

## St Paul's in the Park

Newsletter June 2018

### Direction?

*There is a lovely story of an absent-minded professor from Edinburgh. He used to travel regularly by train and all the ticket collectors knew him. One day by the gate, he was anxiously going through his pockets and after a while the ticket collector asked if he could help. 'I have lost my ticket,' said the professor. 'That's all right, sir, we all know you. You can get on the train.' 'But,' said the professor, 'I need my ticket because I do not know where I am going.'*

It is not uncommon to feel, maybe temporarily, a loss of direction. Perhaps we are facing a significant decision. Perhaps we are feeling a little confused as to how things appear to be unfolding in our lives. I believe one of the prime functions of the Holy Spirit is guidance. To that end, prayer is one way of dealing with this. The other is to seek a listening ear, apart from God's, or should I say, as well as God's!

'Keep on asking, and you will be given what you ask for. Keep on looking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened.' *Matthew 7:7*

### City Mission Appeal

Thank you for your response to the Jammies in June appeal. In July we will be supporting the City Mission Winter Appeal, so please bring along non-perishable food, warm clothing (good condition second-hand or new), or blankets. A box will be available in the church.

### Rosters

Rosters for the next two months will be available shortly. They have been streamlined somewhat, combining morning tea with worship. Please ensure that if you are unable to attend on the day you are rostered, that you either organise a replacement or notify either me or Ann.

The readings themselves are not included as I often change these. I am happy to email them to those rostered before the Sunday concerned.

### Morning teas

In order to alleviate the demands placed on those rostered for morning teas, it has been decided that only biscuits will be provided. Naturally, for special occasions there will be something a little more sumptuous provided.

It's really about people!

### Summerset stall

At the Summerset Village market day last Saturday \$232 was raised as a contribution towards our new church. Grateful thanks to Joyce and her helpers.

## **Cleaning**

A message for those who are on the cleaning roster. If you would like someone to do it for you, at a cost of \$80, please contact Richard (021 024 67800). He has the names of a young couple who are willing and able. If you would like help with the \$80, please let me know.

## **Ordination**

Congratulations to Onosai who, following a successful residential phase of the Ordination Discernment process, has been accepted for training for ordination. The training programme will involve one weekend per month throughout 2019. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with him.

## **NZ Herald article**

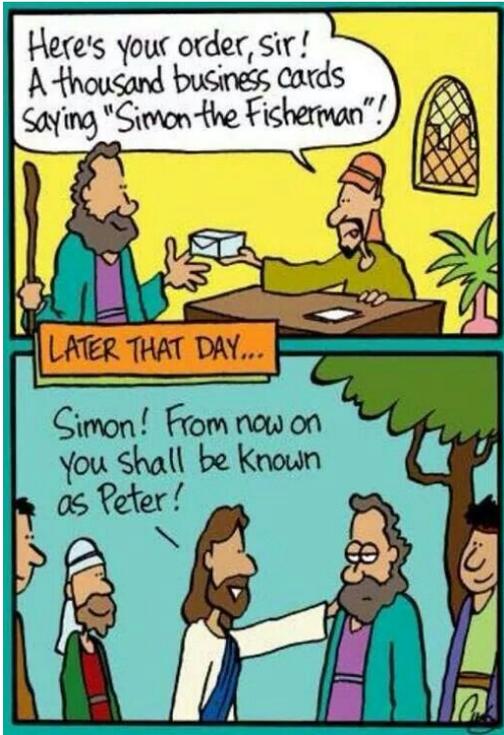
Last Thursday (21<sup>st</sup>) there was an interesting article in the NZ Herald entitled 'Losing Faith – Why fewer Kiwis are going to church.' It certainly should cause us to think about how we as a church can address this issue. I hope to refer to some of the points raised over the coming weeks. Suffice to say, I am convinced that if we can find ways to reach out to our community, to be a caring presence, that is the most effective form of evangelism.

## **Spiritual Disciplines**

For the past couple of weeks I have been deviating from the themes and readings as set down in the Anglican Lectionary, and with some exceptions, will continue to do so over the coming weeks. Topics will include prayer, time, confession, reading the Bible and life after death. If there is any topic you would like to be included, please let me know.

## **Visiting**

A reminder that if you would like me to call in sometime, for any reason whatsoever, please let me know. I regard visiting as a very important part of my ministry at St Paul's.



**To ponder.**

'It is more important to watch how a man lives than to listen to what he says.'  
Anon.

Reverend Warner Wilder  
[warnerwilder30@gmail.com](mailto:warnerwilder30@gmail.com)  
021 548 407