

Opening Up About Jesus in Public

During the week TV3's 'The Project' ran a piece on religion in kiwi society. During the conversation Jessie Mulligan stated that New Zealand needs "more Christianity not less" because churches "feed more people, clothe more people and provide comfort for more people than any other group." He followed by saying "If you're looking for a good person, the Church is the place to go." To me it's about time some of the benefits of faith are discussed publically without cringe or embarrassment.

However you may have noticed the irony. It took a secular TV show to engage in 'God-talk' yet we Christians are often coy about our own faith commitment and unwilling to engage in spiritual conversations.

In the US recently, the Barna research organisation polled 1,000 adults and they found that about three-quarters "do not often" have spiritual or religious conversations. And even for those who attend church regularly, 58% have spiritual conversations with others only 'once or twice' or 'several times' in an entire year. A paltry 7% of church-going, American Christians talk about spiritual matters regularly. I'm certain this figure is lower in New Zealand.

But in many ways this is not surprising. Since the 18th Century Enlightenment, religion has been progressively pushed to the fringes of life - occupying the area of personal

and private opinion - "what you do with your solitude" as Archbishop William Temple said. The public sphere of hard science has muscled faith out to the margins.

Yet the great existential questions of life are still there; Where are we going? What constitutes the good life? Is there a God? Where do we go when we die? These questions are most worthy of public conversation. And for Christians, who in a modest way, claim to believe something important about these questions, it is most surprising that we don't engage in spiritual and religious conversations more.

It was 18th Century German philosopher Gotthold Lessing, who questioned how the miracles described in the New Testament, could be used as a basis for Christianity when they could not be proved. He claimed there was a 'great ugly ditch' between history and Christian truth claims. If there is a ditch, it suits those who don't want to engage in faith-talk. But philosophy and theology have developed significantly since Lessing's day. And the great questions of life and faith have not gone away. They are the unspoken wonderings to all of life.

So again I ask, why aren't we talking about our faith? Is it because religious talk has been co-opted by the extremists and the lunatic fringe? Is it because we don't want to sound

weird, create tensions or appear judgemental? Or is it because we have indeed relegated spirituality to our private domain and our worship to an hour on Sunday - and once we have given a 'nod to God' we can go about doing our own thing in the days between?

However Jesus, Paul and the rest of the characters that populate the pages of the New Testament were always talking about faith. They were debating about faith, casting a vision about faith, teasing out the consequences of faith and persuading others to find faith in God. Faith clearly dominated their thoughts, their priorities and their mission in life. So again I ask, why can't we be more courageous in naming our own faith in public?

During the week Opposition Leader Simon Bridges was publicly embarrassed by a tape recording of a private conversation he had with MP Jami-Lee Ross. He was recorded using language and expressing opinions that he later regretted. I wonder if our lives were displayed in a similar way whether we would be proud of our words and actions or not?

So let there be integrity between our private and public lives - between our beliefs and our words - our deepest commitments and our actions. And let us bring back 'God-talk' into the public arena.

Canon Mark Chamberlain

House And Garden Tour

Saturday 24 November 11am – 4pm

Gather your friends for a day of fun and discovery on a self-drive tour of nine lovely Christchurch homes and gardens, plus a special garden.

Be sure to get your early bird tickets - \$40 available from Parish Office or Eventfinda.





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Music in the Air at St Barnabas

St Barnabas musicians Emma Parkes and Denis Guyan talk about their love of music and worship

Hi Denis and Emma. We really enjoy the quality and variety of music we have at St Barnabas. Could you please tell our readers about your musical abilities and how you came to learn to play your chosen instrument? **Denis:** All my life I have been a church-goer; and having learned the piano, it was a very logical progression to the organ. Both of my brothers did the same, and are church organists. I have a music degree from Auckland University. I've sung in choirs to a high level, including the nationally auditioned Voices New Zealand.

