



**Kaeo – Kerikeri Union Parish**

**Newsletter**

March / April 2021



## **Holy Week / Easter Services**

**Palm Sunday – 28 March**

**9.30am at Cornerstone, Kerikeri**

**11.15am at Wesleydale, Kaeo**

**Maundy Thursday – 1 April**

**7.00pm at Cornerstone, Kerikeri**

**Good Friday – 2 April**

**9.30am at Cornerstone, Kerikeri**

**Easter Sunday – 4 April**

**9.30am at Cornerstone, Kerikeri**

**11.15am at Wesleydale, Kaeo**

## **Epiphany and Lent Reflection**

By Rev Saikolone Taufa

COVID 19 resuscitated our longing for connections to God, to each other, and to the whole of creation. Our longing for connections came about more because we were all vulnerable and it seems to be natural for us to long for those connections when we are vulnerable. It is one of our basic human needs.

In our Season of Epiphany, I reflected on what I called, moment of epiphany, a moment where we can comprehend and understand the mystery of the divine. But I focused more on our ability to create moments of epiphany for ourselves and others. For I am convinced that creating moments of epiphany will eventually make us connected to God and to each other better and stronger.

I recalled reflecting on some of the possibilities for us to facilitate and create an environment where we would have a stronger connection to each other and to God. I recalled reflecting on some of the

opportunities where we can be connected to God in ways that we had not done before.

One must wonder what the impact might be of all my epiphany reflections on our longing for connections. Have we connected to each other stronger now than before? Have we understood the mystery of God more or better? How many people have we been able to re-member into our circle of love and care?

I raise these questions here now because I am starting to see that our world is slowly creeping back to its old self - fragmented and at odds within us.

I am thankful that we seem to be doing an incredibly good job in holding our church community together. We seem to be exceptionally good in creating environment where strangers meet strangers, enemies meet enemies and where love can flow from neighbours to one another.

At the start of our Season of Lent, I wanted to continue in the same vein by reflecting on ways in

which we could organise our lives better with the influence of COVID 19 while we are in the wilderness time of Lent.

We started our journey in Lent with St. Mark's greatest affirmation about ourselves, and that is, we are all beloved sons and daughters of God, all beloved creatures of God. That is who we are, what we are, and that is our real purpose in life (in my humble opinion).

This St. Mark's great affirmation reminded me of a Lenten discipline that I have chosen to adhere to, for sometime now, where I am consciously and deliberately naming and praying for my enemies each day, paying particular attention to the enemies that I find within myself and the temptations I face to be less than I was created to be.

I've learnt in my own journey that my real enemies, in my journey in Lent, are found deep within me and that is where the real danger lies. Often, I've focused on those outside enemies who seem to depict that they are my enemies.

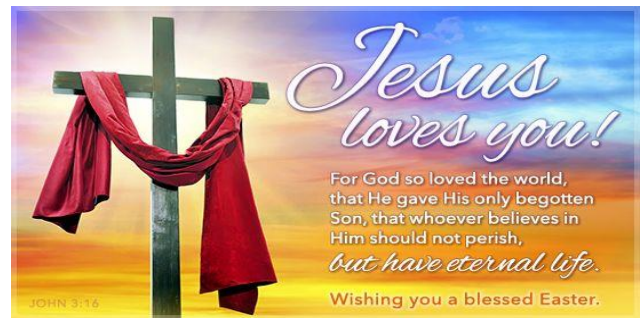
But I have learnt that any of these so-called enemies can only lead me to all kinds of thoughts and ways of behaving that make me less than I was created to be - beloved creatures of God. That is what matters for me in my journey in Lent and in my endeavour to remain faithful to this great affirmation.

These are the moments I always look for in my journey in Lent because when I give any power of any kind to my enemies from outside me, I will soon find myself encountering the more immediate devastation created by my enemies within.

I invite you at this Season of Lent to try this discipline of prayer by naming and praying for your enemies each day - and pay a particular consideration to those from within. This Lenten discipline was very appealing earlier in our Church history but no longer fancied in our days - but I am still finding it immensely helpful - in my relationship with others and God.

We can connect to God and each other better by taking on our inner enemies that make us less than we were created to be. I am convinced that these inner enemies compromise our freedom to connect and spoil our ability to be in right relationship with God and our neighbour.

Let us all keep connecting to each other and to God - for that is who we are and what we are - in this Lenten season. Amen



#### THE MINISTER

*He stands there in the pulpit  
and his message reaches out.  
He shows no trace of tension  
of worry or of doubt,  
and the people sit there in the pews,  
they watch his forehead glisten,  
and they're quite prepared to listen.*

*Now when the last Amen has died,  
and he's standing by the door,  
then I ask myself the questions  
that I have often time asked before.  
When he finds the going really tough  
and his faith is wearing thin.  
Is there anyone amongst us  
who could minister to him.*

*Aye, the minister's a man apart.  
We've set him high amongst the rest.  
Yet I wonder how we'd measure up  
if they put us to the test!  
Would we never lose our temper?  
Never go off in a huff?  
Never cry aloud in anguish,  
That's it I've had enough!*

*So next time that you're praying,  
When your faith is growing dim,  
Please! Don't forget the minister.*

*Put a word in for him!  
And the One who answers all our prayers,  
will note your kind intent,  
and He'll tell you that the minister  
has returned the compliment!!!*

(From the Methodist Clydebank (Scotland) Spring Magazine 1998.)

