



THE MOORING POST

ANGLICAN PARISH OF FENDALTON – ST BARNABAS AND ST THOMAS
The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia – Diocese of Christchurch

Easter: Great Week of Great Joy

Very soon we'll be celebrating Easter inside St Barnabas Church for the first time in seven years. Easter is the most important day of the year for Christians as we remember the death and resurrection of Christ. You often hear people say that Easter was originally a pagan festival and, once Constantine decriminalised Christianity in 313AD, was converted into a Christian one.

However as early as the second century some Christians were celebrating the resurrection of Christ on a Sunday in March or April, and others on the Jewish Passover, whatever day of the week that turned out to be. By the late 4th century Easter celebrations were well established with a uniform date decided at the Council of Nicea in 325AD.

A high born woman from Spain or Gaul, whose name was Egeria, travelled to the Holy Land between 381 and 383 and participated in Easter celebrations in Jerusalem. The week before Easter, known as the 'Great Week', was punctuated with daily worship, all night vigils and extensive reading of the gospel accounts of Jesus' last days. She noted that at various points in the readings the crowds became especially vocal, moaning and groaning as the priest read the account of Jesus' sufferings.

So what do we moderns make of the celebration of Easter? I meet many

people who have once been regular at worship but for one reason or another are no longer involved in church life. But I would say that if the resurrection of Christ happened, then everything changes - there is a God, all that Jesus said was true, and he calls us today to come and follow him - and he has an excellent mandate to do so and I have few reasons to refuse!

So St Paul was right when he said 'If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.' (1 Corinthians 15:14). It really does all hinge on the resurrection. Now most religions are not verifiable because they rely on a religious figure saying something like 'I had a revelation from God and he said so and so.' However this is not the case for Christianity. Christianity is not based on a truth claim from an individual but on an event that can be subject to historical and rational enquiry - that is the resurrection of Christ.

And when the resurrection is subject to rigorous scrutiny, it can be shown to be trustworthy. The evidence is based on multiple lines of enquiry including the fact that Jesus died by crucifixion, his disciples had real experiences that they believed were appearances of Jesus, the disciples were transformed even to the point of being willing to die for their convictions, James the brother of Jesus had a real

experience which he believed was of the risen Jesus, Paul had a similar appearance of Jesus and was converted, and that the message about Jesus was preached within a very short time of the event.

The great majority of scholars today, even sceptical ones, don't deny these basic facts about the resurrection. The evidence of Christian origins have been subjected to more detailed and intense scrutiny than ever before, and scholars are finding, on evidential and critical grounds, that the main claims of Christian remain very firm.

And so I encourage you to enter in to the season of Easter with renewed confidence in God. That Jesus Christ lived an unparalleled life of wisdom, humility, strength of purpose and service. He died under the Roman Governor Pontius Pilate between AD30 and 33. Following the apparent abject defeat of Jesus and the apparent falsification of his personal claims, he rose again from the dead on the third day. His disciples met him, spoke and ate with him and received his mandate to preach the good news of God's love and forgiveness to all people. Let us, as in Egeria's day, gather for the Great Week and give thanks to God for the great joy and great hope this means for us all!

Rev. Mark Chamberlain

'Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come in glory!'

Easter Services at St Barnabas - April 10th to 16th:

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

7.30pm Reflective Communion in the Church each night

Maundy Thursday in the Church

10am BCP Eucharist

7.30pm Eucharist and Foot Washing

8.30pm Tenebrae - Service of Shadows until 9pm

Good Friday

9am Devotions around the cross at Holy Trinity Catholic

9.45am Placing of the Cross at St Barnabas

10.30am Lifestreams contemporary service in the Church

12pm Vigil and reflections in the Church

Easter Sunday

8am ANZPB Eucharist with hymns in the church

9.30am Festive Eucharist with Choir in the church

9.30am Lifestreams Intergenerational Service in hall

5pm Coral Evensong in the church

7pm Antioch - Contemporary Worship in the hall.

