

Last week we had our **Shadow Service** on Good Friday. What follows are extracts of the shadow of **DEATH**. What makes one scared of death? For me, it's because there is nothing you can do about death. When death appears in your world you can't stop it! You cannot reverse the process and that's why it creates so much fear. Death is outside of our control and there is nothing we can do about it but to try and embrace it. How hard is that to do? When someone dies, emotions run high and some people just don't know what to do. They try their best to cope with death but it always seems to overwhelm them in one way or another. They are well and truly overcome with emotion and nothing seems to go right. People around death always seem to be looking for something to grasp onto. Something tangible to hold onto but nothing really helps them. Even having loved ones around, it still isn't enough to absorb the sting of death. The pain is overwhelming! Even if one is prepared and ready for death, it still has a powerful impact. Medically, death is defined as the cessation of all vital functions of the body including the heartbeat, brain activity and breathing. Death comes in many forms, whether it is expected after a diagnosis of terminal illness or an unexpected accident or medical condition. When a terminal illness is diagnosed, a person, family, friends, and physicians are all able to prepare for the impending death. However, a terminally ill person goes through several levels of emotional acceptance while in the process of dying. First, there is **denial** and **isolation**. This is followed by **anger** and **resentment**. Then a person tries to **escape** the inevitable. But with the realization that death is eminent, most people then suffer from **depression**. And lastly, the reality of death is realized and then **accepted**. Can we imagine just how hard it must have been for the followers and Whanau of Jesus, to watch Jesus being betrayed, suffering inner agony and loneliness, being accused of things that weren't true and then being deserted by his closest disciples and then finally mocked while

he was nailed to the cross! How hard must that have been to deal with? Put in another context, how hard it must have been for God to watch his one and only Son suffer through these traumatic experiences. As Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' Easter is all about God's unconditional love. Jesus had to suffer and die if death is to be conquered. Love conquers all, even death. Jesus' final words before he died were "Father, into your hands I commend my Spirit." Let us watch and trust in Jesus Christ.



A new priest in town spent the first four days making personal visits to each of the members, inviting them to come to his first services. The following Sunday the church was all but empty. The priest then placed a notice in the local newspapers, stating that, because the church was dead, it was everyone's duty to give it a decent Christian burial. The funeral would be held the following Sunday afternoon. Curiously, a large crowd turned out for the "funeral." In front of the pulpit, they saw a closed coffin, smothered in flowers. After the Pastor delivered the eulogy, he opened the coffin and invited his congregation to come forward and pay their final respects to their dead church. Wanting to know what a "dead church" looked like, all the people eagerly lined up to look in the coffin. Each "mourner" peeped into the coffin then quickly turned away with a guilty look. In the coffin, tilted at the correct angle, was a large mirror.

[CHURCH COLOUR IS WHITE]

Sunday 11 April 2010

CHURCH OF TE WAIRUA TAPU

www.tewairuatapu.com.au



Weekly Quote:

*"Peace is not just a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal." **Martin Luther King, Jr***

Rarangi:

*Ko te kohatu i kapea e nga kaihanga, kua meinga hei upoko mo te kokonga. Na te Ariki tenei; he mea miharo ki o tatou kanohi. **Waiata 118.22-23***

Reflection:

*Our Father God's wonderful new covenant with believers, established through His Son's blood sacrifice, allows us to be fully persuaded that God shall do everything which He has promised. **AMEN.***

The Sydney Maori Anglican Fellowship telecommunications proudly sponsored by



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Today's Service

ATIRIKONA: Kaio M. Karipa

KAIKARAKIA: Karauna Waititi

HYMNS:

Opening Hymn: **44**

Gradual Hymn: **46**

Offertory Hymn: **73**

Communion: **27**

Closing Hymn: **60**

SENTENCE:

The stone, which the builders rejected, has become the head of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. **Psalm 118.22-23**

COLLECT:

