

Saint Mary's Newsletter: June

Vicar: David Smithson 027 4213200 Fridays

07 8492761 Afterhours

Lay Minister: Charles Clark 021 02691764

Peoples Warden: Sally-Ann Riddell 022 107562

Vicars Warden: John Heaton 021 702871



SERVICES FOR JUNE



Sunday 7th:

10am Pouhere Sunday Holy Communion Service & Bishop Philip's visit

Refreshments: Mel

Readings: Charles

Intercessions: Mel

Sunday 14th:

10am Holy Communion Service

Refreshments: Ruby

Readings: Charles

Intercessions: Ruby

Sunday 21st:

10am Holy Communion Service

Refreshments: Kay

Readings: Charles

Intercessions: Kay

Sunday 28th:

10am Holy Communion Service

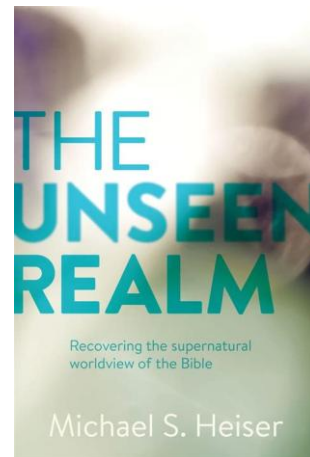
Refreshments: Ruby

Readings: Charles

Intercessions: Ruby

Supernatural Seminar (Weds 7pm @ St Mary's) Unseen Realm book to loan)

For those doing the Supernatural Seminar – and for those who aren't – there is a copy of Dr Michael Heiser's book to borrow. It is the scholarly version of the Supernatural book that the seminar is about. It is packed full of helpful footnotes for references and peer reviews – see the vicar and pick it up from the bookstand at the back of the church



Scripture for June:

2 Corinthians 4:7-10

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

The Jesus Prayer

In the mid 2000's I came across The Jesus Prayer of the Eastern Orthodox Church: "**Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me a sinner**". It is a simple prayer that I use often, especially in those times when I might be "stuck" on what to pray.

Back then I also read an interesting book; "*The Way of The Pilgrim*" which is a 19th-century Russian work, recounting the narrator's journey as a begging pilgrim who wandered across Russia while practicing saying the Jesus Prayer, so that it became as breathing to him.

The pilgrim's inner journey begins when he is struck upon reading the words of Paul (in I Thessalonians 5:17) to "pray without ceasing." He visits churches and monasteries to try and understand *how* to pray without ceasing. His travels lead him to a spiritual father who teaches him the Jesus Prayer and gives him practical advice on how to recite the prayer uninterruptedly.

Theologically, the Jesus Prayer is considered to be the response of the Holy Tradition to the lesson taught by the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee, in which the Pharisee demonstrates the improper way to pray by exclaiming: "Thank you Lord that I am not like the Publican", whereas the Publican prays correctly in humility, saying "Lord have mercy on me, a sinner" (Luke 18:10-14).

The Jesus Prayer is a great spiritual prayer, and it is very helpful when facing temptation– it helps the temptation disappear! It is a simple but powerful prayer. Do try it!
David

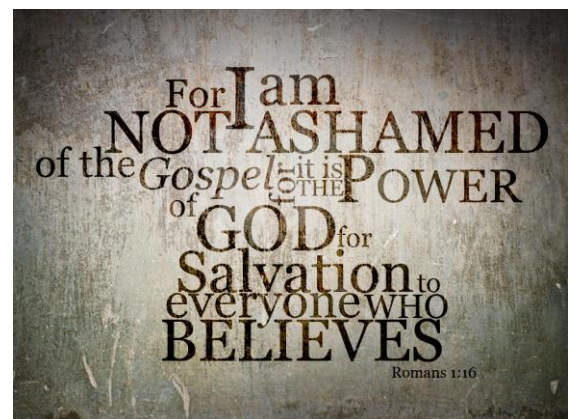


This Month in Christian History:



5th June 988: Kiev's Grand prince Vladimir formally embraces the gospel, ordering his people to be baptized into the Orthodox Christian faith. Considered "the apostle to the Russians", Vladimir became the first Christian ruler of that nation, and afterward erected numerous churches, promoted education, and aided the poor.

A Scripture for you:



Parish Bank Account:

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