

THE CEDAR CENTRE

Birkdale Beach Haven Anglican Church

GROWING IN FAITH GIVING IN SERVICE GOING IN LOVE



CEDAR CENTRE
BIRKDALE & BEACHHAVEN ANGLICAN CHURCH

Welcome to worship at The Cedar Centre
We pray that you will be refreshed in the
presence of God.

Newsletter for 22nd December 2019

READINGS

Isaiah 7:10-16 (P471) and Matthew 1:18-25 (P657)

SENTENCE:

A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name
shall be called Emmanuel: God with us. Matthew 1:23

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

God of light and life,
you give us the joy of summer as we prepare for the
coming of your Son.
Like Mary and Joseph grant that we may be ready
to recognise and welcome your presence in this world
at Christmas, and at the end of time.
Through Jesus Christ our Liberator,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

GOD WITH US

*The Cedar Centre exists for the transformation of individuals and
communities through Christ centred worship, prayer, compassion and service*

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

From Craig's desk.....

The first two chapters of Matthew's and Luke's gospels contain what are called the *Infancy Narratives* – the only information we have about Jesus' birth and early years. In Luke's gospel there is the incredible interaction between Mary and the angel Gabriel when he announces to Mary that she would become pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit and give birth to the Son of God – the Messiah. After some initial questions about how this would come about Mary responds, "I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me according to your word." This is an amazing response given that she was a virgin and as yet unmarried to her fiancé Joseph. Mary accepts God's will for her even though it puts her in an incredibly vulnerable position.

The next story is of Mary visiting her cousin Elizabeth – herself miraculously pregnant with the child who would become John the Baptist. At Mary's arrival Elizabeth's baby "leaps in her womb". On hearing of this Mary responds with the wonderful song that we know as the *Magnificat*. It begins with these words, "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour. " Although she is vulnerable and faces an uncertain future Mary finds joy in knowing that she is obeying God's will for her life. (see Luke chapter 1 for the full story)

As we go through this Christmas season things may not be as we would like them. Some of us face uncertainty and situations that are not of our own choosing. But if we allow ourselves to see God at work in our lives we can experience the joy that Mary felt at knowing she was part of working out God's plan in the world.

May you experience the joy of knowing the crucified and risen Saviour this Christmas and may that knowledge bring you peace and hope as we move into 2020. *Arohanui Craig*

NO PROGRAMMES TODAY

All programmes are taking a break until February.

Parents with pre-schoolers Chelsea Room 1 will be open.

There is no programme however you are welcome to make yourself at home. There are plenty of toys

OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for everyone who will come to our Christmas Services, that they may experience the wonder of the Christmas Story and the peace of God in their hearts.

THIS WEEK

24th Dec Midnight at 7pm (A family service with the atmosphere of a Midnight service)

25th Dec 10am Family Communion only (No 8am)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

29th Dec, 5th Jan and 12th Jan - 9.30 Family Communion only

19th Jan back to normal services 8am & 10am

CONGRATULATIONS

To David Parker who has achieved the topmost Black Belt Karate award in his North Shore Club. Awards of this calibre includes not only excellence but for assistance in guiding others to their karate goals.

THANK-YOU to all those dramatists, singers, musicians, technicians, stage managers, transporters, helpers - who made the Pageant the great success and joy it was.

REGULAR PROGRAMMES AND THE TEAM

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES

8AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

10AM CONTEMPORARY FAMILY SERVICE

- Cedar Kids for children 5 to 10 years
- Elevate for Youth 11+ years

MAINLY MUSIC (For Babies, Toddlers and Parents)

TUESDAY 9.15AM (During School Term)

Cost \$4.00 per session (Held in Chelsea Rooms)

SPACE (Supporting Parents Alongside Children's Education)

Contact Janice Dowle (09) 419 1231 for next intake

OP SHOP—NEW BEGINNINGS

16 SUNNYHAVEN AVE, BEACH HAVEN SHOPPING CENTRE

Mon-Thur 10-4.30 (Fri 10-4.30) Sat. 10.30-1.30

Serving the community by offering good quality pre-loved clothing and goods at affordable prices.

SELWYN SENIORS (Fun and Fellowship)

THURSDAY 9.30AM - NOON (Held in Foyer)

THE HAVEN (YOUTH - Intermediate & High School)

Our Youth Programme is held weekly on Saturdays. To find out what's going on, check out our website or The Haven Facebook page.
Email: Youth@cedarcentre.org.nz

Cedar Centre bank account details
for

donations

02 0112 0093782 00

EFTPOS available on
Sunday mornings.



VICAR - Craig Harris

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M. (027) 666 6031

ADMINISTRATOR - Kate Shrigley

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CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME LEADER

Paea De Souza and Alison Munn

YOUTH MINISTRY

Jordan Sandford

youth@cedarcentre.org.nz

OP SHOP - Kate Shrigley

(09) 483 5519

FOODBANK - Tues/Thurs 10-12

Moirá Watson

(09)482 2995

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Betty Wendelborn 09 483 4785

Moirá Watson,

Julia Masters, Kate Shrigley

LEADERSHIP TEAM

PEOPLE'S WARDEN - Melissa Hill

(09) 443 1554 or 021 057 6238

email: melissahelenhill@gmail.com

VICAR'S WARDEN - David Munn

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0272837158

CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS

56A Tramway Road

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Tuesday - Friday

9am to 1pm

www.cedarcentre.org.nz

www.facebook.com/cedarcentre