

St Paul's in the Park Newsletter August 2021

Listening to God

A man who operated an icehouse lost a good watch in the sawdust. He offered a reward, and men went through the sawdust with rakes, but they were unable to find the watch. When they left the building for lunch, a small boy went into the icehouse. A few minutes later he came out with the watch. They asked him how he had found it, and he replied, 'I just lay down in the sawdust and listened. Finally, I heard the watch ticking.'

One of the most effective ways of communicating with God is to just be quiet and listen for his presence. In the hustle and bustle of life, this is not easy to do. Perhaps lockdown might be an opportunity to explore and reflect on that wonderful verse, Psalm 46:10 – 'Be still and know that I am God.'

Church build/fundraising

We are certainly not alone, but lockdown has put something of a dent in our momentum. Fundraising is going well, but September was shaping up to be a critical time with two important functions planned. Of course, there is a possibility we can proceed with these but at the moment, it is all up in the air and I have to say, looking doubtful. We are looking to raise \$5 million by the end of September in order to begin building at the beginning of October. Total raised at this point is \$4.4million.

We are very close to deciding on the preferred tender, which in itself is exciting.

If you would like to support our build, please drop me an email and I can send you a pledge form. A reminder that donations can be pledged over 5 years, and we are a charitable organisation so you receive a third back from the IRD!

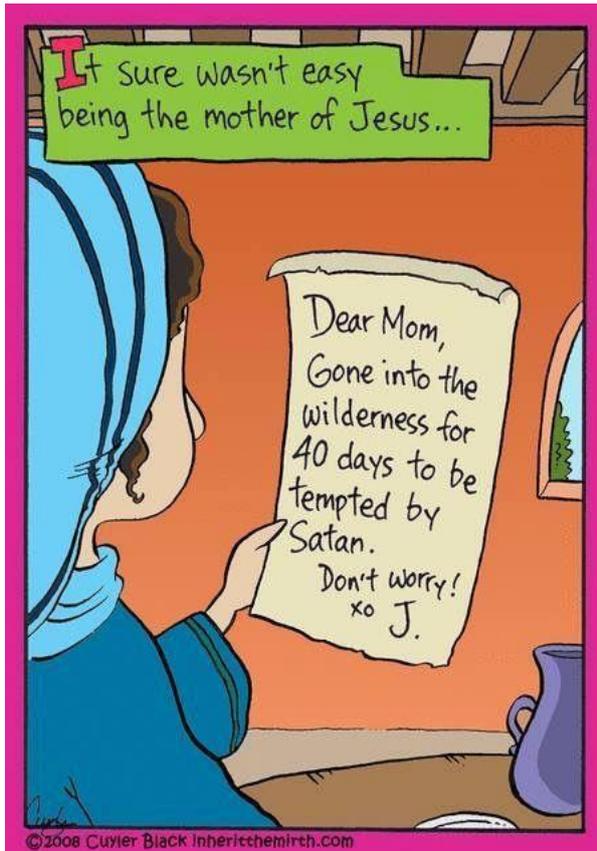
Raffle

On the note of fundraising, we are holding a raffle for two hampers containing His and Hers 'beauty' products. Tickets are \$10, a book of 5 for \$50. If you would like to support, you can pay the money into our fundraising account (06 0991 0056055 01) with your surname in Particulars and 'Raffle' in Reference. Drop me an email and I will assign ticket numbers to you.

Many thanks to Viv and Ngaire for putting this together.

Time for a Smile

Two accountants are in a bank. An armed gang of robbers suddenly burst in. They hold up all the tellers and then tell everyone else to line up against the wall. They then go through all the customers' pockets and bags taking all their cash. As the robbers are doing that, the first accountant feels the second accountant slip something into his pocket. 'What was that?' asks the first accountant. 'It's the \$50 I owe you,' says the second accountant.



To Ponder

'Instead of thinking about what you're missing, try thinking about what you have that everyone else is missing.' W Clement Stone

'The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.' Winston Churchill

Lockdown

I pray you are looking after yourselves. Be responsible and be caring. Get on that phone and let someone know you are thinking of them. It means a lot.

God bless

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