THE ROCK MAY 2011



The Anglican/Episcopal Parish of St. Peter, Caversham, Dunedin, NZ

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From the Temporary Interim Priest



My time with you in Caversham seems to be settling down into a routine. I am usually in Dunedin by midday on Saturday, and then I have the afternoon for visiting. I have always believed that God has given me a very special gift: in that I do not find it difficult to meet people. Of course, the clerical collar helps, and it is my belief it opens far more doors than ever it closes.

I have always counted visiting the people of the parish a real privilege, and a pleasure.

Never, ever in all my years of ministry have I ever been received with anything but courtesy and warmth, from friends and strangers alike. It encourages me to think that people are still glad to see their priest.

Although I don't really keep numbers, I can say that so far I have called at about thirty homes. Most - but not all - have been in. Sometimes - but not always - I might ring in advance, because some of you live quite a long way from the parish centre and it helps to know you will be at home. I am impressed by the efforts many people make to worship and belong to S. Peter's, some from a long distance away.

Why do I call? Well, the Scriptures encourage me to do so, so that I might get to know you a little better - and you might get to know me. One of my understandings of the church is that it is a group which shares each others joys and sorrows, and supports each other in good times and in bad. The Christian gospel encourages us to care for one another.. The parish here is caring for me very well. I hope you may feel that I care for you.

May God bless you all,

Bernard

Ven Bernard Wilkinson is unavailable for a number of Sundays this month. Rev Dr John Franklin took both services on May 8th, Fr Geoff Hughes will take both on May 15th, and Rev Alec Clark will take both May 22nd. He will be back for 29th May.

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VESTRY IN BRIEF

At the April meeting of Vestry the following items were of note:

- Westry approved the installation of a monitored intruder alert security system for the church and vicarage. Smoke detectors will also be monitored. It is anticipated the cost will be offset by savings on insurance.

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- Final clean up of the vicarage has been completed.
- ∀ Vestry is grateful for the sum of \$50 given by a parishioner towards lighting and heating costs.
- Final vicarage renovations were discussed and quotes are to be obtained for redecoration of those rooms which are in an unacceptable state. Averil has kindly attended to the curtains.
- ☑ Secretary reported on the cost of advertising the vacancy at St. Peter's in the Church Times. (A short advert will be published in the May 13th edition and on the Church Times website).

Heather Brooks (Vestry Secretary)

A WARDENS' WARBLE

Over recent months at St Peter's, as part of our Intercessions we have offered prayers for the clergy and people of Christchurch and the surrounding district who have suffered the ongoing devastation as a result of what seems to be an endless series of earthquakes, many relatively minor, then along comes another one which is not so minor, just to warn them that it's not all over yet. I don't really think that we can start to understand what those people of Christchurch are going through, day in and day out, never being able to really relax, just living in hope that some day soon, they'll cease to be part of their daily routine.

I visited Christchurch for a few days recently and was able to see first hand the degree of destruction which has occurred in that area and what I saw will only be the tip of it, as much of the worst damage has occurred in areas that are still shut off to the public for safety reasons. However what you can see gives you some idea of the what those people are going through day after day. While we were there, we experienced a couple of shakes and the locals have become so used to them that they simply smile and say "Oh that's only a wee one, about 3.5" or "the one yesterday was only about 3" No matter whether they be big or small, they carry on knowing that there is nothing they can do except do their best to get on with their lives and hope for better days ahead. As fast as they make temporary repairs to roads etc. another shake seems to occur and undoes all the repair work that's been done. Unfortunately those people are going to need our prayers and all the assistance they can get for a long time yet, so please remember them.

On to things more akin to St Peter's, progress is slow as we work to appoint a new vicar but we are moving and we have arrangements for the four Parish Nominators and four Diocesan Nominators, along with Bishop Kelvin to meet later this month to discuss this. There will also be an advertisement placed in The Church Times which has a wide International readership base.

Finally, after his break for 3 weekends in May, Ven Bernard Wilkinson has offered to carry on in his current role on an indefinite basis until there is a new Vicar appointed or we feel that there is a reason to have a change. This arrangement will allow us to maintain some continuity and stability during the interregnum which we see as important for the Parish.

Tubby Hopkins Bishop's Warden



Works Update - Garden and Grounds working bee

The grounds are to be tidied up with the generous assistance of the Toroa Lions group on Saturday the 21st of May starting at 9:30am, weather permitting. Parishioners who are available are encouraged to assist - please bring the requisite gardening tools, clippers, refreshments, and humour, with you.. Convener is Kate Paterson - Ph 455 5384

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EDITORIAL



Well the church year is flying by, and we are already into ordinary time with Easter over for another year, however there are some

important festivals to be observed this next month.