Emma: I started playing the piano when I was 4 years old by learning modern keyboard until I was 14 when I switched to Classical piano which ended in me completing my letters in piano performance (ATCL) when I was 18. Along the way I picked up a few more instruments (guitar, ukulele, flute) but I would say that piano/keyboard is my main instrument. I also worked as a primary music teacher for 8 years and played in quite a few worship bands including 6 years at Hillsong London Church and Holy Trinity Brompton in the UK.

Tell us about the way you work with your groups of singers and other musicians. **Denis:** Rehearsals on Thursday evenings, Saturday mornings, and Sundays before both 9.30am and 5pm services allow the music to be learned, practiced, and made to sound good. We learn new music, and try to improve our performance of music that is familiar. **Emma:** I choose the songs for Sunday on a Tuesday and send an email to the team rostered for the week with everything they need to know. This includes the key each song will be in, links to the song version we will be doing, charts of the songs and sometimes I even send a helpful tutorial to the musicians if we are learning a new song with vocal or instrument parts. The band will find time during the week to rehearse and prepare for the Sunday service. I have to say, the band are just fantastic at listening, taking notes and remembering what we have practiced for the morning service!

How does music affect your faith? What's the relationship between the two for you? **Denis:** The great composers and poets provide us with a means of worshipping God in a special way - that is a great mystery. Using one's talents is a way of saying "thank you" that can't be done in any other way. St Augustine may or may not have said "To sing is to pray twice." **Emma:** Music is a huge part of my faith! There have been so many times in my life where a stressful week has been completely forgotten as the worship song begins - whether I'm leading or part of the congregation. The words in worship songs make me lift my eyes above my circumstances and focus on God. I worship God during times of sorrow, hardship but also in times of joy and thanksgiving.

How can music be used as a way of drawing people closer to God and our Lord Jesus Christ? **Denis:** Some music is sublime, some is exciting, some is calming, some is energizing. All of these styles can help us, in whatever state, condition or mood we may be, to draw us close to God. **Emma:** We believe that as we worship God we are aligning our hearts and minds with the truth we are singing, therefore allowing ourselves to feel his tangible presence. In my experience, a corporate worship service is often the first time/place that a 'seeker' encounters God, realising that God is real and alive - and that is something incredible to be part of.




Youth Ministry at St. Barnabas

Youth Group: FRI 6PM - 9.30PM
- Christian Youth Community in hall. Intermediate 6 - 8.00pm.
High School age 7.30 - 9.30pm.

The Revs: SUNDAY 10 - 11.00AM
- Christian group for high school aged young people.

St Barnabas House and Garden Tour

Gather your friends for a day of fun and discovery on a self-drive tour of nine magnificent homes and gardens in our community, plus a special garden-only visit as a bonus. There will be a cake stall at one of the houses! This tour will be a hugely popular fundraiser for St Barnabas and the money raised will enable such important ministries as work among children and youth to continue.

Date: Saturday, 24 November 2018
11am – 4pm

Tickets: Available from the parish office at 8 Tui St (cash or cheque only) and Eventfinda (booking charge applies).

Cost: \$40, 1 Oct – 11 Nov 2018 (Early Bird)
\$50, 12 Nov – 23 Nov 2018
\$60, on the day of the tour

The organising committee wishes to thank all the generous home owners who have agreed to be part of this tour.



The Gothenburg Combo Review

I know nothing about classical guitar music and I went to this concert because it was a church fundraiser and I felt obliged to buy a ticket. I brought along an equally reluctant neighbour with the promise that if she wasn't enjoying herself we'd come home at half time. However, on arrival we noticed a distinct buzz of excitement from the many members of the Christchurch Guitar Society attending along with a number of our parishioners. We also cheered up when we were greeted with a glass of pinot and the most delicious array of nibbles.



Canon Mark opened proceedings, comparing the performers to two other well-known Swedish products, Ikea and ABBA. And then the music started and I was utterly captivated. It was hard to believe there were only two players producing the magical sounds.

