

The Mission of the Parish of St. John is to serve God by working for the understanding and growth of God's Kingdom. The growth of God's Kingdom focuses on:-

- Celebrating the presence of God in worship
- Proclaiming the good news of God's Kingdom.
- Nurturing new disciples and helping Christians grow in faith.
- Demonstrating care by serving others in need.
- Transforming unjust structures of society
- Caring for the earth and the integrity of creation



PARISH OF ST JOHN

Old St John's, Te Awamutu

Weekly 8.00am Every Sunday
10.30am Every Thursday
Evensong 4.00pm 5th Sunday only

St Paul's Hairini

1st and 3rd Sundays at 9.am

St Saviour's, Pirongia

Every Sunday 9.30 am

First Sunday of each month will be a café style service

St John's, Te Awamutu

Every Sunday at 10.00am



This week's reading – Isaiah 40:21-31, 1 Corinthians 9:16-23, Mark 1:29-39

Next week's readings - 2 Kings 5:1-14, 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, Mark 1: 40-45

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: 4 February

Sentence

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles.

Isaiah 40:31

Collect

**Healing God,
in the touch of Jesus the sick were healed,
the chains unbound.
Freedom is before us.
Set us on a new path of wholeness,
deliver us from all that binds us,
turn us to embrace that life giving love
offered through Jesus Christ,
who is alive and lives with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

VICAR: Rev Murray Olson – Office 871-5568 Monday to Friday

PRIEST: Rev Vacion Rae 021 0575 566

PRIEST: Rev Keith Storey – Home 871 5425

PRIEST: Rev Steph Owen – Home phone 871 3400

DEACON: Rev Norris Hall – Home phone 021 0227 1428

PARISH OFFICE Open 9.am till 1pm weekdays Phone 871 5568

Joy Spraggs was **awarded a certificate of appreciation from Te Awamutu Community Health Trust** for her contributions towards the formation of the Trust as a committee member on Wednesday night.

Parish Luncheon 18th March following AGM: Let us celebrate the contribution Murray has made to our Parish over the last 6 years.

The Holiday Programme are looking for boxes eg cereal boxes or any you have for an activity that has been planned for the next holidays. Please drop into the office or the lounge where a box will be labelled for them to be left in

Youth Group are having a fun family day at Arapuni Landing on Waitangi day if you or you know of someone who might like to attend please call the office for more information

Muffins for Mums – are looking for more volunteers to make muffins for mum who have babies in NICU at Waikato Hospital. They are also looking for donations of can goods as the cupboard in the ward is looking a bit bare. Please see Amy in the office for more information or call Jill Taylor on 871 4644

Weekly Church Group Meetings

Monday

9:30am Knit and Natter
10-2pm Pirongia Craft Group
5pm Outreach Meal

Tuesday

10am Prayer Group
9:30am Pirongia Walking Group
9-10am Gardening Group (2nd Tue)
10:30 Pirongia Community Cuppa

Wednesday

9:30am Mainly Music *
7pm Pirongia Bible Study (2nd Wed, Jenny Taylor 8259812)

Thursday

9:30am Selwyn Centre

Friday

9:30am Mainly Music *
10am House Group
5:30pm Youth Group *

Sunday

9:30 Pirongia Sunday School
(Meetings with an * are term time only)



Anita Roddick was the founder of The Body Shop and was one of Britain's true pioneers. She will be remembered for being, not only a great campaigner for the environment, but also a great entrepreneur." One of her favourite quotes is this one from the French philosopher and mathematician, Rene Descartes.

Passions are the only advocates that always persuade.
A simple man with passion will be more persuasive than the most eloquent without.

Looking back over my life I must say this is very true. It is people of passion who have influenced me, rather than the most intelligent.

Jesus was a very passionate person and people were always attracted to him. He was passionate about promoting the Kingdom of God through helping others and proclaiming the Gospel. We can see this in our Gospel this morning. The wonderful thing was that people were flocking to him for ministry. This leads me again to the question that I asked last week:

How can we present Jesus to other people so that he appears as dynamic and attractive as he was then?

There are many answers to this question, but I would like to touch on two.

The first is that we must be passionate about our faith and passionate about wanting to promote the Kingdom of God. Do people see this passion when they come to our services? Do they see this in our lives?

The second important thing is that we must be as passionate about prayer as Jesus was. We can see this in this morning's Gospel where he takes time out of his busy schedule to spend time with God in prayer. If Jesus, the Son of God, saw that prayer was an important part of ministry, what about us?

Finally let us always remember that 'those who wait upon GOD get fresh strength. They spread their wings and soar like eagles. They run and don't get tired, they walk and don't lag behind (Isaiah 40:31).