

St Paul's in the Park Newsletter 20 August 2022

Service

A motorist drove into a service station. Three attendants charged out to meet him. The first washed the windows; the second checked under the bonnet; the third checked the tires. When they finished the motorist paid for the 30 litres of petrol he had ordered and drove off.

Three minutes later he returned. Once more, the attendants rushed out. 'I'm embarrassed to ask you this', said the motorist, 'but did anyone put petrol in my car?' The attendants looked at one another rather sheepishly. In their rush to do what they thought they should be doing, they had forgotten the most important part of the service.

I think this could be an appropriate illustration of our own approach to service. All too often, our busyness prevents us from attending to what should be a priority – service to others. It is too easy to say to ourselves, 'I'm a bit busy right now. When I'm not so busy, I will see what I can do.' Invariably, that time doesn't eventuate. Our priorities are wrong, and we miss out on the very rewarding opportunity to make a small difference in the life of someone.

'Dear friends, let us stop just saying we love each other; let us really show it by our actions.' 1 John 3:18.

Back to Two Services

On Sunday 18 September we will be returning to two services: 9.00am in the church, 10.15am in the hall.

And while we talking about services, on Sunday 11 September we have Bishop John Paterson coming to preach at our 9.30am service.

Finances

We continue to operate at a deficit, approximately \$13,000 for the year to date! Just a reminder, our bank a/c number is 06 0991 0056055 00.

'For God loves the person who gives cheerfully!' 2 Corinthians 9:7

Build Update

Negotiations regarding the land swap continue between the solicitors for the Diocese and the Auckland Council. These negotiations have been ongoing for many months and not only are they the source of considerable frustration, but until an agreement has been reached, we are unable to proceed with finalising a contract with our preferred tenderer.

However, there is positive news. We believe an agreement is imminent. We have been granted a building consent. Some preparatory work has been undertaken – water connection to the site has been installed and power connection should be installed in the next couple of weeks. A preferred tenderer for the installation of a wastewater connection to the site has been selected and work is programmed to begin October 1. That is assuming an agreement has been reached with the Auckland Council re the land swap.

And on the fundraising front, we have managed to raise over \$600,000 in the past few weeks. So there is hope! Keep those prayers coming.

Time for a Smile

A man walks into a pub in London and asks the barman, 'What's the quickest way to get to Buckingham Palace?' 'Are you walking or driving?' asks the barman. 'Driving,' says the man. 'Ah yes,' says the barman, 'that is definitely the quickest way.'



To Ponder

'Appreciation can make a day, even change a life. The willingness to put it into words is all that is necessary.' Margaret Cousins.

Census 2023 – Job Role

If you would like a job assisting with the 2023 census, go into this link - www.persolkelly.co.nz/censusjobs

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