



Little Acorns



April – July 2024

The magazine of Holy Trinity
Anglican Parish, Woodville

The ordinary, extraordinary Spirit

In May we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost, often referred to as the Church's birthday. When we read the account of the first Pentecost with its driving wind, tongues of fire, and ability to speak in different languages, we can be tempted to ask, "Where is that Holy Spirit today?"

When trying to find an answer to this question, I came across a reflection from a Canadian priest, who mentioned that as a child she had a close friend whose parents were divorced. The friend's father was not around a lot, he'd visit at Christmas and for birthdays with big expensive presents. Shortly after a showy Christmas delivery, the young priest-to-be said she wished she had the other father as hers. The friend had replied angrily, "You don't know how lucky you are to have a father who is always there for you, able to do things with you any time. I might get big gifts, but I don't have a dad who is there through thick and thin." This statement gave the young girl a new appreciation of her father, and his extraordinary, ordinary love.

Something similar may be true of the Holy Spirit in our lives today. Maybe we don't have driving winds to show the Spirit's presence, or the razzle-dazzle of tongues of flame, and or the word of salvation proclaimed in tongues. Maybe that's because once the Holy Spirit got the Church kick-started, the Spirit could choose to work in more regular ways. Such ordinary ways are not signs of the Spirit's weakness or lack of attention. They may well be signs of the Spirit's power, which can accomplish extraordinary things in quite ordinary ways. Where then, can we find the Holy Spirit at work? How about in the gathering of this community for prayer, where we are enlightened by the Holy Spirit to understand the words we hear as good news of salvation, as the promise of God for us?

How about in the sometime rush to make it to Church on a Sunday, getting breakfast made, the dishes done and out the door on time. Isn't this the Spirit at work, showing people the value of fellowship by

the effort we make to come together as God's people? How about in the Eucharistic prayer, when we ask God to send the Spirit to change the bread and wine into the food and drink of life and to send the Spirit to change us and unite us all in Christ? How about when a child finds the courage to stand up to friends or foes, to say no to drugs or alcohol, or stops someone from bullying others? How about when, amidst pain and hurt, a victim forgives a perpetrator, or a sinner seeks forgiveness? How about in a person who bears the pains of disease or disability without becoming embittered?

Where is the Spirit at work? Not simply in the wind, not simply in the fire, not simply on the tongue. The Spirit is at work in human hearts, minds, and souls. The Spirit is at work in ordinary ways, in ordinary people. What extraordinary power the Holy Spirit has, to work in such ways! We may be tempted to think that the winds, the flame and the tongues are where the Spirit is, but to think like this is to miss a God who is with us every day!

Arohanui, Rosie



In Memoriam

The last four months have seen the deaths of a number of Woodville or former Woodville folk. Our sympathy and prayers go out to the families and friends of the departed. We remember:

- ⊕ George Lawson
- ⊕ Ray Davidson
- ⊕ Russell Broom
- ⊕ Shirley Boyden
- ⊕ Gerald Smith



Young at Heart, Older Folks' Social Afternoons

2pm on the fourth Monday of each month
Holy Trinity Hall, Fox Street

Please contact Rosie McMillan if you'd like help with transportation.



ANZAC Events

Thursday 25 April

6.30am Dawn Parade in Fontaine Square
10.00am Civic Service in Fontaine Square

Sunday 28 April

2.00pm ANZAC Concert by Stand Up and Sing community choir in Holy Trinity (free admission) followed by high tea in the Holy Trinity Hall (\$5 per head)



Quiz Evening

7.30pm, Saturday 8 June

Holy Trinity Hall

\$5 a head (covers admission and supper)

You can organise a team to come along, or turn up by yourself and look to join others to make a team on the night

July, a Month of Sundays

In July each Sunday has a particular theme.



Refugee Sunday (7 July)

When we remembered that Jesus and his family fled danger in their homeland and lived as refugees in Egypt. Welcoming the stranger and the outsider remains a vital practice of Christian communities today and is lived out in the support we give to refugees seeking to rebuild their lives in New Zealand.



Sea Sunday (14 July)

When we celebrated the work of the Mission to Seafarers, and pray for both their endeavours and all those who sail upon the world's oceans.



Bible Sunday (21 July)

When we prayed for all the groups and agencies – especially the Bible Society – working to translate the Bible into different languages so that people around the world may hear and read God’s word in their own tongue.



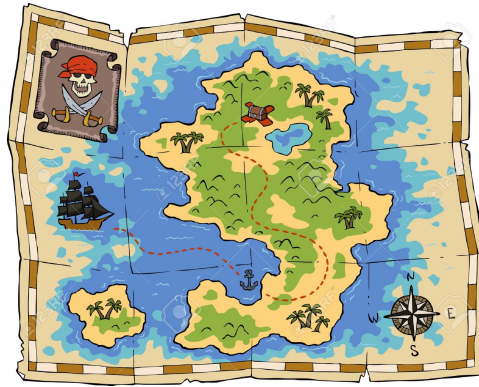
Social Services’ Sunday (28 July)

When we gave thanks and pray for all those involved, whether as volunteers or paid professionals, in helping others – be it social workers, doctors, teachers, care assistants, counsellors, or meals on wheels.

Parish AGM

Holy Trinity held its Annual General Meeting after the service on Sunday 17 March. After the minutes from last year’s AGM were read and confirmed, Ministry team, Vestry and financial reports were presented. Barbara Boyden, Brian McMillan, Rosie McMillan, Nell Mountfort, Ian Riley, Sandra Riley, Rona Squires, Toni Tiddy, Janice Wiri, and Jim Worboys were elected Vestry members. Janice and Rona were confirmed as Parish Wardens. Brian McMillan was elected as Synodsperson, and Ian Riley as Back-up Synodsperson.

