



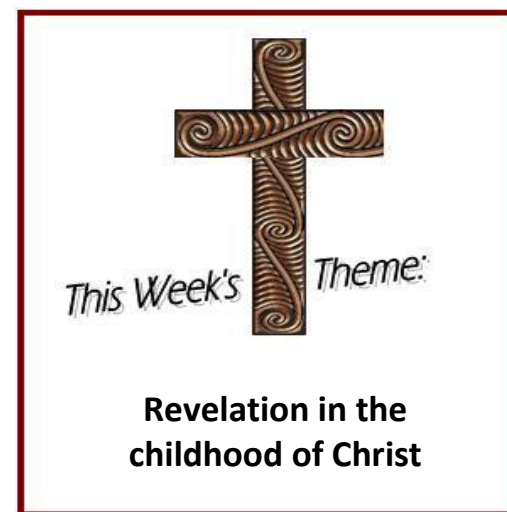
Last week the theme was “**Baptism of the Lord**”. In the gospel reading, we find Jesus going to the river Jordan to be baptized by John the Baptist. John tried to explain to Jesus that he needed to be baptized by him not the other way around as John knew who Jesus was and he believed that he was not worthy to perform this act. However, Jesus tells John, ‘this is how it is supposed to be for the time being for it is the only way to fulfill all righteousness.’ John gives Jesus his consent and when Jesus had been baptized by John, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and Jesus saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved with whom I am well pleased.’ As the Son of God, Jesus already had the power to supersede John because John already knew who Jesus was but he didn’t do it. He didn’t misuse God’s power to put himself first. Instead Jesus humbled himself to John. Humility is a unique value! Just when you think you got humility all worked out, it has a way of creeping up on you and saying no you haven’t. Then you are forced to re-evaluate your life, your surroundings and circumstances! Humility is a quality of being modest and respectful a characteristic fast being lost in society! Today it’s all about what we can achieve no matter what the cost or what we have to give up. If something looks like it’s going to derail your course and direction, you get rid of it as it stops you from reaching your goals! But what if you can’t just flick these things, especially relationships with other people, who mean so much too you past and present and they are the very source that

define who you are now? You can’t, because it alters your being. That is why humility is such a powerful value to retain because it always challenges our being. It’s amazing how Jesus is able to humble himself to John, it not only shows Jesus’ wisdom but how God’s power is to be utilized. Jesus had a mission and a goal to accomplish on behalf of God but to be true to his calling, he didn’t deviate from the course he was given. We are all given one life to achieve what God has given for us to do in this world. Are we doing that and are we doing it with humility? Like John, when people are brought to Jesus through the ministry of this Maori mission, are we willing to turn them over to Jesus Christ and allow them to follow him just like you and I or do our egos continue to get in the way of that relationship? In other words, how much are we willing to give up so everyone can benefit from our ministry and our mission! That is the baptism we are responsible for!

Sunday 16 Jan 2011

CHURCH OF TE WAIRUA TAPU

www.tewairuatapu.com.au



Rarangi:

*I whakaaroaro matou ki tou atawhai, e te Atua, i waenganui o tou temepara. E te Atua, rite tahi ki tou ingoa te whakamoemiti mou, tae noa atu ki nga pito o te whenua: ki tonu tou matau i te tika. **Nga Waiata 48:9, 10***

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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ATIRIKONA: Archdeacon K Karipa
KAIKARAKIA: Norman Rogers

HYMNS:

Opening Hymn: **100**
Gradual Hymn: **241**
Offertory Hymn: **70**
Communion: **166**
Closing Hymn: **226**

SENTENCE:

We call to mind your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple. As your name is great O God, so is your praise to the ends of the earth. **Psalm 48:9, 10**

COLLECT:

Almighty God, give us such a vision of your purpose and such an assurance of your love and power, that we may ever hold fast the hope which is in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

1ST READING:

Isaiah 49:1-7

The Servant's Mission

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and

my reward with my God.' And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength— he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.' Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, 'Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

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

2ND READING:

1Corinthians 1:1-9

THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE Corinthians

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened

among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

GOSPEL READING:

John 1:29-42

The Lamb of God

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'

The First Disciples of Jesus

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where

are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

This is the Gospel of Christ
Praise to Christ the Word



Prayful Paths

WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Haley Tetai 11 Jan 2004
Kim Bertrand 10 Jan 2004
Lance Brown 12 Jan 2006
Ella Mokolei 14 Jan 2006
Christopher Pirihi 12 Jan 2007
James Mamea 12 Jan 2007
Jim Makene 11 Jan 2009

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

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



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: **16+8 Tamariki**

Communicants: **11**

Our Weekly Target is \$2500.

Donations: **\$0.00**

Congregational Giving: **\$196.65**

Direct Debit: **\$617.50**

Auto Donations: **\$125.00**

Fundraising: **\$0.00**

Total contributions: **\$939.15**

LAST WEEK'S CONTRIBUTION ST ANNE'S

HAMMONDVILLE

Attendance: **7+2 Tamariki**

Communicants: **7**

Congregational Giving: **\$142.40**

Total contributions: **\$142.40**

[CHURCH COLOUR IS WHITE]



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.



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 Kura has Te Reo classes every Sunday from 7:30am to 9:30am at the Church.