



# MARKINGS

## St Mark's Anglican Parish Te Aroha

**Archdeacon:** Ven Val Riches

**Priest-in-Charge:** Rev. Geoff Lamason 0220807297

**Permission to Officiate:** Rev. Joan Power 8847058

**Permission to Officiate:** Rev. Ian Harrop 8849292

<http://facebook.com/stmarkstearoha>. [www.stmarkstearoha.weebly.com](http://www.stmarkstearoha.weebly.com)

*Knowing † Sharing Christ's Aroha*

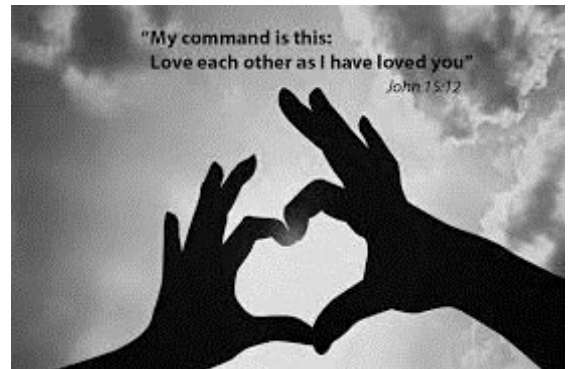
**5<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024**  
**6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**THEME:** Chosen to bear fruit.

**SENTENCE:** Jesus said, 'You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit.'  
*John 15:16*

**COLLECT:**

**Almighty God,  
you teach us in your word  
that love is the fulfilling of the law:  
grant that we may love you with all our  
heart  
and our neighbour as ourselves;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



**READINGS INTRODUCTIONS:**

**Acts 10:44-48.** The first part of Acts focuses on Peter. Through Cornelius Peter learns that the gospel includes everyone. The episode ends with the baptism of Cornelius and his household.

**Psalm 98** Praising the Judge of the world.

**1 John 5:1-8.** In the first letter of John, the author, writing at the end of the first century AD, stresses over and over again that God's love for us should lead to our love of one another in obedience to God's commandments.

**John 15:9-17.** In the long discourse at the Last Supper in John's Gospel, Jesus says a lot about the relationship of the disciples to himself and each other. The image of the vine immediately precedes today's passage.

*Next week's readings:*

*Acts 1:15-17,21-26. Psalm 1. 1 John 5:9-13. John 17:6-19.*

**Visit our website – [www.stmarkstearoha.weebly.com](http://www.stmarkstearoha.weebly.com)**

<b>MAY</b>	<b>COMMEMORATIONS</b>	<b>EVENTS THIS WEEK</b>
<b>Sun 5</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	<b>10am</b> Holy Communion Rev. Geoff Lamason
<b>Mon 6</b>	St John the Evangelist. Coronation of Charles III, 2023	
<b>Wed 8</b>	Dame Julian of Norwich, Mystic, 1417. World Red Cross Day. VE Day, 1945.	<b>10am</b> Holy Communion
<b>Thu</b>	Ascension Day. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity	
<b>Fri 10</b>		<b>1.30pm</b> Craft Group
<b>Sat 11</b>	Ruatara, Te Ara mō te Rongopai (The Gateway to the Gospel.)	
<b>Sun 12</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	<b>10am</b> Holy Communion Rev. Geoff Lamason.

**We pray for** Soren, Shirley, Doreen, Cilla, Jemima, Jenny, Elaine, Gloria & Brian, Beverley, Tom & Corolyn, Jann and her family, Chrissy, Rori.  
*If you wish to add a name to the prayer list for the next 4 weeks, please contact Geoff (022 080 7297,) or Pat (8849182)*

**IN THE MISSION FIELD we pray for** all the Clergy in Polynesia.

**IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND we pray for**

- **The Province:** Diocese of Christchurch.
- **Our Diocese:** Clergy, People and Communities of Chartwell CP, Claudelands, Fitzroy, Forest Lake, Gordonton
- **Community:** Social Welfare Agencies.
- **Our Parish:** Priest-in-Charge Geoff and Gayle.