'The Mooring Post' is a phrase from p479 in A New Zealand Prayer Book/He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa. Christ is described as the single mooring post for many waka - Ko te Karaiti te pou herenga waka. Christ is the one who unites us.



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Peter Chapman Speaks About His Journey Of Faith

I was born on Christmas Day and people say: 'You poor thing.' The reference is to the number of presents which seems an unfortunate way of celebrating the Christmas story. I have always seen the date as a good omen for my life. My family lived on Cashmere Hills and attended St. Augustine's where my mother was a staunch Anglican and Mother's Union leader. I thought nothing of walking 20 minutes to Sunday school, then singing in the family service choir.

Books of colour pictures and stories of the bible were an early introduction to my religious journey and I had a spiritual experience when I was about eight. There was a blue covered book of black and white illustrations and as I turned to a picture of the Ascension, it seemed to lift off the page. I was transfixed by the image and returned to it many times.

Looking back, I am reminded of the first line of John Blow's Coronation Anthem: 'God Spake Sometime In Visions.' At age ten I went to The Cathedral Grammar School and being a church school, I was able to continue my journey with morning chapel and had wonderful role models in Canon Willie Orange, Dean Martin Sullivan and Bishop Alwyn Warren. There was a similar pattern at Christ's College and I enjoyed chapel singing practice and six services a week. The Chaplain was an uncle so I had to pay attention in divinity lessons!

In my late twenties I was singing in the St. Mary's Merivale choir, was a crucifer, communion assistant and was looking forward to being admitted as a Diocesan Lay Reader. However, other things were happening in my life as I was soon to be married and was by then singing permanently at the Cathedral, having joined the tenor ranks where I sang for sixteen years.

As I was no longer attached to a parish, ministry plans didn't eventuate. Some years later with two fine sons and my wife, Pam, we became more fully involved with St. Barnabas which was an uplifting experience and where we have made many friends.

We have both grown in Christ and I am very proud of Pam's role in various activities. Never being a confident person, the church has been very good for me and I have taken on more responsibilities. Perhaps the most rewarding is with home communion visits to parishioners, often in frail health who respond positively to our presence.

I still sing, presently with the Cathedral Singers at the Transitional Cathedral and occasionally at St. Michael and All Angels parish. I worked for the Cancer Society and continue duties at the City Mission where I open the chapel for passersby to spend some quiet time.

It is tough going in a predominantly secular society but there are signs that nonbelievers, after fuller study of the scriptures, are turning to God to share his redemptive love. I rejoice in the living God and there are more challenges ahead.

Peter Chapman



Youth Ministry at St. Barnabas

Contact Harry Newton 027 342 2574

Youth Group: Christian youth community! Friday nights in the hall. 7-9pm – Yrs 7-13.

The Revs: Christian group for high school age young people. Meets on Sundays during Lifestreams at 9.30am.

Sophia – Mosaic of Divine Wisdom

Victoria Sharman Gilmour introduces the new mosaic over the main entrance door of the church.

Sophia is Greek for wisdom, and she is found in Proverbs, standing at entrances, speaking truth, showing us the nature of God (Proverbs 8 and 9). In the mosaic over the doorway, Sophia is set in our landscape of the Southern Alps and the Canterbury Plains. The mosaic pieces are made out of china – broken in earthquakes or through accident, or picked up cheaply in op shops; no longer thought of as valuable or useful. For me, this is a powerful reminder of another aspect of God's nature: redemption. What God can do with broken and discarded lives can be something new, unexpected and meaningful.



Together the three panels show the Serenity prayer:

*God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change
Courage to change the things I can
and the wisdom to know the difference*

The left panel shows earthquake cracks traveling through the landscape, towards the war memorial. These are things that have fractured our lives and that cannot be changed. The right panel has a braided river flowing in the direction of the altar, it represents the challenge we face about the wise use of our resources and land.

The mosaic is situated opposite the font and has several references to life giving water: in the river, snow on the mountains and the rainbow. The rainbow also symbolises diversity in our community and is in memory of Rev Reg Hall who used rainbows in his colourful banners.

