

## St Paul's in the Park Newsletter April 2018

### **Buried Treasure**

*The farmer in this story was a very wealthy, hard-working man, but his sons were all lazy and greedy. Before he died, he told them that they would find his treasure buried in the fields.*

*Naturally, as soon as he was gone they rushed to the fields and dug furiously.*

*All their efforts to find treasure, however, proved fruitless. 'Well', said one, 'since the fields are all plowed, we might as well plant a crop. This they did and it produced a rich and profitable harvest. They lived that year on the sale of their crop but then decided to try for the treasure again. The same thing happened: no gold, but another plentiful crop.*

*This went on for several years. The once lazy sons were now used to working hard and living on the fruits of their labour. They had become efficient, happy men of the land, almost without being aware of it.*

*'This is what Father knew would happen!' one of them suddenly realised. 'This is the inheritance he left us!'*

Nothing worthwhile comes easy. Be prepared to work hard for whatever it is you want to achieve. If you are not prepared to do that, your expectations must necessarily be very low.

'Without hard work, nothing grows but weeds.' Gordon Hinckley

'Through hard work, perseverance and a faith in God, you can live your dreams.'  
Ben Carson

### **Meeting re New Church**

I recently attended a meeting convened by Archdeacon Michael Berry with representatives from the Auckland Diocese, Auckland Council, Auckland Transport, Hesketh Henry Law Firm and John Mclean (architect). It was a very positive meeting and the wheels are definitely in motion. It is going to be some time (well into next year) before we see anything actually taking shape but at least we can now see a way forward.

### **Fashion Show**

A reminder that on Thursday 3 May we are holding a Fashion Show at Ballentyne's, 451 Ti Rakau Drive to raise funds for our new church. Tickets (\$15) are available at Church, from Patricia Mcfarland (279 3573 ) or from me. It should be a fun night with a few of our congregation strutting the catwalk.

### **Celebration**

On Sunday 20 May there will be a special morning tea following our 10.00am service to celebrate the golden wedding anniversary, as well as 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays for Lloyd and Joyce Armstrong.

### **Eleanor**

You will have received my message re the retirement of Eleanor Keys. Please visit our website for an acknowledgment of her sterling service to St Paul's.

### **Birth**

Congratulations to Dinuk and Shenali on the birth of Tiari Anoushka Peiris. We are so delighted.

### **Pathway to Ordination**

Over the last 18 months I have been discerning my vocation for ordained ministry through the Anglican Church. There are four phases for this process. In brief they are:

**Enquire Phase** – Spiritual reflection, faith journey, referees.

**Application Phase** – Making a formal application, meeting with Bishops.

**Interview Phase** – Meeting with ordained priests for interviews.

**Residential Phase** – Residential weekend away with Bishops and Bishop's Ministry Advisors (BMA's).

This week I have been accepted into the final phase of the discernment process, the **Residential Phase**. I undergo a 2 hour clinical psychologist interview as well as meeting the BMA's and Bishops held at Vaughn Park 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> June. This is very exciting and I am most thankful for the prayers and support of the people of St Paul's. **Onosai Auva'a.**

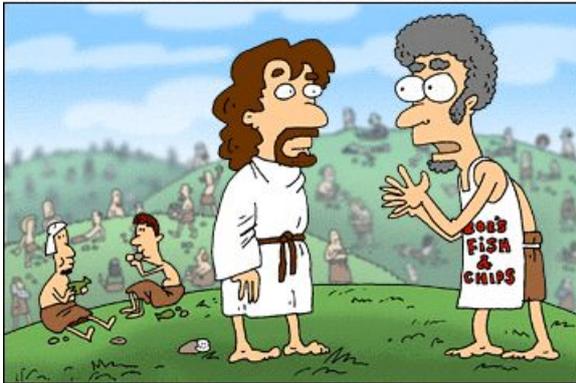
### Facebook

We now have a Facebook page! For those of you who are Facebook visitors, please have a look. If you are not a Facebook user, have a look anyway! Many thanks to Angeline Narayan for setting this up.

### To Ponder

'No one is useless in this world who lightens the burden of it for anyone else.'  
Charles Dickens

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