

Ruatara

May 11

Te Ara mo te Rongopai

Ruatara, a chief of the Nga Puhi people, became friendly with Marsden in Australia. Ruatara made possible the voyage which culminated in the first official Christian service in New Zealand at Oihi Bay in the Bay of Islands on Christmas Day 1814. Ruatara hoped that the mission would bring technological and other resources for the community to develop. Marsden hoped that Ruatara's hospitality and protection would pave the way for the seeding of a Christian mission. Ruatara then is "Te Ara mo te Rongopai", "The Gateway for the Gospel".

SENTENCE

E mahara nga pito katoa o te whenua, a ka tahuri ki a Ihowa; ka koropiko ano nga hapu katoa o nga iwi ki tou aroaro. *Waiata 22: 27*

Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to you, O Lord; and let all the families of the nation's bow down before you." *Psalm 22: 27*

COLLECTS

E te Kaihanga, na tāu pononga nā Ruatara i para te huarahi i u mai ai te Rongopai a to matou Kaiwhakaora a Ihu Karaiti ki Aotearoa: e whakawhetai ana matou mo tenei taonga whakahirahira i whiwhi ai matou ki te oranga mutunga-kore i roto i to matou Ariki i a Ihu Karaiti. Āmine.

Creator of all the peoples of the world, you chose Ruatara to prepare for and welcome the Christian missionaries to Aotearoa; may the gateway that he opened for the gospel encourage us to look for every means by which your word may be proclaimed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Jesus, as we praise you for Andrew who brought you Peter, so we praise you for Ruatara who brought the missionaries to Aotearoa; and we praise you for the wisdom which offered crafts and skills and the gospel message. Amen.

PSALMS: 22: 22-31 65: 5-14

READINGS

Isaiah 41: 8-10 From the ends of the earth

Hebrews 11: 8-16 Living in faith

John 1: 1-9 The true light

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Kotahi tonu te Atua, kotahi te takawaenga o te Atua, o nga tangata, ko ia ano he tangata, ara ko Karaiti Ihu. *1 Timoti 2: 5*

There is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human. *1 Timothy 2: 5*