Art is a form of communication or conversation. The symbolism and their meanings grew as I created the mosaic. There is now an invitation for viewers to make their own meanings from what they see also.

Victoria Sharman Gilmour

God's Silence in the Face of Human Suffering

Susie Walker reviews the film 'Silence' which explores the silence of God in the face of suffering. The film is now showing at Hoyts Cinemas.

Directed by Martin Scorsese, 'Silence', set in 17th century Japan, tells the tumultuous story of two Portuguese Jesuit priests, Father Sebastian Rodrigues (Andrew Garfield) and Father Francisco Garupe (Adam Driver). They face the ultimate test of faith when they travel to Japan in search of their missing mentor and teacher, Father Cristovao Ferreira (Liam Neeson).

It is at a time when Christianity is outlawed and their presence forbidden in Japan, but as they journey they minister to the Christian villagers who are forced to worship in secret.

Ruling feudal lords and samurai were determined to eradicate Christianity. Christians were persecuted, tortured and forced to apostatize or face a prolonged and agonising death.

The priests expected hardship, but not the terror and suffering they ended up experiencing. The film, based on a novel by Shusaku Endo examines the spiritual and religious question of God's silence in the face of human suffering.

The very interesting aspect about this movie is the preparation the actors undertook for their roles, especially Andrew Garfield. Father James Martin, who was an advisor to the film, led Andrew Garfield through the 'Spiritual Exercises' of St Ignatius Loyola.

In an interview, with the New York Times, Andrew Garfield explained he was "...so filled up with all the longing to

spread the teachings of Christ which I truly started to adore. If I'd had ten years, it wouldn't have been enough time to prepare for this role. I got totally swept up in all things Jesuit and very taken with Jesuit spirituality. The preparation went on for a year...on retreat, you enter into your imagination and accompany Jesus through His life from His conception to His crucifixion and resurrection...you are walking, talking, praying with Jesus, suffering with Him, and it is devastating to see someone who has been your friend, whom you love, be so brutalized."

Suzie Walker





Association of Anglican Women

Aim: To unite in prayer and participate in the mission of the Church. To promote, safeguard and nurture Christian family life.

Daytime Group

Wednesday 5 April at 2pm in the Tui Room.
Speaker is Kofe Havea: "Pathway to Graduating with a Bachelor of Ministries."
Joan Ford will also be at our meeting to show us diocesan stationery that is available for members to purchase. Sales table.

Leader: Madeleine Price – 354 4299

In Betweens

Tuesday 18 April at 7.30pm in the hall.
This month's speaker is retired coroner Richard McElrea, speaking about the office of Coroner, its history and its role in the 21st Century.

Leader: Trish Carrick-Leslie – 351 5179

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www.stbarnabas.org.nz

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What the Sequoia can Teach St Barnabas

Suzie Walker reports on Bishop Victoria's Church Reopening Sermon which explored an illustration from the Sequoia.

"Scripture tells us that buildings built to the glory of God are important but even more important are people who live to give God glory and seek to help others in every possible way. "To love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul, mind and strength; and your neighbour as yourself." We are called to be temples of God's Holy Spirit, being the hands and feet; the heart and voice of Christ.... I urge you to move from being, for a time, rightly concerned with renewing and fixing this building to being Gods renewed people."

How did Bishop Victoria imagine we as a church community can achieve this? By emulating the Canadian Redwood trees - Sequoias. These are the largest trees in the world and have a lesson for us as 21st century Christians. What an analogy! I think many of us have been thinking about the Bishop's sermon and using our imaginations to create visual images.

She explained further that Sequoias grow naturally on the Sierra Nevada mountain, reaching a height of 100 metres or more and a girth of as much as 9 metres. They are really BIG trees!

Three fascinating facts about the sequoias are;

- They need to endure forest fires for their cones to open so their seeds will germinate - what looks like a trial for the Sequoias is actually a requirement!
- Their bark protects the core of the tree from heat. They have a substance called tannin which is actually a fire repellent! But if the fire gets through, the tree falls over.
- For their size they have a shallow root system that is enmeshed with other trees which prevents them from falling.

