

St Mary's Newsletter: September.

Vicar: David Smithson 027 4213200 Fridays

07 8492761 Afterhours

Peoples Warden: Sally-Ann Riddell 07 8243850

Vicars Warden: Roger Jennings 07 8243712



SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

Sunday 6th:

10am Family Communion Service

Refreshments - Melanie Holdsworth

Sunday 13th:

10am Family Communion service.

Refreshments - Trish Smithson

Sunday 20th:

10am Care of Creation Service

Refreshments - Valerie Crowther

Sunday 27th:

10am Family Communion service.

Refreshments - Kim Simpson



Operation Safe Haven: (Barnabas Fund) Help persecuted Christians find refuge after fleeing ISIS and other persecutors! Parish families please donate \$15-20 (or more!) in the container on the Welcome Table by the church entrance. In November Barnabas Fund are coming to speak to us on this very important issue.

Children's Church/Junior Youth:

This month - 6th Sept in the Kids Space. On the 20th (Care of Creation Sunday) kids and Youth to help with planting in the gully! On the 13th and 27th, Activity Packs with a chocolate treat are available after Family Holy Communion

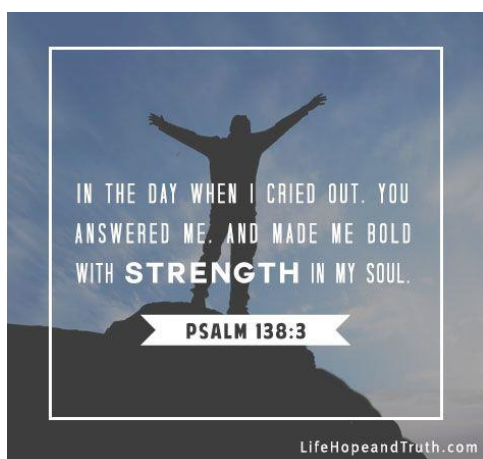
Youth Group (Year 9+): Combined churches youth Meet Fri 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th Sept 7pm at Oaks Church Gordonton



To whom do you belong?

At issue here is the question: "To whom do I belong? God or to the world?" Many of my daily preoccupations suggest that I belong more to the world than to God. A little criticism makes me angry, and a little rejection makes me depressed. A little praise raises my spirits, and a little success excites me. It takes very little to raise me up or thrust me down. Often I am like a small boat on the ocean, completely at the mercy of its waves. All the time and energy I spend in keeping some kind of balance and preventing myself from being tipped over and drowning shows that my life is mostly a struggle for survival: not a holy struggle, but an anxious struggle resulting from the mistaken idea that it is the world that defines me.

As long as I keep running about asking: "Do you love me? Do you really love me?" I give all power to the voices of the world and put myself in bondage because the world is filled with "ifs." The world says: "Yes, I love you if you are good-looking, intelligent, and wealthy. I love you if you have a good education, a good job, and good connections. I love you if you produce much, sell much, and buy much." There are endless "ifs" hidden in the world's love. These "ifs" enslave me, since it is impossible to respond adequately to all of them. The world's love is and always will be conditional. As long as I keep looking for my true self in the world of conditional love, I will remain "hooked" to the world-trying, failing, and trying again. It is a world that fosters addictions because what it offers cannot satisfy the deepest craving of my heart." - Henri J.M. Nouwen



Golf Tournament:

Friday 11 Sept. 9AM to 4PM We need lots of volunteers – please see Richard & Sally-Ann Riddell



Christmas Fair:

Sat 5th December! You can make a start by making preserves.

Parish Bank Account:

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

This Month in Christian History:

1552: Martin Luther publishes his German New Testament, based on Erasmus's 1516 Greek edition.



A Scripture for you:

Isaiah 41:10

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.