I must say, on the matter of Easter, how disappointing the attendances were. The numbers at the various Easter services were very poor to say the least. Easter day service was the only one where numbers were good.

Ash Wednesday is the start of the of the Easter season and the start of Lent. Does it have any relevance to us today? If the attendance numbers at the service are to be believed then the answer is clear. Are we simply becoming a congregation of convenient Sunday worshipers?

This leads me to Maundy Thursday. Similarly this was very poorly attended. It is the observance of the last supper from whence our communion is derived. There is great symbolism attached to the other events that occurred on this day as well. Is it not an act of commitment, to attend Church, to give thanks for this core value of our faith? Are we only committed to the faith if it has personal significance to our own personal salvation?

What perplexes me is why many people seem only to want to attend Church on Easter Day? Clearly people were in town and could have attended the Good Friday service since they were evidently able to came to the Easter Day service. Surely Good Friday is one of the most important days of the year also - it is the day on which our Lord was tried and crucified for our sins - he gave his life that we may be saved - are we too afraid to consider this event? Has it no significance to us? Is our faith so shallow that all we can consider is the good news of the resurrection? Is this all we see? Are we lacking spirituality? Do the services fail to connect with the spiritual nature of the event? Has the message lost its impact? What other reasons can there be for committed Christians to stay away from such important services? I am at a loss to explain it.

I have no reason to be insulting to people who have genuine reasons not to attend such significant services, however it does seem to me that there could be more commitment displayed to demonstrate our living faith.

I hope I have not offended, merely offered food for thought. When I consulted on this subject. I was advised that it was a case of "Publish and be dammed..!" I hope it is not the latter...!



All going well the church grounds will be the subject of a makeover with the enthusiastic support of the Toroa Lions group on Saturday 21st of May...

Parishioners who are able, are encouraged to participate. After all we should have some pride in our surroundings, not only on the inside but the outside also. It shows that we do care about our place of worship. Weather permitting we are starting at 9:30am.

Kate Paterson is co-ordinating this effort. Do let her know if you are able to assist. Ph 455 5384

From the time I agreed to take over this publication I have been working in a sort of vacuum. Because we have no official leader the direction I take with this newsletter is almost entirely my own. Clearly I do consult with the Wardens and Clergy on anything I think maybe contentious but there is still a general lack of direction.

I have received a good number of positive comments regarding the layout to date however I still welcome your thoughts on the type of material you would like to see published.

You may note that 3 people have submitted material for this edition. I would like to record my sincere appreciation for their contributions - thank you contributors.

I would still encourage you to submit additional ideas. A simple note offering some suggestion could be left with the sides-person at any Service. I am sure they will pass it on. I can do the research and nail it together (as long as you do understand I am not a literati..!) - all you need to do is have the desire to see some idea explored.

Yours in Christ Dereck Gray Editor



THE ROCK St. Peter's Caversham - Dunedin

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Our Parishioners



Jean Allen is parishioner who has one of the longest associations with St Peter's. Her great grandfather was the first secretary of St Peter's. She was born and baptised in Roxburgh then the family settled in Dunedin where she attended Kennsington school, DNI, when it was still in Albany Street, and OGHS. Jean was originally to train as a teacher but illness put pay to this vocation. She worked for Arthur Barnetts for 15 years then moved to Whitcoulls for another 23 years. She currently enjoys reading and her favorite holiday destination is Queenstown. She has traveled New Zealand extensively and has undertaken a Cape to Bluff trip a number of years ago. As a young woman she also learnt to lip read, a skill she still has today - so beware..!

AAW Report

The potluck meal held on Tuesday 3rd May attended by 22 members proved once again the warmth of our group's fellowship and the commitment of members to continue albeit in a more informal manner.

After a delicious meal, and a short service, Coral Paris continued the process of establishing our future direction. Outcomes of the previous meeting and the results of the survey reinforced the decision to withdraw from A.A.W. The formalities of the change are the next important step to be dealt with.

A plan for the remainder of the year was established under Coral's guidance with considerable input from the group. The willingness of members to take clearly identified short term responsibilities was heartwarming and for me augurs well for a group that has the potential to flourish and grow.



Our next gathering, on the 18th June at 2.00pm, is to be an Organ Recital by David Hoskins. This will be followed by afternoon tea and recognition of the part A.A.W has played in the lives of St Peter's parishioners.

All are welcomed to this visitors' afternoon.

With sincere thanks to all members who have worked so constructively to move our group into the future.