What is the parallel the Bishop is drawing with our parish today and moving into the future? She poses the questions;

"For the church and the community, what protects us time after time from the heat and challenge of our recurring emergencies? What helps us stand tall and assist others? I suggest it is the power of love: the love of God and the love for one another."

The Bishop reminded us fire that reaches the core of the sequoia can cause it to fall so too "Negative energy, emotional attacks and offensive language can breach the bark or armour of the church. It can happen to anyone, any community and any church. We need to practice good selfcare as well as robust outreach.

This is where the root system of the Sequoia becomes so fascinating. The roots are not particularly deep but they do reach and stretch out. They become enmeshed with the roots of their neighbours and form a massive structure that stops the giant trees from falling over. Sequoia trees need each other and they know it somehow. We also need each other."

Bishop Victoria concluded with these words of encouragement; "We become strong by helping each other as Christ in his mercy and love has reached out from the cross to make us whole in his love. My prayer for this parish is that, having been blessed by the love of Jesus, fortified by the gospel message and called into the mission of God, you will stand tall, withstand all attacks and present yourselves before God as worthy instruments of God's kingdom on earth."



Why did the Early Church Grow?

In AD 300 why might you think of joining the church? Remember, this is before the Emperor Constantine decided to use Christianity as the religious glue of the Roman Empire. From that point on it was politic to become Christian. It would change the Church for ever. We are only now losing that connection. In 300, Christians were 10% of the population.

That's still significant. How did that happen? Well, it wasn't because of a well-organised mission. The church was succeeding because it answered some pressing questions in a changing society.

The old order was breaking down, and socially mobile people found the church's openness to breaking the old barriers congenial. Women and slaves were part of the church. Some of that was later lost, but in the 3rd century it was important.

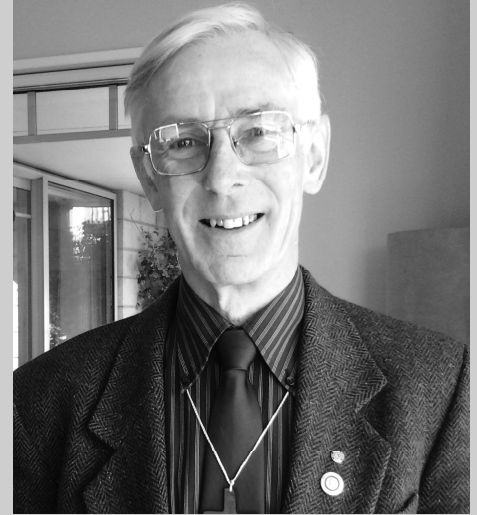
In a world where ideas of an after-life were often shadowy and insubstantial, the church offered

something more specific and personal. It provided a sense that human history had a direction and purpose, and even suffering had meaning.

The gospel of a God who actually loved the world and its inhabitants (as distinct from the world as a playground for the occasional visit of a deity from Olympus) was very important. It overflowed into love for one's fellow humans. The church reached out in compassion to those in prison, the sick, the destitute and the abandoned. They cared in an often indifferent world.

It all added up to a revaluation of humanity itself. The incarnation meant a God who was with us and in us in a way the world had not seen before. It did not meet with universal appeal, but it was sufficient to lead to the growth of the church. Would it appeal to you?

*The Revd Dr Ken Booth -
kenbooth@xnet.co.nz*



Hearing Loop Enhances Worship

As part of the repair to the church, a new Hearing Loop was installed for those who wear hearing aids. The Hearing Loop is automatically switched on whenever the Sound System is on and should enhance the hearing experience of users.

The Hearing Loop covers the whole church and has been designed to international standards and complies with New Zealand laws. In fact the building would not get a building warrant of fitness unless it had a compliant Hearing Loop.

For hearing aids to work, they need to have 'T' switch capability and this needs to be activated. If any parishioners are finding that their hearing experience is poor, they should go to their audiologist and have their hearing aid checked and the 'T' function activated.



