

# Saint Mary's Newsletter: May

**Vicar:** David Smithson 027 4213200 Fridays

07 842761 Afterhours

**Peoples Warden:** Sally-Ann Riddell 07 8243850

**Vicars Warden:** Roger Jennings 07 8243712



## SERVICES FOR MAY

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>:

10am Family Communion with  
Children's Church & Junior Youth

Refreshments - Sally-Ann Riddell

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>:

10am Family Communion service.

No Refreshments this day

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>:

10am Praise Service with Children's  
Church & Junior Youth.

Refreshments - Sheryl Hill

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>:

10am Pentecost Family Communion  
service & Bishop Helen-Ann's visit.

Refreshments - Brenda Kebbell.

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>:

**NO SERVICE** - Queens Birthday Weekend



## Notices:

**Golf Tournament:** A fun fundraiser for the hall! Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June @ Hukanui Golf Club, 9AM - 3PM. Prizes and Spot Prizes, lunch! Team of four \$100 or individual \$30. See Richard & Sally-Anne Riddell

**Confirmations:** If you are baptized, aged year 9 to adult, and are wanting to grow in your journey with Jesus, please see the vicar if you wish to be Confirmed on Sun 28 Jun 9:45am at the cathedral.

### **Children's Church/Junior Youth:**

Resumes this month - 3<sup>rd</sup> May and 17<sup>th</sup> May in the Kidz Space, Sundays during the church service 😊

**Youth Group (Year 9+):** We are teaming up with the Oaks Youth Group: Meet Fri 1<sup>st</sup> May 7pm at Oaks Church Gordonton, and then every Friday thereafter during Term. The Campbell brothers will be there to help our youth connect.

**Wedding:** Muriel Baldwin and Arthur Riddell are to marry Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May @ St Mary's - our best wishes and blessings to you both! 😊

**Christmas Fair Meeting:** After church service 3<sup>rd</sup> May over coffee & refreshments

**Bead it!** A new prayer group coming for men and women - with a literal twist! Details to follow soon.

## You gotta have Faith!

Matthew 17:20

*"Truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; nothing will be impossible to you."*

Isn't it interesting that Jesus chose to use the mustard seed as a comparison when He talked about faith? Being one of the smallest seeds known to man (about the size of a pinhead), the mustard seed has often been used to illustrate something of the tiniest size.

But what does it mean to us?

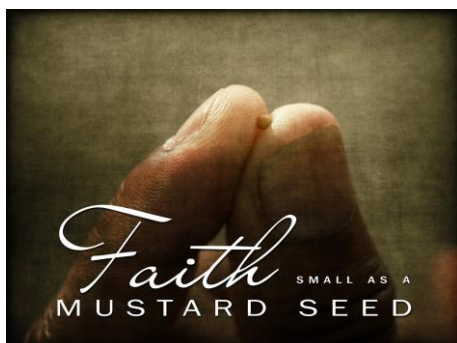
Many a times, we are so caught up in the trap of trying to muster up "enough faith" so that we can accomplish our desires and dreams. No matter how hard we try, it sometimes seems that our efforts will never amount to anything good. Could it be that this is exactly the issue that Jesus was trying to address?

In the verse quoted above, Jesus said that if we have faith, even if it's of the tiniest size, we can command the mountains to move, and they will obey us. Therefore, it is clear that faith is not really a matter of its size or quantity. Instead, it is the size of the One in whom we put our faith in that makes all the difference.

Truly, the strength of our faith lies not in itself, but in the faithfulness of God. When we study the Bible carefully and take confidence in the promises that God has already fulfilled, we will begin to strengthen our faith in both His ability and willingness to fulfil His promises for our future.

In fact, the strongest of faith is based not in physical proof but on spiritual conviction. By believing in God, we are allowing Him to work in our lives and bring about blessings and miracles to both our lives, as well as those around us.

Therefore, let us put our faith in our great God and His promises to us. Let Him be the anchor of our soul and we will no longer drift into the sea of doubt and unbelief.



## Parish Bank Account:

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

## A Pentecost Scripture for you:

### Acts 2: 1-4

When the day of Pentecost came, the disciples were all together in one place.<sup>2</sup>Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.



## Building Fund Update:

So far we have over \$11,000 in the Building Fund. Vestry have appointed Richard and Sally-Ann Riddell as heading the Building Committee

## This Month in Christian History:

*10<sup>th</sup> May 1886:* The great Theologian Karl Barth is born. Once when asked to summarize the essence of his theology, Barth simply said "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so!"

*20<sup>th</sup> May 325:* 300 bishops met in what is now Ankara, Turkey, for the Council of Nicaea. From this the Nicene Creed was formulated.