The discussion in general business was a combination of reflection on the year past and discussion about the maintenance projects to be undertaken over the coming year. It was noted that the Diocese is facing significant insurance costs and there will be discussion over the next few months with parishes on options for the future. More information will be shared with the parish as it becomes available



Mid-Winter Dinner

You'll need to dig out your treasure map, sharpen your cutlas, and brush your parrot as pirates board the Holy Trinity Hall at **6pm on Saturday 20 July 2024.**

The theme for this year's dinner is ***Treasure Island.***

There'll be a tasty dinner, games, music, and spot prizes for creative costumes.

Tickets are \$20 per head.

Sales are strictly limited to 60 tickets, so please contact Rosie McMillan to secure yours.

Freewill Offerings

With a large number of our regular Sunday attendees now making their freewill offerings through regular online giving, we are trialling a new system in our services.

Rather than having the collection bag passed around during the third hymn, we now have a freewill offering box on a stand in the aisle for people to place their offering into as they arrive on a Sunday morning. The box is then taken up to the altar at the conclusion of the third hymn (but isn't passed around).



Memorial to Graeme and Judy Harding

A new memorial was unveiled and blessed as part of the service on Sunday 4 February, honouring Graeme and Judy Harding as long-serving and very faithful stewards of the parish. Both served on vestry for many years, Graeme as parish secretary and Judy as treasurer, helping steer the parish through some of its very tough financial years. In addition to their Vestry roles, Graeme and Judy helped with parish maintenance and events, including organising a number of very fun car rallies over the years.

It was wonderful to have so many members of the Harding family able to attend the service and following morning tea, to share in many happy memories. A big thank you to the Rev. Tim Delaney who blessed the memorial plaque – which may be a little hard to see in the photo above, but is a carving of Christ the Good Shepherd that was made by a talented carver from Ukraine.



Purple Poppy Day Service

Purple Poppy Day is observed on 24 February and was introduced in 2006 to commemorate the animals that served, and continue to serve, during wartime. Animals have often been the forgotten casualties of war, for example approximately eight million horses and donkeys (that were critical for hauling supplies and artillery) died during the First World War. Dogs and carrier pigeons have been among the other animals involved in war efforts, with many earning medals for acts saving the lives of soldiers and civilians.

Woodville held its fourth Purple Poppy Service this year, and had a horse (ridden by Sian Brabender and beautifully turned out in purple) and dogs join the Mayor and community members in honouring the animals that have given so much to help in times of war and conflict.

Pastoral Visits

As disciples we are constantly called to be the hands and feet of Christ. Please let Rosie McMillan know if you would like a visit, or you're aware of someone who would appreciate a visit.

Events

April 2024

Monday 15 th	7.00pm	Vestry meeting in the Holy Trinity Hall
Monday 22 nd	2.00pm	Young at Heart social afternoon in the Holy Trinity Hall
Sunday 28 th	2.00pm	ANZAC concert by Stand Up and Sing community choir in Holy Trinity, followed by a high tea in the Hall

May 2024

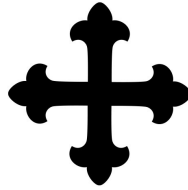
Wednesday 8 th	2.00pm	Anglican Women's Group meeting in the Holy Trinity Hall
Monday 20 th	7.00pm	Vestry meeting in the Holy Trinity Hall
Monday 27 th	2.00pm	Young at Heart social afternoon in the Holy Trinity Hall

June 2024

Saturday 8 th	7.30pm	Quiz evening in the Holy Trinity Hall
Wednesday 12 th	2.00pm	Anglican Women's Group meeting in the Holy Trinity Hall
Monday 17 th	7.00pm	Vestry meeting in the Holy Trinity Hall
Monday 24 th	2.00pm	Young at Heart social afternoon in the Holy Trinity Hall

July 2024

Wednesday 10 th	2.00pm	Anglican Women's Group meeting in the Holy Trinity Hall
Monday 15 th	7.00pm	Vestry meeting in the Holy Trinity Hall
Saturday 20 th	6.00pm	Holy Trinity mid-winter dinner in the Holy Trinity Hall
Monday 22 nd	2.00pm	Young at Heart social afternoon in the Holy Trinity Hall



Church Services

April 2024

Sunday 7 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 14 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 21 st	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 28 th	9.30am	Eucharist

May 2024

Sunday 5 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 12 th	9.30am	Morning Worship
Sunday 19 th	9.30am	Day of Pentecost Eucharist
Sunday 26 th	9.30am	Trinity Sunday Eucharist

June 2024

Sunday 2 nd	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 9 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 16 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 23 rd	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 30 th	9.30am	Eucharist

July 2024

Sunday 7 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 12 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 21 st	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 28 th	9.30am	Eucharist

Key contacts

Parish website: www.htwoodville.org

Email address: htwood@gmx.com

Role	Person	Telephone
Local Priest	Rev. Rosie McMillan	06 376 5972
Parish Wardens	J Wiri	027 694 5958
	R Squires	06 376 5076
Vestry Chair	B McMillan	021 860 856
Parish Treasurer	J Wiri	027 694 5958
Parish Secretary	B Boyden	027 270 2004
Anglican Women's Group	Rev. Rosie McMillan	06 376 5972
Foodbank Coordinator	J Worboys	06 376 4023