## February Parish Council Report

Some people are concerned that our Cornerstone church sanctuary is being used for more than Worship services, so the Cornerstone congregation is going to be asked what they think of the situation. Bear in mind that the Parish Council decided that the main thing is that users respect the format of the sanctuary, especially the area at the front with the table, cross, Bible, etc.

Two plaques from the old church site on Butler Road, memorials of people that have died, are to be located somewhere discreet on the Cornerstone property. They are of historic importance so are permitted. Parish Council has decided that it is not appropriate for such plaques to be laid on the property from now on. The site has yet to be decided on.

Parish Council would like to engage a reviewer to examine our accounts this year, rather than an auditor, so if you read this and can do the job please get in touch with Minister Saikolone Taufu. Likewise, if you know of someone who is able to do the job.

Car boot sale is still going well with an average between 20-30 cars each time.

Girls Brigade has started for the year with about 15 girls and a few new helpers this year to share the load, which is great.

Saikolone has been focusing on connecting the parish to those on the pastoral rolls by visiting them and those who have been sick or need a visit from the minister. He has found this to be great experience.



## Parish Morning Tea

*Come and join us on 10<sup>th</sup> March  
at 10.30am at Cornerstone.  
Please bring a neighbour or a  
friend and enjoy a chat over a  
cuppa.*

### Newsletters:

Have you come across any inspirational sayings, meaningful stories? Do you have any news or know of any up and coming events that would be great to advertise in this newsletter?

If so, don't forget to send them in.

Please send it to [news@kkup.org.nz](mailto:news@kkup.org.nz)

## Kaeo Kerikeri Union Parish Contact List

Parish Phone Number 09 407 8250  
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### Ministry Team

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Bev Tayler 09 401 6625 or 027 562 2211  
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Kerikeri Pastoral Care Jessica Scott  
09 407 5555 or [jomscott2@gmail.com](mailto:jomscott2@gmail.com)

# Calendar

## Weekly / Regular Church Events

Sunday Services	9.30am	Kerikeri Worship – Cornerstone, 144 Kerikeri Road, Kerikeri
	11.15am	Kaeo Worship – Wesleydale Memorial Church, Leigh Street, Kaeo
Bible Study	1.15pm	<b>Mondays</b> at Cornerstone, Kerikeri.
Car Boot Sale	7.30am	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month.
Girls Brigade	3.30pm	Thursday during the school terms.

## Other Events

### March 2021

Fri 5	6.30pm	Home Group – Ring Michelle (020 4168 6931) for more details
Wed 10	10.30am	Community / Congregational Morning Tea
Sun 14	9.30am	Communion Service
Tues 16	7.00pm	Parish Council at Cornerstone, Kerikeri

### April 2021

Thurs 1	7.00pm	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> Service at Cornerstone
Fri 2	9.30am	<b>Good Friday</b> Service at Cornerstone
Sun 4	9.30am	<b>Easter Sunday</b> Service at Kerikeri
	11.15am	<b>Easter Sunday</b> Service at Kaeo
Wed 7	12.30pm	Cornerstone Management Meeting
Sun 11	9.30am	Communion Service
Tues 20	7.00pm	Parish Council at Wesleydale, Kaeo
Fri 23		<b>Material for March / April Newsletter Due</b>

## Kerikeri Sunday Rosters

	Door and Tea Duty	Readers	Communion Prep	Flowers
<b>7 March</b>	Arlene & Mary	Ros		Joan
<b>14 March</b>	Gage & John	Jessica	Ngaire & Brian	Mary
<b>21 March</b>	Trevor & Neville	Neil		Mary
<b>28 March</b>	Michelle & Akisi	Kay		Jenny
<b>4 April</b>	Elaine & Ian	Diane		Jenny
<b>11 April</b>	Helen & Linda	Akisi	Bev & Bob	Jenny
<b>18 April</b>	Arlene & Mary	Jean		Joan
<b>25 April</b>	Gage & John	David		Joan

## Lectionary Readings

<b>7 March</b>	Exodus 20: 1-17	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22
<b>14 March</b>	Numbers 21:4-9	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
<b>21 March</b>	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
<b>28 March</b>	-	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29	-	Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16
<b>4 April</b>	Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Or Acts 10:34-43	John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8
<b>11 April</b>	Acts 4:32-25	Psalm 133	1 John 1:1 – 2:2	John 20:19-31
<b>18 April</b>	Acts 3:12-19	Psalm 4	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36b-48
<b>25 April</b>	Acts 4:5-12	Psalm 23	1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18
<b>2 May</b>	Acts 8:26:40	Psalm 22:25-31	1 John 4:7-21	John 15:1-8