

## Opportunities for Prayer @ St George's

**Prayer Chain:** A small number of St George's members have pledged to pray regularly for those that seek support. Requests for prayer are strictly confidential & can be made to David & Lynette Wood. Email: [dandwood@gmail.com](mailto:dandwood@gmail.com) or Ph: 021 208 3561

**Pre-Service Prayer:** Held before the 9am and 10.45am services in the Pastoral Care / Prayer Room. You are welcome to join us. Access is through the back entrance of the main church building, first door on the left.



## World Day of Prayer

You are invited to join in worship and fellowship on **Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March from 10am - 11am at Epsom Baptist Church, 4 Inverary Avenue, Epsom.**

With a shared lunch to follow.

For further information, contact Glenys Brookbanks on 624 0330 or email [g\\_brookbanks@hotmail.com](mailto:g_brookbanks@hotmail.com)



## 9am Congregation Morning Tea Today!

You are warmly invited to morning tea after the 9am service at

**Jim and Janet Frater's home at 16 Aratonga Ave, Greelane. All welcome!**



## ESOL Up-Date

Due to the concern regarding the corona virus we have postponed the start of our ESOL classes for 2020. We will begin the classes again on the **10th March 2020 at 10am in the hall.**

We will also start our **Thursday morning Bible class on 12th March at 10am.** Look forward to seeing you then.



The ESOL Team, Rose, Tim and David

## GUMBOOT FRIDAY TRACTOR TREK

### Bluff to Cape Reinga 5-26 March

The Trek is a fun way for Kiwis, especially in rural communities, to join in the mental health conversation while raising awareness and money to provide free counselling for any young person in need. [www.gumbootfridaytractortrek.org](http://www.gumbootfridaytractortrek.org)

The team would value your prayers for health and safety. Rod and Penny Kestle



## Saturday Morning Prayers

A group of people get together to pray for all areas of church life.

**8am - 9am** in the Pastoral Care Room - Enquiries: **Malcolm Taylor - 027 499 7749**



## St. George's Life Groups

St George's has a number of **Life Groups** that operate on a fortnightly basis. These groups focus on pastoral support, spiritual nourishment and getting to know one another better. We are keen for as many people as possible to be a part of a supportive **Life Group**.

Please contact [office@stgeorgesepsom.org.nz](mailto:office@stgeorgesepsom.org.nz) or speak to Kate after one of the services if you are interested in finding out more about **Life Groups**.



# Exile

## Lent Series

stgeorges  
EPSOM



“Empowering people to be Christ’s followers in the world.”

**SUNDAY SERVICES, 1 March**  
7.45am - 9.00am - 10.45am

**THEME: “Exile - Far From Home”**

**SPEAKER:** Rev. Gareth Walters

**READINGS:** Psalm 137:1-6; Revelation 21:2-4; Luke 15:11-24

**VERSE OF THE DAY: Matthew 8:20** “And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.”

**Sunday 7pm Service - In the church hall**

*‘Tables of Content...’*

This week we begin a six-week, Lenten series called **‘Feeding, Fasting and Feasting’**. This will be an opportunity to explore the food we eat physically and spiritually, the need for fasting, but also feasting. We meet at 7pm with tea and coffee and begin at 7.15pm.

**Everyone is welcome.**

**WEDNESDAY SERVICES, 4 March**  
10.00am

**Speaker:** *Glenys Brookbanks - “Healing Service”*

**SUNDAY SERVICES, 8 March**  
7.45am - 9.00am - 10.45am

**Speaker:** *Rev. Kate Berkley*

**VISITORS ... It’s great to have you worshipping with us today. Do pick up a ‘Welcome Pack’ on the table at the back of church. We hope you feel at home here and we look forward to getting to know you.**

## REFLECTIONS FROM THE CO-VICARS

**At once the Spirit sent Jesus out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.** Mark 1:12-13

### LENT

Today marks the first Sunday of the ancient church season of Lent. There is something special about travelling a journey that millions before us have travelled down the centuries. We are part of a great story and community that have contemplated and entered in to the journey of Christ and his 40 days in the wilderness. It's quite a thought to ponder as we begin our own journeys.

It is worth noting that the three great practices of Lent—*prayer, fasting, and almsgiving* (an act of giving to others) — are three things you **do**. At the heart of the Lent season, is a recognition that these practices of 'doing' as Christ did in His life, lead us into a deeper relationship with Christ. For this momentous Christian season, we will be exploring the great biblical theme of EXILE. Today **Gareth** will set the scene and explore what it means for us to **'come home' and 'belong'**.

### Spiritual Resources

To help us all engage with the season of Lent more fully, please can we encourage you to make use of all the resources we share in our E-NEWS and WEBSITE. We particularly urge you to watch the excellent Bible Project Video which gives a concise explanation of this crucial biblical theme of EXILE.