The concert began with a well-known piece – Danza Espanola No 1 from La Vide Brève – followed by some traditional Chinese music. One piece the men had composed. Entertaining anecdotes interspersed each of the items. The second half of the programme was equally enthralling and the ABBA medley had me wanting to dance in the aisle, Meryl-Streep style.

And as for my reluctant companion, she declared it the best concert she had attended in ages and was one of the first to leap to her feet for the well-deserved standing ovation. And it was so wonderful to see our lovely church being used in this innovative way.

Margaret Harper

Small Groups – Big Impact on Life and Discipleship

A recent survey revealed that over eighty parishioners are involved in mid-week small groups in the parish. Small Groups are all about building friendships, growing in faith, studying the Bible, serving and praying together. There are groups for young adults, men, women and mixed groups that meet weekly, fortnightly and monthly.

Resources and themes covered this year included the Lenten Study series on "Hope" from Paul's Letter to the Romans, "The Footsteps of St Paul" series, discussions on favourite hymns and poems, guest speakers, the Animate series of videos made by Spanky Moore, Christian Studies from Theology House and "The Artist's Way" study book that involved drawing, poetry, writing and montage. There's such a variety of study resources out there!

The current groups will double in number in February next year when Lenten Studies begin again. Last year 16 groups met with about 120 people involved. The Lenten studies in 2019 are from Paul's first Letter to the Corinthians. Contact Don Rowlands if you would like to offer a venue or would like to lead a group.

It is hoped that a further group will begin in 2019 on Wednesdays for mothers with preschoolers.

Contact Pip Chamberlain if you are a mum with a small child and would like to join a group.

Don Rowlands | Discipleship and Evangelism Ministry
Action Team

New Members are invited to the following groups:

Day	Name	For Whom	Contact
Mon.	Monday Group	Mixed	Anne Shave 339 7300
Mon.	Life@91	Young Adults	Nigel Yeoh 027 338 3053
Tues.	Women at the Well	Women	Pip Chamberlain 351 7392
Tues.	TYA	Young Adults	Matt Chamberlain 027 348 5001
Tues.	Black-smith's	Men	David Hewson 351 8827
Wed.	Kingsley's	Mixed	Gavin and Raina Kingsley 357 0040

Small Groups

Find your perfect fit in one of our small groups.



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, 7 November at 2pm in the Tui Room.

AGM followed by our guest speaker Alexa Evenden from the Christchurch Hospital Chaplaincy Service.

There is no sales table.

Leader: Madeleine Price
P: 354 4299 M: 021 188 5138

In Betweens

Tuesday, 20 November at 7.30 pm in the Hall.

This month is our AGM which is followed by Communion.
Do stay for supper and fellowship.

Leader: Trish Carrick-Leslie
P: 351 5179

Izzy Foley Shares Her Alpha Experience

Hi Izzy and thanks for agreeing to be interviewed for the Mooring Post.

Where were you born and how did you come to be in Christchurch?:

I was born in North East England and grew up in a small village in an area called Teesside. Teesside is a funny place that exists in the space between Newcastle and Yorkshire, it's also where Captain Cook is from! I ended up in Christchurch as I wanted a break from my job in the NHS and I was looking to live and work for a year or so outside of the UK - over 3 years later I'm still here!

Tell us about your job and what you enjoy about it?: I'm a doctor in Christchurch Hospital working as a medical registrar. The thing I most enjoy about my job has to be the people - both patients and colleagues. I love hearing people's stories, the camaraderie in the hospital and the human ability to find joy and humour in everyday things.

What do you do in your spare time?: Mostly getting outside and enjoying New Zealand - I love tramping and feel so lucky to live in a country with such awesome scenery.

How did you come to be on the Alpha Course which finished a few weeks ago?: I was invited by a friend, and despite some initial trepidation thought I might as well check it out. I figured that I didn't have anything to lose and might regret not giving it a go.

