

Last week the theme was “**Waitangi-Sydney**”. Celebrating Waitangi Day in Sydney is somewhat different. Living in Sydney means Waitangi Day is not a public holiday so any events organised by Maori communities usually fall on the weekend closest to February 6th and this year the Waitangi Festival in Sydney will be held this Saturday February 5th. And as part of the celebration, volunteers and their Whanau were asked, where possible, to attend karakia at Te Wairua Tapu on the Sunday before the big event, which was last Sunday. It was excellent to have some of the volunteers at karakia and I focused on two important points concerning preparation. Firstly, when you get involved with a kaupapa you gotta know what you are getting into and it's important that you know some history surrounding it. You see, the Anglican Church in New Zealand had its beginnings in 1814 when Ngapuhi chief Ruatara agreed to give protection to Reverend Samuel Marsden, three missionaries and their families at Oihi in the Bay of Islands where a mission base was setup and called *Rangihoua*. And if you know some local history, Samuel Marsden went on to name some whenua *Rangihoua*, which was originally set aside for training Maori ministers in Parramatta. It is the place where Ngapuhi Day is now celebrated every second year. In 1823, Reverend Henry Williams was appointed the person responsible to guide the Anglican Church in Aotearoa/New Zealand and he played a huge part in the translation of the Treaty of Waitangi in both Maori and English. If only the Maori version was interpreted and understood properly, things in Aotearoa/New Zealand would be a lot more different today! However, Maori certainly have a much bigger

say in how Aotearoa/New Zealand is governed! I am sure our tupuna know as their representatives we must do our best to change things but make those changes from the inside not the side-lines and especially not from the outside. Secondly, and more importantly, preparing for any kaupapa ones spirituality needs to be in tune. As Maori, taking care of our Wairua has always been at the forefront of who we are. Seek God first and everything else will fall into place! In the book of Acts, Peter says; ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to God.’ As Maori, this is what we have tried to do as people from the beginning of time. Fear God and do what is right and acceptable to God. This should never change! When you get involved with any kaupapa you always need to ask the question, where is God in all of this? Once you find that there is no place for God in a kaupapa, how long do you think it will last? The day we shift the opening and closing karakia at Maori hui because of sponsorship funding or political correctness, then it's time to re-evaluate the kaupapa or certainly ones involvement with Maori kaupapa. In saying that, God is still greater than anything we can comprehend! God doesn't need to be front and centre but how small do we make God to please others! We don't!

Sunday 6 Feb 2011

CHURCH OF TE WAIRUA TAPU

www.tewairuatapu.com.au



Rarangi:

*“Ano te pai, ano te ahua reka o te nohonga o nga teina o nga tuakana i runga i te whakaaro kotahi.” **Waiata 133:1***

Reflection:

*Ever realised you are intended to be 'undevourable', dear Believer? (1 Pe 5:8). Resolutely impervious! Because everything about you and your life, has been eternally redeemed by our Lord, Jesus Christ's blood. **AMEN.***

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Today's Service

ATIRIKONA: Archdeacon K Karipa

KAIKARAKIA: Kararaina Field

HYMNS:

Opening Hymn: **111**

Gradual Hymn: **116**

Offertory Hymn: **100**

Closing Hymn: **195**

SENTENCE:

How good and pleasant a thing it is when God's people live together in unity. **Psalm 133:1**

COLLECT:

God, the sovereign of all, your word is law in every quarter. Speak your words again; hold before us the words of Waitangi, signed by Maori and Pakeha alike to seal their covenant; make the treaty they established in Aotearoa a beacon light for days ahead; through Christ, our guide, our way. Amen

1ST READING:

1 Kings 8:55-61

He stood and blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice: 'Blessed be the Lord, who has given rest to his people Israel according to all that he promised; not one word has failed of all his good promise, which he spoke through his servant Moses. The Lord our God be with us, as he was with our ancestors; may he not leave us or abandon us, but incline our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, his statutes, and his ordinances, which he commanded our

ancestors. Let these words of mine, with which I pleaded before the Lord, be near to the Lord our God day and night, and may he maintain the cause of his servant and the cause of his people Israel, as each day requires; so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God; there is no other. Therefore devote yourselves completely to the Lord our God, walking in his statutes and keeping his commandments, as at this day.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

2ND READING:

Isaiah 42:1-9

Gentiles Hear the Good News

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and

the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING:

Luke 2:9-14

Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' 13And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

This is the Gospel of Christ
Praise to Christ the Word



Prayful Paths

WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Charles Pene 4 Feb 2004

Hunia Toki 1 Feb 2004

Pokia Parata 3 Feb 2006

Mania Whetu o Te Rangi 4 Feb 2006

Nukuarangi Raukawa 3 Feb 204

Scott Walker 3 Feb 2009

Darrell Peddie 5 Feb 2009

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Hohi Clarke	Tim Puha
Neisha Hura	Alison Robertson
Ereana Moses	Kilharn Manuera
George Tupaea	Ivan Maheno
Fred Kaa	Neville Berridge
Ken Rau	



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: **155562**

LAST WEEK'S CONTRIBUTION

Attendance: **37**

Communicants: **16**

Our Weekly Target is \$2500.

Donations: **\$0.00**

Congregational Giving: **\$385.15**

Direct Debit: **\$280.00**

Auto Donations: **\$85.00**

Fundraising: **\$0.00**

Total contributions: **\$750.15**

[CHURCH COLOUR IS WHITE]



Upcoming Events

WAITANGI DAY FESTIVAL 2011

Reminder that the annual Waitangi Day Festival will be held once again at Holroyd Gardens in Merrylands on Saturday 5 February 2011.

KIWI WAKA FESTIVAL 2011

Reminder that the annual Kiwi Waka Festival will be held at the Time and Tide Hotel at 30 Campbell Avenue Dee Why NSW 2099 on 6th February 2011 from 9am – 5pm



TWT Groups

TWT CHOIR SMAC

Choir practice is every Sunday at 1pm. Call Char Roberts – **0416-135-894** for more information.

TE WAIRUA TAPU FACEBOOK

'LIKE' US ON FACEBOOK: Keep up on all the latest by joining our NEW 'Church of Te Wairua Tapu - Poihakena' page. Search on the name and then click the LIKE button. Or click on the link below

[Te Wairua Tapu Facebook](#)

TE WAIRUA TAPU KURA

The TWT Kura Te Reo classes has restarted for 2011 every Sunday from 7:30am to 9:30am at the Church.