**ST MARK'S MATTERS;**

*Prayer and the oil of anointing are always available after services – just ask the priest or members of the healing team.*

† **VISITING:** If you know that a parishioner is unwell, please contact Geoff 022 080 7297, or Joan 884 7058.

**WHAT'S ON IN MAY**

- Fri 10** 1.30pm Craft Group
- Thu 16** 1.30pm Fellowship
- Mon 20** 1.30pm Vestry
- Fri 24** 1.30pm Craft Group



## **FROM VESTRY:**

- The March Minutes are on the noticeboard.
- There is a notebook in the Kitchen, by the First Aid Kit, to register all accidents and incidents that happen here. There is also a notebook to record items from the First Aid Kit that need replacing. Please note down anything you use, so it can be replaced.
- Elaine Bootten is still collecting and sorting stamps for Missions. Stamps with a money value on them are all acceptable, Kiwi stamps have no value at all. Thank you to all who continue to supply stamps.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

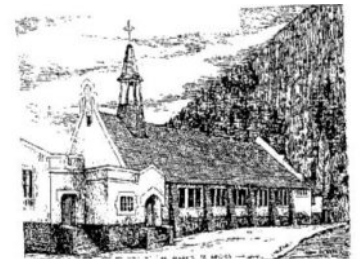
Elva Leonard on 8<sup>th</sup>

## **FROM THE RESTORATION TEAM:**

The St Mark Restoration Group have planted two "Loving Memory" rose bushes either side of the Peace Memorial stone. They don't look much at the moment but once they bloom they will be very impressive.

## **A PRAYER FOR THE RESTORATION TEAM.**

God of compassion and grace;  
grant wisdom, insight, and creativity to the team as they work to raise funding for the restoration of St Mark's Church, Te Aroha. May they be encouraged by our and the wider community's support and co-operation, be it through word or action, so that together St Mark's becomes a beacon of hope and inspiration for all who live in our district. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.



## **PRAYER FOR PEACE**

Compassionate and gracious God we ask for your intervention, through men, women, and organisations of authority, to restore peace in nations engaged in armed conflict throughout each continent of our world. Protect and sustain all who are bringing medical aid, food, shelter, and comfort to the innocent victims of such conflict. This we ask in the name of Jesus, The Prince of Peace. Amen.

## **THOUGHTS ON THE READINGS.**

Jesus expands his theme of 'abiding' – remaining continually – in God's love. Abiding follows keeping his commandment: that we love one another as he loves us. He explains that the greatest expression of love is that which lays down life for a friend. The evangelist, writing after the death and resurrection of Jesus, lets this passage resonate with what readers know, through the cross, of the depth of God's sacrificial love for the world. As disciples today, whether or not we are called to lay down our lives, the commandment to love and abide hold for us too.

## Psalm 98

1 Sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has done wonderful deeds.

His right hand has won a mighty victory;  
his holy arm has shown his saving power!

**2 The Lord has announced his victory  
and has revealed his righteousness to every nation!**

3 He has remembered his promise to love and be faithful to Israel.  
The ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

**4 Shout to the Lord, all the earth;  
break out in praise and sing for joy!**

5 Sing your praise to the Lord with the harp,  
with the harp and melodious song,

**6 with trumpets and the sound of the ram's horn.  
Make a joyful symphony before the Lord, the King!**

7 Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise!  
Let the earth and all living things join in.

**8 Let the rivers clap their hands in glee!  
Let the hills sing out their songs of joy  
before the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth.**

9 He will judge the world with justice,  
and the nations with fairness.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit  
As it was, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.**



*Thought for the week:*

*If we don't step forward, we'll always stay in the same place.*

P.S. Can you spare about one hour a week to help with cleaning the lounge? We have just lost one of our helpers and are looking for another volunteer for a little light work. Pat will love to hear from you!