Gwen Hudson. Ph 455-7100

Lenten Appeal

Mission boxes and any Lenten envelopes may be handed into Rita-May Brown anytime before the end of May.

Rosemary Brown

Friendship Group

The Friendship Group's next meeting will be held on Tuesday June 14th at 2:00pm in the hall lounge. A \$2.00 donation is all that is required.

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The Anglo-Catholics: 2. Catholics and Protestants - a burning issue

In the opinion of many, the Catholic

Church under the pope in Rome

had moved too far away from the

"Be of good cheer, Master Ridley, and play the man, for we shall this day light such a candle in England as I trust by God's grace shall never be put out."



It was with these words that Hugh Latimer consoled fellow Bishop Nicholas Ridley as they

were being burned at the Mary Tudor, ordered the indulgences $stake\ \ in\ \ Oxford,\ \ 1555\$ bishops to be put to death AD. The burning of these

bishops, along with Cranmer in 1556, so horrified all of England that for many centuries thereafter, Catholic was a black and bloodstained word. It was the Catholic monarch Mary Tudor, in an attempt to reunite England with Rome, who ordered the bishops to be put to death. That was bad enough, but she had them burned, a fate normally reserved for witches and heretics. According to mediaeval beliefs, this meant the bishops would have no bodies in the afterlife. But Mary didn't stop there, she went on to burn a further 255 persons at the stake for their religious beliefs during her short but terrifying reign between 1553 and 1558 AD. How did this dreadful state of affairs come about?

early church. In particular, the selling of religious relics (usually fake) and indulgences, which was the saying of masses for the souls of the dead, had gone too far. The idea of indulgences was the more masses that were said for a person, the less time he/she would have to spend in purgatory. That money could buy God's mercy was especially repulsive to a German theolo-According to the Protestants,

gian named Martin Luther. Nevertheless, there were many who benefitted from these

practices. Monks, who previously lived simply and as hermits, were paid to say the masses. They became very wealthy and built great abbeys and monasteries. For those living in the vicinity, the monasteries provided employment and cared for the sick and poor. Nevertheless, when Luther

confronted an salesman with a list of objections

you need for salvation

to the practices of the church, he found a lot of people were in agreement. So began the Protestant Reformation, which was not so much about protesting as about testifying publicly, i.e. proclaiming beliefs.

Central to the new form of Christianity, Protestantism, were sola scriptura, meaning scripture alone, and sola gratia, grace alone saves us. These two ideas were not un-catholic in themselves but were reviled by the church because of the way they were used. According to the Protestants, scripture contains everything you need for salvation and those who are saved (by grace) will be helped by the Spirit to understand what scripture is saying. In this religion, clergy are redundant!

Later, Calvin was to take things a stage further and proclaim that only some are saved and everyone else is damned to hell from the time of their birth (a particularly horrid idea). This is known as the doctrine of predestination.

But back to the English monarchs. Henry VIII, famous for his many wives, was on the throne when Luther triggered the Reformation. He needed to get an annulment from his

first wife, Catherine of Aragon, scripture contains everything because she had failed to produce a male heir after

> many years of marriage. Mainly for political reasons, the Pope wouldn't allow it. Henry took the unprecedented step of declaring himself head of the Catholic Church in England, leaving him free to put Catherine aside and marry Anne Bolevn; to their union was born Elizabeth. Unhappily, Henry had Anne beheaded and married Jayne Seymour, who was to suffer a similar fate - but not before she had given birth to the next monarch, Edward VI. He was only a boy when he inherited the throne and his government was effectively left to his advisers (Regents), and they were Protestant.

> So the Church of England, mother of the Anglican Church and already split from Rome, became Protestant. Edward burned a few Catholics but, in the burning of Protestants, the next monarch Mary outdid him. Into this chaos stepped a sensible woman, intelligent, articulate and highly educated. It was she who found the via media (middle way), avoiding the extremes of both the Roman Catholics and Protestants and dousing the fires that burned Latimer, Ridley and Cranmer.

Heather Brooks & Ross McConish

To correspondent **Adam Coxon -** Thank you for your very kind comments - the use of the apostrophe is a constant battle with me..!

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Diocesan News

At Synod last year, Bishop Kelvin spoke of his proposal to visit some of the historic places of our diocese. Our Rock last month recorded the first of these, going to Ruapuke and Stewart Island. Now the second journey has been completed, in Milton and Lawrence. Read what the Bishop has written in his blog about the excursion. Where will the next one be ???