What was the experience like?: I found it to be a really friendly and supportive environment. Despite initial reservations it was quickly something I looked forward to each week. The discussions were open and honest. It was engaging and reassuring to hear about other people's experiences, their questions and doubts - always good to know you're not alone in trying to figure things out!

What was a highlight and how did it effect you?: The highlight has to be the whole experience and journey really - from the people I met, to the conversations we had and the encouragement and prayers I got along the way. It's really helped me be a lot more comfortable with my faith and to see God more easily in my life - I'd kind of forgotten that he's real and among us! In many ways it's just the start of a journey but I feel Alpha has provided some tools which will really help.

What did you learn about the Christian faith and about being a Christian?:

The overwhelming message I took from Alpha was one of love and acceptance and, for me, I think this is core to being a Christian. Faith is often very personal and there was room for that on the course with it giving a flexible view on Christianity.

What does your faith in God mean to you? What difference does it make?:

To me it provides a sense of not being alone in anything that I do and the reassurance that I am enough.

Tell us about your experience of St Barnabas: I enjoy pretty much all of the church experience - the liturgy, the music, the familiar faces, cups of tea at the end! I grew up going to church so a lot of it is familiar but hadn't been going regularly for the last few years. It's nice just to have that time each week where I don't have to be thinking or doing anything else other than spending time with God. After starting the Alpha course it seemed a natural decision to start to attend St Barnabas, friendly faces in the congregation made going to a new church much easier.

Our parish vision is 'to follow Jesus and extend God's love'. Is that something that you could relate to?:

I think it's something we can all try to apply to our lives - to remember that being a Christian goes beyond the hour or so attending church once a week and should be evident in everything we do and how we treat others - something I will forever be working on!



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'Brownie and Jesus': Key Components to Discipleship!

Assistant Youth Worker Kathryn Fee reports on her young women's discipleship group.

I understand you meet regularly with a group of young women to encourage them in their faith. How did this group start?: The idea started about 4 years ago when I had first started mentoring and youth work. When I came to St Barnabas last year some of the girls asked if we could start a discipleship group here.

How often do you meet and how many attend?: We meet every two weeks and there's about six of us on average.

What sort of things do you do when you meet?: We start with the food which is almost always brownie. Then everyone shares what's going on in their world which takes up most of the time. We'll do a study and pray or sing some praise to end the night.

In what ways are the young women growing closer to Jesus?: Jesus did ministry in community so they are learning to share and lean on each other. They're also learning about Jesus and the Bible and how that influences everyday life.

What do you get out of leading this group?: It's so much fun seeing young people grow in faith and in friendship with each other. It's also really fulfilling being a part of something I wish I had when I was their age.

What are your hopes for the future of the young women and the group itself?: I hope that the relationships that have been formed can continue to empower and encourage everyone involved. Also to develop new leaders would be amazing! Lastly, to inspire others in our church to practice hospitality and community. We don't have a group like this for the young men - so hopefully that will happen soon.

How can our St Barnabas Church family support you and the group members in their faith? Prayer makes a huge difference! I'd also love to have older female leaders involved.



'ANGLICAN' IS AN ADJECTIVE

"I was baptised an Anglican", a stall holder at the Aged Persons Expo said to me. I guess she meant 'in an Anglican Church'. There is an important difference. Her baptism was a baptism into the family of God, in a rite mirrored also in other churches. 'Anglican' simply described the particular ceremony and denomination where her baptism took place. Presumably she then grew up as an Anglican Christian.

God's Church is larger than any singular denomination. (But even bigger than God's Church is 'the Kingdom of God' – God's glory in the wider world!)

So what real difference, if any, might it make for us to be 'Anglican' Christians, members of the Anglican Church?

Our identity, history and worship.

First, how we see ourselves. We are a church defined as much by our territory as by our theology. Our roots in the Church of ENGLAND point to this. For us, our turangawaewae is Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. We have a strong sense of being a church that interweaves with the cultures of this region and its peoples. A three tikanga church. We belong here.