Christ our Lord, risen from the dead, come and enter into the darkness of our doubt and despair, with the bright light of your presence, that we may put our trust in you and in the power of your resurrection, that we may rejoice in you the risen Lord, our Saviour, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

1ST READING:

Acts 5:27-32

Obey God

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled

Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

2ND READING:

Psalm 118:14-29

The Lord's Mighty Power

The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: 'The right hand of the LORD does valiantly; the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.' I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD. The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death. Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the

chief cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD. The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING:

The Holy Gospel According to John 20:19-31

Praise and Glory to God

Jesus appears to his Disciples

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven

them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

Jesus and Thomas

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

The Purpose of This Book

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of Christ

Praise to Christ the Word



WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

- Ben Brown 5 Apr 2003
- Nina Alexander 6 Apr 2003
- Joy-Ann Kumekume 8 Apr 2007

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Alison Robertson Ivan Maheno
 Kath Pene Raymond Farrell
 Sandy Kew Paul Trainor
 Ang Crawford Neisha Hura
 Tipia Ahipene Nancy Baker
 Kilahn Hura-Manuera
 Kereama Wiwarena

Auto Payments: **\$112.50**
 Congregational Giving: **\$424.35**
 Donations: **\$250.00**
 Fundraising: **\$1001.50**
 Total contributions: **\$2493.35**



NGA KUPU TAPU I ROTO I TE REO

Tinana - Hinengaro - Wairua. Nga Kupu starts at 7.30am - 9.30am each Sunday Morning. Kaumatua/Kuia & Rangatahi all welcome. Haere mai! Call Wara **0406-585-575**

TWT PRAYER GROUP

Contact Christine Adams - **0404-556-563** for more info.

TWT CHOIR SMAC

Choir practice is every Sunday at 10am.

CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

Thanks to all those whanau and church members that cleaned our church this year and its that time again to ask for cleaners for 2010. if you would like to help out you can put your name on the roster in the Church!



KAHUI WAHINE

Become a FAN of 'Kahui Wahine - Sydney - Church of Te Wairua Tapu' on Facebook. Search for our PAGE and

then click the link to 'Become a Fan'.

POWERBALL

Choose a number and you could win \$500 for the correct number chosen. \$25 per number. Next Powerball drawn 15 April 2010. Contact Charlene Roberts **0416-135-894** for further details.

HANGI

Please look at the notice at the end of this Panui to order a Hangi for Saturday 24 April 2010 in support of the Church and 25th Anniversary Celebration. Volunteers are also required please.

KAHUI WAHINE

'Kahui Wahine Finding Us: Get the Most from Your Personal and Professional Relationships. Saturday, 17 April at 9.45 am. Bring \$10 and a plate to share. RSVP to Pat on 0402 685 193'



Kia ora everyone!!!

If you want to make an automatic payment or a donation, our **Westpac Bank** account details are as follows:

The Sydney Maori Anglican Fellowship
Number 2 Account
 BSB: 032082
 Account Number: **15-5562**

LAST WEEKS CONTRIBUTION

Church Attendance:
 Communicants :

Our Weekly Target is \$2500.
 Direct Debit: **\$705.00**

HANGI

**(PORK, CHICKEN, KUMARA, POTATO, PUMPKIN,
STUFFING, PEAS)**

**SATURDAY,
24TH APRIL**

\$13 EACH

BY ORDER ONLY

Orders need to be placed by 4.30pm
20th April

CONTACT:

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Rose Te Amo 98851273 / 0405377618

Tina - 96321224

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**ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO
THE SYDNEY MAORI ANGLICAN FELLOWSHIP
CHURCH OF
TE WAIRUA TAPU &
25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

As a community effort – we are looking for volunteers
MEN – to prepare the hole, put the hangi down and pull out
WOMEN – to make stuffing and pack the hangi'

Please contact Tina 96321224

He mihi nui kia koutou katoa, ma te Atua koutou e manaaki.

