

## The Venerable's Corner

Last week our theme was **Worship God, Serve God Alone. Amen.** Worship means to treat somebody or something as divine and show respect by engaging in acts of prayer and devotion towards this person or being. Serve means to work or work for somebody and in our context, this means to serve God. So every Sunday we come together to worship and to serve God alone but do we really? Are our hearts and minds totally engaged with worshipping God or do they tend to stray off track like they do! Do we allow other things to distract us from doing what it is we do on Sundays and that is to worship and serve God? In the gospel reading, we find Jesus being tempted by the devil. Firstly, to use his power to turn things into material resources and by using his power in this way Jesus will attract many people to God. But the focus would be on the power not on God! Secondly, Jesus is tempted to compromise; 'worship me and not God and I will give you all glory and all authority over these lands. Don't set your standards to high and you will still get what you want, I have plenty of people who worship me, it's the same thing! It's kinda like saying, we all worship one God? Is this true? Do we compromise what we believe in for what others do? Thirdly, wouldn't it have been fantastic to see Jesus jump off the temple and angels swooping down to save him. What a message that would be for people to pass on. God saves us no matter what we do! Push God to the limits and let's see what happens? But Jesus tells us, don't put God to the test because you might be surprised with the outcome! We have been created to worship and serve God, not to put God to the test. Why? God is always with us as long as Christ is part of our lives.

## Joke

One beautiful Sunday morning, a Maori priest announced to his congregation: "I have here in my hands **three** sermons...a \$100 sermon that lasts five minutes, a \$50 sermon that lasts fifteen minutes, and a \$10 sermon that lasts a full hour. **"So now we'll have the collection and see which one I'll deliver".**

## Money Matters

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: **45+8 Tamariki**

COMMUNICANTS : **27**

Our weekly target is \$2500.

DIRECT DEBIT: **\$705.00**

AUTO PAYMENTS: **\$105.00**

CONGREGATIONAL GIVING: **\$101.35**

DONATION: **\$5.00**

**Total contributions: \$916.35**

### WOOLLONGONG

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: **16+6 tAMARIKI**

COMMUNICANTS : **4**

CONGREGATIONAL GIVING: **\$48.10**

DONATION: **\$200.00**

**Total contributions: \$248.10**

Sunday 28 February 2010

# CHURCH OF TE WAIRUA TAPU

[www.tewairuatapu.com.au](http://www.tewairuatapu.com.au)



**Transfiguration**

### Weekly Quote:

*Remember that vision on the Mount of Transfiguration; and let it be ours, even in the glare of earthly joys and brightnesses, to lift up our eyes, like those wondering three, and see no man any more, save Jesus only.*  
**Alexander Maclaren**

### Rarangī:

*Ka mea toku ngakau ki te Ariki, 'Ka rapu ahau i tou mata, e Ihowa'. Kāua tou mata e huna ki ahau, kāua tau pononga e peia atu ua riri koe: ko koe toku kai-awhina, kei mahue ahau i a koe.* **Waiata 27.8-9**

### Reflection:

*"Our loving Father God sees us the way He sees Jesus our High Priest; as good, accepted, as righteous and perfect. How wonderful. AMEN."*

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## Today's Service

**ATIRIKONA:** Kaio M. Karipa  
**KAIKARAKIA:** Hohepa Ratana

### HYMNS:

Opening Hymn: **42**  
Gradual Hymn: **109**  
Offertory Hymn: **28**  
Communion: **96**  
Closing Hymn: **45**

### SENTENCE:

[We pray with the psalmist:] My heart says to the Lord, 'Your face, Lord do I seek.' Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger, for you have been my help.  
*Psalm 27.8-9*

### COLLECT:

Holy God, as you have called us, make us holy. Shield us from all that is evil and destructive, protect us in body and in soul; extend our vision of your purpose and journey, that we may know we are your people and citizens of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

### 1ST READING:

**Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18**

#### God's Covenant with Abraham

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my

house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates,

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**Thanks be to God**

### 2ND READING:

**Psalm 27**

#### A Prayer of Praise

Of David

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—my adversaries and foes—they shall stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my

heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident. One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD. Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your face, LORD, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off; do not forsake me, O God of my salvation! If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up. Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence. I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**Thanks be to God**

### GOSPEL READING:

**The Holy Gospel According to**

**Luke 9:28-36**

**Praise and Glory to God**

#### Jesus Transfigured

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They

appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

This is the Gospel of Christ

**Praise to Christ the Word**



## Prayful Paths

### WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

- Donny Clarke 25 Feb 2001
- Taimona Jacobs 22 Feb 2002
- Tame Chan 23 Feb 2002
- Sam Yates 23 Feb 2005
- Tangipo Taare 28 Feb 2005
- Te Atamira Cook 27 Feb 2009

### WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Alison Robertson	Ivan Maheno
Kath Pene	Raymond Farrell
Sandy Kew	Paul Trainor
Ang Crawford	Neisha Hura
Kereama Wiwarena	



## TWT Groups

### **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!



## Upcoming Events

### **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 4 March 2010. Contact Charlene Roberts **0416-135-894** for further details.