As Anglican Christians we also have a strong sense of unbroken continuity with the Christian Church from its earliest beginnings in the West, both Catholic and Celtic, while equally valuing the fruits of the English Reformation with the fresh life this brought to the Western Church.

Our style of worship is a balance of ministries of word and sacrament, of the teachable and the tangible, of God speaking to our minds and to our senses. Through regular worship God gradually shapes us as Christians as week by week we learn from the Scriptures and Jesus draws near to us in Holy Communion. Hence 'Anglican Christians'.

Bishop Brian Carrell





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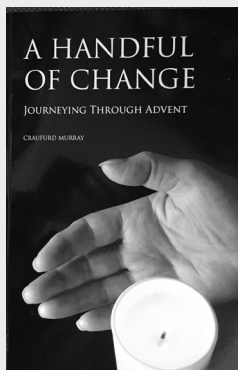
New Advent Resource: Craufurd Murray

Ex Vicar of St Barnabas Craufurd Murray has written a new book as a spiritual resource for Advent. 'A Handful of Change' is a series of writings for the Advent season to help us prepare for Christmas.

It enables the reader to take a day-by-day journey through Advent, with a brief 'bite' for each day's sustenance and consideration. It begins a week before Advent Sunday, giving a run-up to the Season, and also includes some post-Christmas reflections.

Ten years ago, with Lynda Patterson, he compiled a collection for Advent, Christmas and New Year (A Handful of Light), and since that time he has had some unfinished business with Advent! This book is the result.

Limited numbers are available for \$10 from the Parish Office.



5 Seasons of Growth: About Grief and Loss

This 4 week course starts on Wednesday 7 November from 7pm – 9pm in the Tui Room. If you are experiencing any kind of loss this course may be for you.

Trained facilitators will be your companions in exploring this aspect of your life journey. Losses could include bereavement, relationship separation, disability, redundancy or family disconnect.

The course includes writing, discussion, montage and hearing life stories.

Sponsored by Anglican Care. Contact Don on 020 441 692186 for more information and to register.



Alpha Success!

How do you find out about the meaning of life? How do you grow in faith? How do you understand the Christian faith and how to live? A group of about 18 people learned that these questions can be fruitfully explored on an Alpha Course which finished recently.

Alpha is an 11 week course covering the basics of Christianity. Alpha is all about getting to know others, getting to discuss the deeper questions of life and really growing and learning. The recent course was a great success with participants looking forward to the weekly DVD, discussions and dessert and tea/coffee!

If you want to learn more about life and faith and want to do an Alpha Course, phone the office or speak to the Vicar – the parish will be running another course next year and we'd love you to be part of it!



What's Coming Up?

Sat

3rd Nov

Dinners for Eight Finale

All parishioners are invited to a final fellowship meal in the hall to mark the end of Dinners for Eight. Please contact Margaret Harper or Pam Chapman if you intend coming.

Sun

11th Nov

Love in a Box

Fill a shoe box of Christmas gifts for local children or the elderly in need this Christmas. Return by 9 December.

Thu

22nd Nov

Deliverers Morning Tea

All those who faithfully deliver our Mooring Post Magazines are warmly invited to morning tea in the hall at 10.45am. This will immediately follow the 10am Communion service.

Sun

25th Nov

Christmas Hamper Appeal

Christmas food donations are sought for the Aranui Christmas Hamper Appeal. Donations will be taken to the Aranui-Wainoni parish and hampers will be made up for less well-off families. Return by 16 December.

Thu

29th Nov

Wafer Room Party

All those involved in the Wafer Room ministry are invited to the annual Christmas Party at 4.30pm at the Vicarage, 7 Makora St.

