

lunch. For those who wish to stay for lunch please RSVP to Haupai Montgomery: Mob 0274 708 674 or Email: haukaingamanawhenuapokeno@gmail.com

FOOD SUPPORT CONTRIBUTIONS – The Anglican Church Foodbanks we support in Manurewa and Pukekohe are both now in full operation and responding to strong demand – our contributions of canned and packaged goods and fresh fruit and vegetables can be brought to our Churches on Sunday mornings.

THIS WEEK 28 April - 5 May

Sunday 5 May

9:30am Family Service at St Peter's in the Forest, Bombay

Readings: Acts 10: 44-48; 1 John 5: 1-6; **John 15: 9-17**

Contacts

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St Peter's in the Forest, Bombay - St Mary on the Hill, Pokeno - St Jude's,
Mercer - Maramarua - Mangatangi/Miranda - Kaiaua
www.bombay-pokeno.org.nz

~ You are welcome to take the Tidings with you ~

Tidings

for the Bombay–Pokeno Anglican Church
worshipping at Bombay, Pokeno, Mercer and Kaiaua

www.bombay-pokeno.org.nz

28 April 2024

5th Sunday of Easter

Welcome & Gathering

A very warm welcome to you, and especially to any visitors, as we gather to praise and worship God today.

Theme

The True Vine

Today's service can be found on page 476 of the New Zealand Prayer Book.

Sentence of the Day

In this love, not that we loved God but that God loved us. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

John 14: 10-11

Prayer of the Day

Christ of the new covenant,

give us the happiness to share,

with full measure, pressed down,

shaken together and running over,

all that you give us.

Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

Amen

Celebrating Common Prayer: A Version for Aotearoa, New Zealand, & Polynesia

Readings: Acts 8: 26-40; 1 John 4: 7-21; **John 15: 1-8**

Reflection

The prophet Isaiah described the people of God as a “vine” and God as the one who tends the vine. The fruit of this vine is justice, and the vineyard is ruined when injustice comes to prevail in the community. In this Sunday’s Gospel reading (John 15: 1-8) Jesus uses the same image of the vine – the true vine – as a way of describing himself and he describes God as “the vinedresser”. The vinedresser tends and prunes the vine to the point of discarding any branches that do not bear fruit and trimming the healthy branches for them to bear more fruit. After declaring that his disciples are the branches of this true vine, Jesus goes on to repeat the word “abide” to describe the closeness of being and “indwelling” between himself and his disciples – all within the indwelling presence and action of God. For all of us who seek to respond to God through the living presence of Jesus these rather deep reflections take us a long way on that way. The purpose of our life in Christ is to bear fruit which will both glorify God and establish us as companions of Jesus. That fruit is what we live fully through loving God and loving our fellow human beings. God is busy pruning us and clearing us down to our essence so that we may bear good fruit. We can see that the image of the true vine, its branches, and the vinedresser, places us in that close companionship with Jesus and engagement with God’s active love in our lives. Our fruitfulness is the extent to which we carry out God’s work in the world.

Every blessing,
Andrew

Prayers Bidding: Your kingdom, let it come!
 Response: Your will, let it be done!

The congregation are invited to sit after the offertory hymn for the Great Thanksgiving Prayer.

During the week please remember in your prayers – In our intercessions we pray for **Archbishop Sione Ulu’ilakepa** (Bishop of Polynesia), our three Tikanga Church and our Bishops, **Bishop Ross**, and **Bishop Kito**. We pray for all ministry units and chaplaincies in our Diocese. We pray for our country and for those who hold leadership roles and positions of responsibility. In particular we pray for those who are unwell or in need and for those who provide support to them. We pray for the faithful departed and for those who grieve.

NOTICES & COMING EVENTS

ROSTER FOR SIDESPERSON – we wish to draw up a monthly roster for sides-people at our morning services so that we have a person responsible for greeting attenders, handing out the books, processing the offertory collection, and a few other small tasks. Please let Andrew know if you wish to be included in this roster (contacts below).

WINTER PYJAMAS – the Anglican Community Action in Pukekohe is asking once again for the donation of winter pyjamas to provide for young people in households with financial deprivation – either bring the pyjamas to our Churches for delivery, or deliver them direct to the Anglican Church in Pukekohe. Many thanks for supporting this appeal.

POKENO HITORI/HISTORY DAY – Saturday 4th May at the Pokeno Community Hall. There will be visual displays and presentations about Pokeno history and a look ahead towards the new Marae for Pokeno. The programme starts with refreshments at 9.30am and continues to 1.00pm and all are welcome to then have