(This material has been reproduced from the Bishop Kelvin's blog spot at http://vendr.blogspot.com where the full story can be read - submitted by Ven Bernard Wilkinson - Ed)

We have an uncanny power in our diocese. Wherever and whenever we hold our annual synod, it snows. And now, we have discovered, wherever and whenever we hold a leg of our pilgrimage, the weather is perfect. I am still investigating the obvious marketing opportunities this presents us, but until the deals with farmers, wedding planners, ski fields and umbrella manufacturers are finalised we put these powers to our own use. Such as this last weekend, when a few of us journeyed on pilgrimage from Milton to Lawrence, retracing the steps of those who in their quest for riches left such an imprint on the geography, architecture, culture and spirituality of New Zealand. There weren't a lot of us this time, as one of the Queen's grandsons had, apparently, chosen that Friday to get married and there were a couple of important sporting fixtures that needed monitoring. But thirteen of us sat down to dinner in St. John's Milton and seventeen of us took a little yellow bus up the road the next day.

This was a trip through territory I am very familiar with; I travel through it at least once a week, usually more, but to be driven, and have it described by those who live there was a revelation. As we traversed the back streets of Milton, I couldn't help noticing how often our guide used the phrase "this used to be". It was once a service centre for miners, and a place of employment for millers and sawyers and weavers and all the vast array of supporters they needed. Now it hosts a prison and a lot of shops looking for a new life, and it is therefore typical of many small towns in our diocese, and, indeed throughout rural New Zealand. It is served by a vicar whose energy, ability and indefatigable good humour have cemented her an essential place in the social structure and affections of the

town. Vivienne seems to be near the centre of pretty much everything that is going on in the district, as far as social services and community development are concerned. She is also a deep well of information about the local area, and it was a privilege to listen to her describe it to us



Lawrence is pretty. The countryside around it is varied, and covered with the flora bought by the hordes who swarmed there in the 1860s in search of gold. Because they found so much of it, many of the houses and other buildings are ornately and expensively built. Being just the right distance from Dunedin, it is a natural place to stop en route to Wanaka or Queenstown, and thus there are a number of very good cafes. It is picturesque enough to attract

people with an eye for beauty and a few shops are stocked with the wares of local artists and artisans. I was surprised however, when walking around town, to see how many houses and shops are for sale, some of them very attractive indeed. Lawrence seems to be poised on the cusp of something: waiting for that one new thing which will allow it to become a centre of economic activity once again. Our Anglican church in Lawrence is small. Beautifully built. Steeped in history. Full of potential. Like the town. Like our diocese. Waiting to be called to new life once more.

About a kilometer out of town is Gabriel's

Gully. It was here in 1860 that Gabriel Reid is credited with finding the lode which began the Otago gold-rush. More gold was taken from Otago than was taken from California whose gold rush preceded ours by a couple of years. The landscape still bears the marks of men and women from every corner of the globe who worked individually but increasingly in co-operation to perform the most astonishing feats of amateur engineering. Water was carried for over 40 km in an ingenious system of channels to sluice away a hill and turn it into a valley and a small lake. Where their tents were pitched and where their shacks were built are the remnants of their gardens: blackberry, apple and pears for food; California pines for lumber; rowan as a mark of their ancient spirituality. It is all quiet now, sitting in the golden Central Otago light, turning dry and brown in the summer and freezing solid in the winter. It holds the whisper of those thousands long gone and it waits for the few now who can recognise and be entranced by its beauty. I look forward to the next leg at the end of April, when we commemorate our gold rush history with a trip from Milton to Arrowtown via Gabriel's Gully.



We are a group of General Practitioners working part-time within a close partnership. This is so that we can combine providing enthusiastic and good quality health care with family demands

and our desire to lead balanced lives.

New Doctors to the practice are Dr Tim Wilson and Dr Aimee Rondel. Both Tim and Aimee are accepting new patients.

With the flu season looming we are now offering flu vaccinations and recommend that everyone have one, remember they are **free for people over 65 years of age.**

We also recommend that all patients check their tetanus status, and update if needed

The practice runs a walking group at 1pm on Wednesdays and are looking to have more people join them, for a gold coin donation.

Our hours are from 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday. **265 King Edward Street Dunedin**

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Where am I in the Mass? by Canon Gordon Reid (Vicar of St Clements Episcopal Church, Philadelphia)

No, not a bewildered Protestant, but a genuine question we should all ask ourselves. Because, according to how we answer this question will depend our understanding of the Eucharist. And from what I consider the fullest answer comes the greatest joy.

First, it is most obvious that in every Mass we repeat the actions of our Lord at the Last Supper. "He took; he blessed; he broke; he gave" describes what he did on the night he was betrayed, and what the priest does in every Mass. And so, in the Mass we sit like the apostles at the table in the Upper Room, hear the Scriptures read and the Blessing said, and then take "the bread of life and the cup of our salvation" from the altar.

