

St Paul's in the Park Newsletter 8 November 2021

Confession

Acknowledging that we make mistakes, that we have our faults lies very much at the heart of following the Christian faith. If we think about it, it lays the foundation of our relationship with our fellow human beings, whether they be family, friends or just acquaintances. It is also very much the case with regards our relationship with God. Confession and absolution are an important part of our worship. They set the tone for our communication with God.

In 1818 one out of six women who had children died of something called 'childbirth fever.' A doctor's daily routine back then started in the dissecting room, where he performed autopsies, and from there he made his rounds to examine expectant mothers. No one ever thought to wash his hands...at least not until a doctor named Ignaz Semmelweis began to practise strict hand washing. He was the very first doctor to associate a lack of hand washing with the huge fatality rate. Dr. Semmelweis only lost one in fifty, yet his colleagues laughed at him. Once he said, 'Childbirth fever is caused by decomposed material conveyed to a wound...I have shown how it can be prevented. I'm not asking for anything world-shaking, only that you wash your hands.' Yet virtually no one believed him.

When we confess our sins, our wrongdoings and we experience forgiveness, we are, in effect, washing away the consequence of those transgressions; we are going through a cleansing process. This refreshes and enhances our relationship with one another and with God.

'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong.' 1 John 1:9

Erecting Nativity Scene

If you would like to help with erecting the nativity lights on the north side of the church next Sunday (14th) at 10.00am, your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please give Peter Darier a call to assert your availability – 027 271 8809.

Thank you to Cherian Mathew who is organising an electrician to connect them to power.

Blood Donation – 'Save lives, give blood.'

Tuesday 9 November

Rongomai Sports Centre - 238 Te Irirangi Drive, Flat Bush 11am-5pm

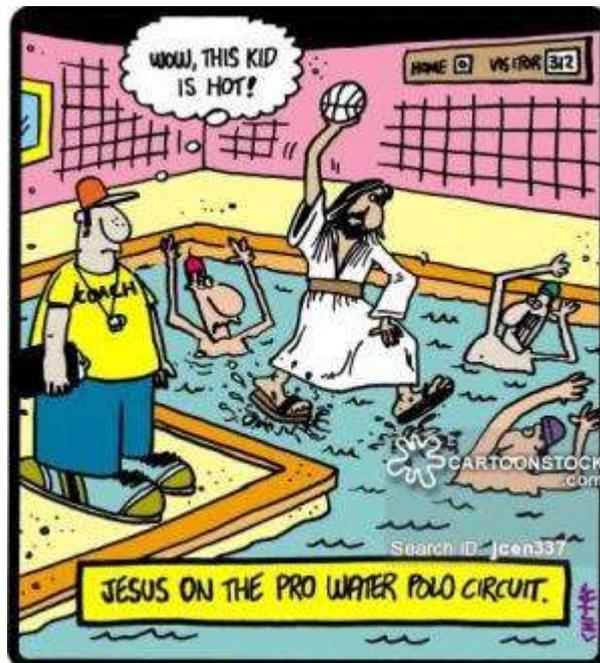
Call 0800 448 325 for more info, or book online now at www.nzblood.co.nz.

Please contact angela.paki@nzblood.co.nz for any enquiries.

Time for a Smile

There was a pastor who had a parrot. All the parrot would say was, 'Let's pray. Let's pray.' The pastor tried to teach him to say other things but to no avail. He learned that one of his deacons had a parrot. That parrot would only say, 'Let's kiss. Let's kiss.' So the pastor decided to invite the deacon and his parrot over to his house. When the deacon arrived they put the parrots into the same cage to see what would happen. The deacon's parrot said, 'Let's kiss. Let's kiss.' Whereupon the pastor's parrot said, 'Thank you, Lord. My prayers have been answered.'

The power of prayer!



To Ponder

'People may doubt what you say but they will always believe what you do.'

Anon

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