Where's God on Monday?: Exploring Faith and Work

International lecturer and author Alistair Mackenzie is offering a series of seminars at St Barnabas in May for all those who want to think more deeply about the connections between faith and work. This is for those in paid work, volunteer work, for parents and students. Alistair has made this theme his life's study and is an inspirational speaker. The seminars will take place in the Tui Room beginning at 7pm and running through till 9pm.

Wednesday 3 May: Spiritual Gifts: How does our innate personality and skills impact on our sense of 'calling' and job satisfaction. Links will be made to our personal strengths and the careers or tasks we have chosen to do.

Wednesday 10 May: Our Calling: Alistair will speak about the idea of 'Calling and Vocation' within the history of Christianity. A panel of six local people will discuss their choices of Christian service.

Wednesday 17 May: Healthy Lifestyle Balance: Alistair will outline the challenges and give us guidelines to balance our lives in work and leisure - from new parents to retirement. There will be a panel and the people to be interviewed will be from different stages of life.



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Bishop Confirms Five Young People

Congratulations to Evangeline Gilmour, Laura Harper, Robert Kingsley, Harris Webster and Freddy Wilson on the occasion of their Confirmation a few weeks ago. It took place at an Antioch service in the newly-opened church at 7pm and was amazing!

A large number of supporters were present and the service was inspirational with the Bishop preaching a challenging sermon. Witnessing the young people bear witness to their faith in Christ was very humbling.

The candidates spoke about the people who had supported them in their faith and the way they had grown to the point of wanting to be confirmed by the Bishop and to step forward in more active Christian service.



Who Was the Quiz Whiz This Year?

Thanks so much to Nigel and Liz Yeoh for organising such a fantastic Quiz Night recently. There were about 18 teams of four each and the competition was fierce! Megan Blakie, Dave Kennett and Marett and Ian Wells were declared the winners after 9 gruelling rounds.

Nigel said that "Hearing and seeing the cheers of teams when they got a particularly difficult question right was great and seeing non-parishioners and family members present was encouraging."

Special thanks to Greg Brown and Braeden McInnes for helping with the set-up and pick-up/drop-off of hired tables. Thanks also to Corinne Haines, Ruth Harwood, Marion Cook, Robyn Gopperth and Matt Chamberlain for helping with hospitality and thanks to Eleanor Horne for providing advice and general guidance.

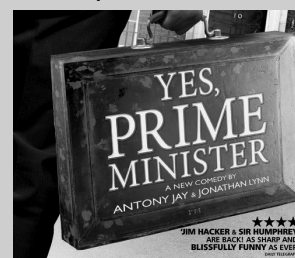
About \$700 was made for the buildings trust – thank you!

"Yes Prime Minister" Fundraiser

Buy your ticket now to the riotous Repertory Theatre comedy 'Yes Prime Minister' playing at the Elmwood Theatre on Thursday 18 May. Tickets are \$40 and the parish has the challenge of selling all 100 tickets for that night.

Come for drinks and nibbles at 6.45pm with the show beginning at 7.30pm. This is a fundraiser – the Repertory Theatre get \$20/ticket and the parish gets \$20/ticket – a fun way to raise \$2,000 for our buildings fund!

Written by Antony Jay and Jonathan Lynn, 'Yes Prime Minister' is absolutely hilarious and will be a night to remember. So gather a group of family and friends, purchase your tickets and enjoy a great night out. Tickets will be available soon from the parish office.



What's Coming Up?

Messy Church

All children, families and young people are invited to this outreach event - food, fun, faith, family craft and a meal – \$5 per family. Also a great opportunity for grandparents to bring grandchildren! Hall.

SATURDAY **8**
APRIL

Palm Sunday

Come and celebrate the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem on the Sunday before Easter at 8am, 9.30am, 5pm and 7pm.

SUNDAY **9**
APRIL

ANZAC Day

Young and old are invited to this community commemoration service at 10am in the church. Colouring Competition winners awarded.

25
APRIL

Men's Breakfast

All men welcome to come to breakfast at 8am in the hall. Guest Speaker will be Emeritus Law Professor John Burrows speaking about his life and work. Call the Parish Office to make a booking.

