

Saint Mary's Newsletter: Sep 2017

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 3rd:

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

Refreshments - Melanie Holdsworth

Sunday 10th:

10am Family communion Service

Refreshments - Trish Smithson

Sunday 17th:

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

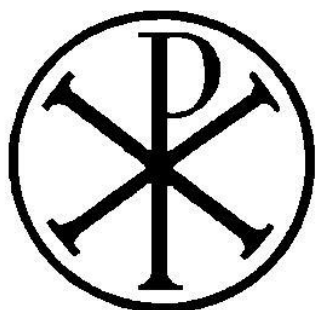
Vestry meeting after church

Refreshments - Majella Heaton

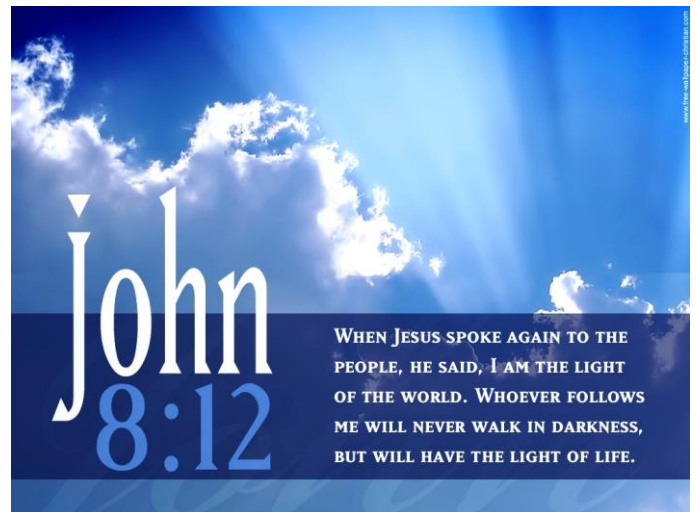
Sunday 24th:

10am Family communion Service.

Refreshments - Jo Dudson



Scripture for the month:



Salt & Light Bible Study meets every second Sunday (10th and 24th this month) after the church service morning tea. Bring along your "purple book".

Children's Church/Juniour Youth:

This month -Children's church/Juniour Youth is on the 3rd and the 17th.

Youth Group (Year 9+): Friday's 7pm @ Oaks church, Gordonton, & Weds 7pm "Ignite" @ - Horsham Downs Church.

RIGHTEOUSNESS

Righteousness is the state of moral perfection required by God to enter heaven.

However, the Bible clearly states that human beings cannot achieve righteousness through their own efforts: *"Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin."* (Romans 3:20, NIV).

The law, or the Ten Commandments, shows us how far we fall short of God's standards.

The only solution to that dilemma is God's plan of salvation.

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST

People receive righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour. Christ, the sinless Son of God, took humanity's sin upon himself and became the willing, perfect sacrifice, suffering the punishment mankind deserved. God the Father accepted Jesus' sacrifice, through which human beings can become justified.

In turn, believers receive righteousness from Christ. This doctrine is called imputation. Christ's perfect righteousness is applied to imperfect humans.

The Old Testament tells us that because of the sin of Adam, we, his descendants, have inherited his sinful nature. God set up a system in Old Testament times in which people sacrificed animals to atone for their sins. The shedding of blood was required.

When Jesus entered the world, things changed. His crucifixion and resurrection satisfied God's justice.

Christ's shed blood covers our sins. No more sacrifices or works are required. The Apostle Paul explains how we receive righteousness through Christ in the book of Romans.

Salvation through this crediting of righteousness is a free gift, which is the doctrine of grace. Salvation by grace through faith in Jesus is the essence of Christianity.

No other religion offers grace. They all require some type of works on behalf of the participant.

Christ's righteousness is credited to our account and makes us holy before God.

Romans 3:21-26

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Friends of Hospital Chaplaincy Concert:

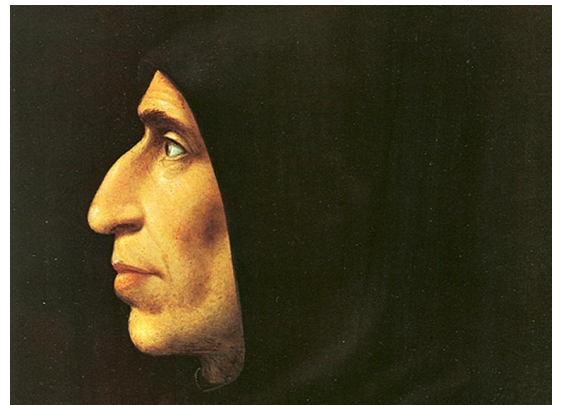
Saturday 2 September, 7.30pm
at St. Paul's Collegiate
Chapel. Adult \$20.00,
Student \$5.00

CHEQUES TO ST MARY'S:

If you are writing a cheque
out for the parish, please
ensure it is made out to:
"Gordonton Anglican Church"

This Month in Christian History:

Sept 21, 1452: Birth of the Italian Dominican firebrand preacher and reformer Girolamo Savonarola. Preaching against licentiousness of the ruling class and the worldliness of the clergy, Savonarola led in the reformation of Florence. He was later excommunicated, arrested, condemned, and executed for his verbal attacks on Pope Alexander VI.



Hall Building project:

Thank you for all those who participated in the Hall Resources Study in July and late last month. Vestry have decided to broaden the study, so results in regards to when we are to proceed with the campaign should be out be later this month.