

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.

GOODWILL OFFERINGS Your contribution for the work of our church will be collected during the Offertory Hymn. Our regular parishioners contribute by envelope or by automatic payment. One off or regular payments can be made online. Our bank account is **Bombay Pokeno Parish 02-0404-0013078-00**. Include your initials and name to be eligible for tax deductions. It costs our parish about \$1700 per week to run.

THIS WEEK 5-12 May

Sunday 12 May

9:30am Holy Communion at St Mary on the Hill, Pokeno

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

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

5 May 2024

6th 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

Jesus Calls Us Friends

Today's service can be found in the Family Service Folder.

Sentence of the Day

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

Prayer of the Day

**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

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

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

Reflection

In this Sunday's Gospel reading (John 15: 9-17) Jesus sums up much of his lengthy teaching with his disciples about the cycles of contact and exchange between and amongst God, Jesus and the disciples. This is one of those core passages in St. John's Gospel where Jesus sets out that God is the source of the love that he has received and then extended to his disciples (and others); and the source of the love that he now calls them to follow in their lives – as they love one another as Jesus loves them. The disciples are not to be in a “servant” role with Jesus, rather they are to be “friends” – mostly because Jesus has told them all he has heard and knows from God. Jesus now calls his disciples into that collective mission and responsibility to live their lives through love for God and other people. Our Epistle reading (1John 5: 1-6) is one of several passages in the Letters of John that brings together the understanding that it is in loving God and neighbour that we fulfil God's purpose in our lives and find our own freedom, joy and completeness. The passage also makes the claim that it is our faith in God through Christ that “conquers the world”. That does seem like a big call – until we recall our mission and responsibility – to be “conquerors” not through force of arms or imposition of power. Rather, we are to be part of a whole community of faith that influences and energises the world through our love for God and our love, care, and respect for our fellow human beings – our neighbours.

Every blessing,

Andrew

Prayers

Bidding: Help us, Lord:
Response: **to love one another.**

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

VESTRY MEETING FOR THIS MONTH – 7.00pm Thursday 16th May at St. Peter's Bombay.

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.

FOOD SUPPORT CONTRIBUTIONS – The Anglican Church Foodbanks we support in Manurewa and Pukekohe are both now