### St. George's AGM - Wednesday, 18th March at 7.30pm in the church.

This is a very important night in the life of this church community, so please can we encourage you to be there for this evening together. As always, we want to make this a time where we not only take care of the governance side of our community life, but also celebrate the work of God among us. We have much to be grateful for at St. George's and this is an opportunity for us to come together across the congregations to share in our story as we begin to fully enter 2020.

If you are not on our **Parish Roll**, please complete an application form and hand into the office so we can up-date the 2020 list. This will give you the opportunity to have a voice on the night by voting in the various proposals and motions of the evening.

You will also find nomination forms for our People's Warden, Vestry members and Synod reps. Please note that we require all nomination forms, complete with nominees statement, into the office no later than Wednesday, 11th March by 12 noon so we can prepare the information. The forms can be emailed to [office@stgeorgesepsom.org.nz](mailto:office@stgeorgesepsom.org.nz), but original forms must be handed in to the office before the AGM.

Thank you.

Peace and grace, **Rev. Josh Jones and Rev. Gareth Walters**

If you would like to make regular donations or a one-off gift to the church, you can do this by completing one of our **"Giving Forms"**.

These forms can be found on the table at the back of the church, from the office or downloaded from our website, [www.stgeorgesepsom.org.nz](http://www.stgeorgesepsom.org.nz)

Please complete this and either drop it into the Sunday Offertory Box at the back of church or post / drop into the office, 9am - 3pm weekdays

(St George's Anglican Church, 15 - 19, Ranfurly Road, Epsom, 1023).

At the end of every financial year a tax receipt is provided via email.

**GIVING**

- EFTPOS: Terminal is available at the back of the church.
- INTERNET BANKING: Westpac Bank account # 03-0104-0109844-01
- DONATION BOX: At the back of the church.

Kia Ora E Te Whānau,

This **Friday, 28 Feb**, we have **Passion**, a combined worship service with the other groups in AYM being hosted at St. Paul's in the city.

This **Sunday, 1 March**, we will have a look into the character of Abraham, and what he has to teach us about having faith in a faithful God!

**Youth Leadership Team - Oscar, Jess, Ajit and Callum**



Hi families,

This week we are thinking about the different kinds of evidence we can find in the Bible - just like a real detective!!

**See you soon.**

**Lynette, Hayley and the KidsChurch Team**



### Dee Jones - Agricultural Development, Kasempa, Zambia

*Please pray for Dee as she has taken on an ambitious project (Kasempa Foundations), the work she is involved in is often physically demanding. Pray she may know the best way forward to develop this project, and that she would have the support of like-minded people that share her vision.*

*Also, pray for her personal safety as there has been some recent violence in Kasempa.*

*An update should be available soon in the way of her newsletter, so watch this space for her latest news!*



### Weekend Retreat - Homecoming

#### Being Present to yourself, your family and God

Jesus' parable of *The Prodigal Son* (Lk 15) is one of the most profound insights to the nature of God's compassionate and unconditional love for us. We will explore the spiritual reflections by Henri Nouwen on Rembrandt's painting of the homecoming scene of the younger rebellious son. These valuable spiritual insights can serve to increase our hunger and thirst for a deeper union with God on our interior journey of transformation.

During this weekend retreat, there will be talks, sharing, small group discussion, and times for reflection through silence, prayer and meditation.

**Presenter:** EAMON BUTLER  
**Date:** Friday, 27 March, 7.00-9.00pm  
Saturday, 28 March, 9.30am-8.30pm  
Sunday, 29 March, 9.30am-12.30pm  
**Venue:** Mercy Spirituality Centre  
**Fee:** \$160 incl. meals on Saturday  
\$230 incl. accommodation Fri & Sat

Please see noticeboard for more details or contact [info@mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz](mailto:info@mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz) if you would like to register or feel free pass on to any interested parties.



### Kiwi Pilgrimages 2020

This autumn there will be four one day pilgrimages around the city. These are intended as a practical expression of St. George's commitment to an outward focus with creative pathways into the community.

#### 28 March: Historic Church, Birkdale - 15 kilometres

**4 April:** Wesleyan Mission Station at Ihumatao - 25 kilometres

**25 April:** Selwyn Monument, Bombay - 45 kilometres

**1 May:** St. Francis Chapel, Vaughan Park, Long Bay - 30 kilometres

All distances are approximate, and arrangements can be made to walk only portions of them. Walking notes will be distributed to participants nearer the dates. These events are not intended solely for the congregation. Please feel free to invite any friends.

For registration and enquiries phone Greg Smith 5242 926 or email [gregskelbrooke@gmail.com](mailto:gregskelbrooke@gmail.com)

For further information check out the St. George's website under **Kiwi Pilgrimages**.