SATURDAY **29**
APRIL

Living the Life

All welcome to come and hear head of Christian Broadcasting Association Phil Guyan speak about his work and his walk with God. 5pm in the Church. This is something you could invite a friend to!

SUNDAY **30**
APRIL

Christian Vocation Seminars

Come and hear international lecture and author Alistair Mackenzie speak about how our personality & skills impact on our sense of 'calling' and job satisfaction. 7pm in Tui Room.

WEDNESDAY **3**
MAY

DIRECTORY

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MOORING POST DESIGN

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

ST BARNABAS CHURCH

8.00am Eucharist, followed by breakfast
(Tui Room)
9.30am Sung Eucharist followed by
morning tea (Tui Room)
5.00pm 1st and 3rd Sundays – Evensong,
2nd Sunday – Choral Night
Prayer, 4th Sunday – Eucharist

ST BARNABAS HALL

9.30 am Lifestreams Eucharist with
children's and youth programmes
followed by morning tea.
7.00pm Antioch in the hall for students
young adults but all welcome

MID-WEEK WORSHIP

8.30am Wednesday – Eucharist all welcome
in the Church
10.00am Thursdays – Eucharist in Church
1st Thursday – Prayer and Healing

ALSO OFFERED...

Home Communion:
Each 2nd & 4th Wednesday in the month.
Communion is also provided at Fendalton
Retirement Village fortnightly and
St Winifred's & Holly Lea monthly.

Vestry News

- **Intergenerational Worship:** Discussion took place on the possibility of moving the Lifestreams service format to an Intergenerational style with the children and young people in the worship service for the whole time. This idea had been raised by Angela Brown. Vestry however affirmed the Kidzone ministry. Further discussion will take place at the Vestry and Staff planning afternoon on March 26.
- **Younger Person's Worker:** The Vicar submitted a draft Job Description and advertisement for a Younger Persons Worker. In the future it is hoped that the parish might employ a dedicated worker for youth and young adults who was not a Curate. This was so that there could be more continuity for this ministry. This would result in stronger, longer term relationships with the young people.
- **Church Heaters:** Vestry received a report from Don Mackenzie on the heaters. It is essential that we get the heating plan signed off by the Design Advisory Group as soon as possible so they can be installed. This will happen on a Monday and Tuesday. All the wiring is in place. Chris Wilson will arrange for their purchase.
- **Bells:** Vestry were told that the bells have still not been repaired but a price was being sought for this work. It was suggested that we apply for funding from the WWI Memorial fund of the Lotteries Commission. It is believed that there is funding that could be available for this project.
- **Ministry Oversight Teams:** It was decided to streamline the reporting of the Ministry Oversight Teams by asking them to report on a predetermined schedule that is coordinated with Vestry meetings. There was also discussion of developing a template which the Ministry Teams would use so that there is consistency of reporting.

REGISTER

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the family of God the following children who have been baptised;

March

5 Hannah Thea Donna Brown
12 Reubin Ray Karena Te Tai

FUNERALS

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of those who have died:

February

20 Bunty Penny (Memorial)

March

7 Ellen Briar Walsham
9 John Garland Lester
10 Jeremy Clark (Memorial)



Contributions to the Mooring Post:

*Deadline for
May Issue:*

Friday 14 April



Reopening Community Concert



Children's Ministry at St. Barnabas

St Barnabas Playgroup: Creative play for pre-schoolers on Wednesdays from 9.15 – 11.30am in the hall.
Helen Wakefield 351 3595.

Mainly Music: Music and movement for pre-schoolers and their caregivers, Fridays 10 – 10.30am followed by morning tea. Pip Chamberlain 021 085 77640.

Fridayzone: Christian after-school club for Primary School children and their families. With meal. Fridays 3 – 5.30pm.
Angela Brown 027 335 0105.

Kidzone: Creative Sunday School for children 5 – 11 yrs
Sundays 9.30am. Angela Brown 027 335 0105.