies (Jake and Gus). They also were lucky enough to enjoy training a seeing eye puppy (Scottie) for 1 year.

The family love that St Mary's is a small community church – they really wanted to connect with the community without the pressure of a large church/congregation. They thank us for letting them be a part of such a special place.

Gail sums up God's blessing to them as:

“I have seen better days but I have also seen worse

I do not have all my wants but I do have all my needs

I woke up with a few aches and pains but I woke up

My life may not be perfect but I thank God that it is good”.



St Mary's Christmas Fair:

The Christmas Fair is just about upon us!

Please join us next fortnight! **Next Club evening is Thursday, 13th Nov, 7pm at the Hukanui School Rooms, Gordonton.**



Building Fund Update:

We have commissioned an architect to draw up plans for the new Hall, so it won't be too long before we can show where the hall will be, and what it will look like! Keep those donations rolling in! The church account number is in this newsletter, and ensure that the donation is labelled "Hall Fund"

A Scripture for you:

Deuteronomy 31:6 *Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.*