Sun

2nd Dec

Advent Lessons and Carols

Come to this annual 5pm service to mark the beginning of Advent. There will be special music and readings.

www.stbarnabas.org.nz

Vestry News

Associate Priest: Vestry were informed that an offer has been accepted by a candidate who applied for the Associate Priest position in the parish. Following due process an announcement will be made in the very near future.

Council Grant for Shade Sail: It was reported that the parish received a grant of \$2,500 from the CCC Discretionary Response Fund for the installation of shade sails over the playgroup. This was gratefully received.

New Staff Begin: Members of Vestry were informed that Christine Fokkens is to be commissioned as Assistant Children's Worker this Sunday and 24-7 Youth Worker Matt Robb will also be commissioned for his work at Boys' High. Christine will be leading the Sunday children's ministry and Matt will join Matt Meek and Dave Bosma offering pastoral care at Boys' High.

Works Update: The shade sails have been installed over the playground, specialist antique restorers from Timaru have restored and preserved the three exterior church doors, the church vestries have been renovated with new carpet, the bell repairs are almost complete, there is a new computer in the Tui Room and new monitors for the sanctuary area of the church. This expense has been planned for some time and it is anticipated that it will be covered by the Trust.

Tax Status of Donations: Vestry received a report from Treasurer Alistair Sheard about the tax status of donations. This is a complex area and Vestry will take time to consider the advice received so that parishioners can be clear about how to financially support our ministry and mission most effectively.

St Andrews Tonga: Rachel and Simon Tipping are arranging for St Andrews High School, Tonga, Brass Band to visit Christchurch on the 4-5 May, 2019. Vestry agreed to support this trip and a Pacifica worship service which will include the Brass Band will be held on the morning of Sunday 5 May.



Thanks to John Michael Sullivan (See Luke 2:1-16) 12-23-2003
AT LEAST WE CAN SAY THAT HE WAS BROUGHT UP IN A STABLE HOME

**Mooring Post deadline
December Issue
Friday 9 November**

Sunday Worship

St Barnabas Church

- 8.00am** Eucharist, followed by breakfast (Tui Room)
9.30am Sung Eucharist then morning tea (Tui Room)
12.00pm Tongan Service
5.00pm Evensong (1st & 3rd)
Night Prayer (2nd)
Eucharist (4th Sunday)

St Barnabas Hall

- 10.00am** Lifestreams Eucharist with children and youth programmes followed by morning tea.
7.00pm Antioch in the hall for students, young adults where all are welcome.

Mid-Week Workshop

- 8.30am** Wednesday - Eucharist, in the church.
10.00am Thursday - Eucharist in the church
1st Thursday - Prayer for Healing

Also Offered

Home Communion: Each 2nd & 4th Wednesday in the month.

Communion is also provided each month at Fendalton Retirement Village, St Winifred's and Holly Lea.

Register

BAPTISMS

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

September

30 Poppy Louise Islay Roberts

October

14 Isabella Louise Preston

MARRIAGES

We extend our good wishes and prayers to the following couples recently married:

September

29 Justine Maree Knight and Steven James Hartwell

October

6 Torry Hanson and Kate Millard

20 Hugh Anthony James Goodwin and Natalie Hiu Fung Li

FUNERALS

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

September

27 Joanne Phyllis Robb

28 David Gordon Kenneth Viles

Directory

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St Barnabas Book Fair



Children's Ministry at St. Barnabas

St Barnabas Playgroup: WED 9.15 - 11:30AM
- Creative play for pre-schoolers in the hall
Helen Wakefield 021 307 878.

Mainly Music: FRI 10 - 11AM
- Music & movement for pre-schoolers and their caregivers,
followed by morning Tea. Pip Chamberlain 021 085 77640.

Fridayzone: FRI 3 - 5.30PM IN THE HALL
- After-school club for Primary School children
and their families. With Meal. Angela Brown 027 335 0105.

Kidzone: SUN 10AM
- Creative Sunday School for children 0 - 11 yrs.
Christine Fokkens 03 351 7283.