

## Contact Us

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*COTS Youth is for young people in school years 7 to 13.  
During school terms we meet on **Friday** evenings 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm and  
during the 9.00 am **Sunday** service in the Youth Basement.*

This Sunday we're back downstairs with our youth programme—come downstairs after the worship at 9am, ready for our last week of studying Saul.

### Friday 23rd August

This Friday we're going to do some hard searching around the topic "Is God Good?" Come ready for some deep personal chats about life, God, and what it looks like to follow him in the mess of our lives.

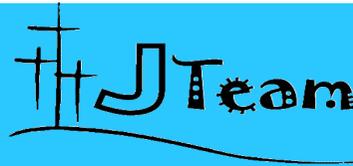
Watch out for further news and updates on the COTS Youth Facebook page.

**WHAT IS J TEAM? J Team is for ages 3 to Yr 6 at 9am & 11am services during term time. We have two age groups at J Team at both our services 9am-10.15am and 11am-12.20pm.**

Term 2 is moving along. This week in our new series - Letters from a King we are thinking about what we can learn from the messages written to churches in the New Testament.

The letter of the day is Pergamum. Just like the other churches we have seen that they had some really hard times. Even then, they didn't give up, that is their good thing. But their bad thing was, that they had been distracted by people who were telling lies and teaching wrong things about God.

We all know how tempting lies can be, and how easy it is to be led in a different direction. But if we, like the other churches, keep reading what God says in the Bible, and always testing what is said, we can keep on track.



*Letters from  
a King*



## Church of the Saviour

# Welcome

*At Church of the Saviour we welcome all people  
as we seek to love God and love others more*



**Our Vision: To call into relationship with God the people of Blockhouse Bay and beyond!**

### Message from our Vicar Revd Sarah Patten

Dear church family,

I never thought eleven years ago when I arrived in Auckland at the beginning of August, that I would have had such an amazing time being part of the wonderful church family here at COTS. I also didn't dream that this newsletter on a rough calculation is around the 550<sup>th</sup> I have written in the last 11 years!

Every time when I felt like stopping or having a break someone would infallibly tell me how useful they found the previous week's letter and I would keep going on. Until now when I hand over my responsibilities to our staff team, and you get some fresh perspectives.

It is very hard to say goodbye. I have loved being part of the church and community here, and I am so thankful to NZ for my family too, as I arrived single and knowing only 2 distant cousins in the Bombay Hills! Yet I know that in all things God works for the good of His people. He is trustworthy and we can rely on Him for everything we need.

I also know that the church has a great temporary minister in Shashi and my prayers will be with you all as you elect people to sit on the selection group. I trust God has someone special in mind for you. I also know

that you the staff team, (if you help out you are on team!) will carry on the work of the church, because that is God's will for us.

On my first Sunday here I preached from the book of Acts, about the church loving each other and God, and growing by sharing the gospel. Today I want to leave on the Great Commission and with the vision of the church which is really a summary of that commission. We seek to call into relationship with God the people of Blockhouse Bay and beyond. Jesus said this: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

### Services this week

**9am**—Praise and worship service with teaching, prayer and communion

**11am**—Café-style service

**Wed: 9.30am**—Communion service followed by morning tea

## All Welcome

18 August 2019

Newsletter No: 31

He has the authority which He has given to all of us to make disciples, to baptise and teach, and He promises to be with us as we do so.

It has been a privilege serving you as your Vicar, and I will deeply miss you.

Love and blessings,

Sarah

## Coming Up

**Parish Prayer Night.** Tomorrow 7.30pm in the church lounge. Come and join together in prayer for the church at this important time of transition.

## On this week

**Evening Worship** Sunday 7pm at church  
**Playgroup** Mon, Wed and Thurs 9am  
**Seniors @ the Bay** Monday and Friday 9.30  
**Parish Prayer Night** Monday 7.30pm church lounge  
**Mainly Music** Tuesday 10am  
**Wednesday Service** 9.30am  
**SPACE (parenting course)** Weds 1pm  
**Bible in Schools** BHB Primary 8.50am  
**ESOL pre-intermediate** Thursday 10am  
**Youth** Friday 7-9pm  
**Sunday Services**—see front page  
**Rest Home services**—Powley Tuesday 10.45am, BHB Home Thursday 10.30am

### Follow us:



facebook.com/cotsnz



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**Pastoral contacts until Sunday 1st September**—if you need to reach a staff member because of an important pastoral need:

On a Monday, Wednesday, Friday or Sunday, please contact Martyn at church 627 8779 or at home 948 7427.

On other days, please contact Claire on 021 921552. Claire will be able to reach other staff as appropriate.

**You can contribute to the work here at COTS:** Deposit donation directly to the church bank account **(for donations only)** 12 3049 0264019 52 with your name or donor number as reference, contact the office for a donor number to get a tax receipt. This can be an ongoing automatic payment or a one-off donation. An EFTPOS machine is available in the church foyer for donations.

## Notices

### Thank you Sarah!

We want to express our thanks and appreciation to Sarah for being our vicar for the past 11 years.

Thank you Sarah for your leadership and the direction you have given the church, for your spiritual gifts and abilities you have shared with us to build and extend God's Kingdom in Blockhouse Bay.

Thank you for all your dedication, commitment and hard-work. Thanks for all the visiting you have done, the prayers and pastoral care you have offered, all the sermons you have given. Thanks for the 1,001 things, big and small, you have done to ensure the smooth running of the church.

Sarah, we have appreciated all you have done here at Church of the Saviour and give thanks to God for your ministry here.

We also give thanks to Murray for the many things he has done to support Sarah, for his ministry amongst us like music, sound and IT skills.

We wish Sarah, Murray, Anna and Femke God's rich blessings as they go to England and begin a new stage of ministry. We will miss you but wish you God's very best for the future.

**The Patten family would like to thank the church** for the beautiful gifts you gave us, Anna loved her carved wooden kiwi box, Femke her kiwi style water bottle, Murray his wine and coffee mug and Sarah the glorious flowers, and a beautiful patterned poncho which will keep her warm on cold English nights. The placemats and coasters are also a great reminder of our kiwi heritage. We also really appreciate the gift of money as there are so many set up costs including buying an oven when we get there, and so you have thoughtfully helped us with our transition to life on the other side of the planet. We have loved being part of your church family and part of the Blockhouse Bay community and will really miss life in BHB.

**The Word for Today.** The August-October edition is available from the cupboard in the church foyer. \$2 donation appreciated.

**Youth team helpers required.** If you would be able to assist our youth team in their Sunday morning or Friday night sessions, please see our youth intern Kathryn, k.n.kennerley@gmail.com

**Calling all flower arrangers!** We would like to recruit more people to help arrange flowers for the church on a roster basis. Please see Martyn if you could offer to assist with this.

**Room for rent.** \$170 pw single room available now for rent. Furnished or unfurnished. In Green Bay/Titirangi. Close to bus stops and all amenities. Phone Joanna on 021 050 0025.

**COTS Counselling Team.** If you would like to see a counsellor to discuss a life issue, please let the church office know.

