

St Paul's in the Park Newsletter November 2022

We learn about God through the role modelling of our parents

I read about a young boy who was consistently coming home late from school. His father became very frustrated with him and so he sat him down and warned him, 'If you come late from school once again, you will be given bread and water for your supper. Is that clear?'

The boy nodded. It was perfectly clear.

A few days later the boy was once again late – very late. That night when he sat down for dinner, the boy's heart sank when he looked at the table. His father's plate was filled with food and so was his mother's. However, on his plate was a lonely slice of bread beside a glass of water. And he was starving.

The father waited for the full impact to sink in, then he quietly took the boy's plate and placed it in front of himself. He took his own plate and put it in front of the boy.

It was a gesture that remained with the boy for the rest of his life. Years later he said, 'All my life, I've known what God is like by what my father did that night.'

'The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving even though we have rebelled against him.' Daniel 9:9

Finances

With regards our church operation, we are currently running at about \$5,600 in deficit. I am sure we can turn that into a small surplus with a push between now and Christmas! Just in case you have misplaced our bank details – 06 0991 0056055 00. Make sure you include your name.

Confirmation

On Sunday 4 December, Norah Joseph will be confirmed in Holy Trinity Cathedral by Bishop Ross Bay. The service begins at 5.00pm and you are most welcome to attend. We wish Norah all the very best as she takes this important step in her spiritual journey.

Christmas and January Services

Christmas Eve: 6.00pm outdoor Carol Service

11.00pm Holy Communion

Christmas Day 9.00am Holy Communion

During January we will be holding just the one service each Sunday – 9.30am in the church.

Children Christmas Gift Appeal

The South Auckland Christian Food Bank (they are the recipients of your food donations) are holding a Christmas dinner on Wednesday December 7 at which they will hand out presents to the children. They are appealing for presents. The idea is that they will allocate a family to those who would like to be involved. You then buy the appropriate gifts, wrap and name them. If you would like to be involved, please let me know so that we can allocate a family (families?) to you. You are not required to attend the dinner, just purchase the gifts.

Festive Food Items

Please consider donating festive food items to our food bank over the coming weeks.

Clevedon Nativity

The Clevedon Anglican Parish is holding a Stations of the Nativity on Sunday 11 December, beginning at 6.30pm. Please see link for further details.

[Stations of the Nativity \(clevedonanglicans.org.nz\)](http://clevedonanglicans.org.nz)

Time for a Smile

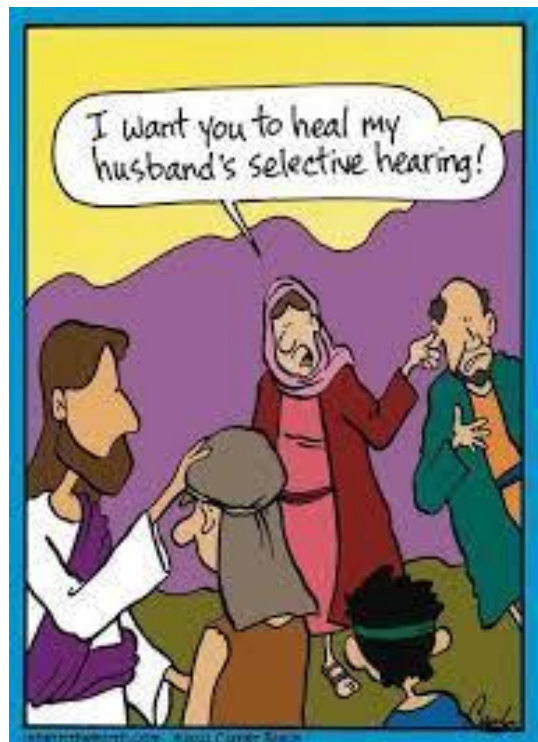
Cannibals:

One cannibal says to another, 'I don't like my mother-in-law.' 'Well then,' says his friend, 'just eat the chips.'

Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other, 'Does this taste funny to you?'

Chairs Available

These chairs are available for anyone who so desires (no cost). Recently upholstered and in very good condition. Let me know if you are interested.



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