Secondly, we do more than sit in the Upper Room: we also stand at the foot of the Cross at every Mass. Jesus said the bread was his body, which would be given for us, and the wine was his blood which would be shed for us. The full meaning of what he said that night did not dawn on the Apostles until they saw his body broken on the Cross like a bit of bread, and his blood pouring out like wine into a cup. But Jesus had said "Do this as my memorial" and when they began to do it (at first in that same upper room) they knew they were re-presenting his sacrifice of himself on the Cross.

And thirdly, at every Mass we sit at the heavenly banquet in God's Kingdom. The first two places - the Upper Room and Calvary, are in the past, and are brought into the present by the actions of the Mass. But the heavenly banquet is in the future, yet it too is brought into the present in the Mass. All we see and all we taste are bread and wine, but in them is contained, as the oak tree is "in" the acorn, the riches of the Kingdom of Heaven. "Eye hath not seen...what shall be revealed", says St Paul, but every Mass assures us that the whole creation will be transformed by the love of God "for those who love him". And there's the utter necessity of the Mass. It is where we charge our batteries to love God by loving our neighbours. We have to share with them the intimacy of the Last Supper, the pain of the Cross and the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of the dead into eternal life. What a Gospel!

(From Canon Read's blog, 2011 April 21) The St Clements Website address is on the Links page, St Peter's, Caversham website. - article submited by David Hoskins

Reflections at the time of the death of Osama bin Laden

The news of the demise of Osama bin Laden has been felt to bring a measure and a form of closure for thousands affected by the acts of terror over the past decade. It is crucial that the acts of terror in any form, including those masterminded by Osama bin Laden and AI Qaeda, be challenged and overcome.

However, the death of Osama bin Laden is no cause for gloating, or unthinking jubilation. The biblical record is clear in Ezekiel 18:32: "For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live." We are therefore not called to relish the death of anyone. We are called to grieve the fact that turning and living was not chosen in the first place by AI Qaeda, who chose the way of death, but also to grieve all deadly spirals of violence and fear, hatred and prejudice with all their various causes.

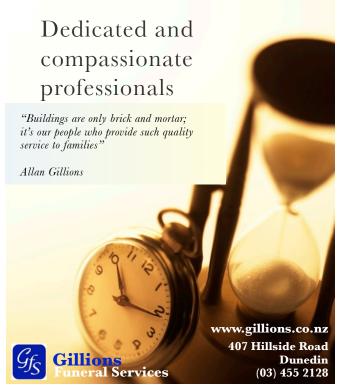
Learning to find a way of understanding the causes of the way of violence and death can, by grace, lead to a measure of God given forgiveness of enemies, as the Gospel calls us to do: Matthew 5:4344, John 13:34, Luke 6:27-28, Romans 12:14, 1 Corinthians 4:12, Romans 12:17-21, 1 Peter 3:9, 1 John 2:9-10. We need insight under God, rather than vengeance. Vengeance belongs to God (Romans 12:19, Hebrews 10:30). An eye for an eye (Matthew 5:38) and the whole world goes blind. This means jingoism and enjoyment of the death of Osama bin Laden can find no place in Christian prayer or Christian thinking.

We can do no better than end with the words of a Christian leader who gave his life for the cause of justice, freedom and abundant life for all people: "I mourn the loss of thousands of precious lives, but I will not rejoice in the death of one, not even an enemy. Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."--Martin Luther King, Jr.

++Brown Turei

++David Moxon

Archbishops of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand



THE ANGLICAN/EPISCOPAL PARISH OF ST. PETER, CAVERSHAM, DUNEDIN. NZ.

Regular Worship Services

please consult calendar for variations

ALL SUNDAYS: 8am Holy Eucharist

10.30am Solemn Eucharist

ALL THURSDAYS 10:00am Eucharist

SUNDAYS OF THE CALENDAR MONTH AT 7pm:

These services are not being held for the next month at this stage

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz



BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, HOUSE BLESSINGS, BURIALS AND CONFESSIONS BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE ARCHDEACON

David Hoskins

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THE ROCK

CALENDAR

with festivals and observances

Sun 15th May - 3rd Sunday after Easter

Thu 19th May - Dunstan - AB. Canterbury, 988

Sun 22nd May - 4th Sunday after Easter

Mon 23rd May -Frederick Bennet, 1st Maori B. 1950

Tue 24th May - Edith, Founder Sacred Name, Christchurch, 1922

Wed 25th May - Bede of Jarrow - 735

Thu 26th May- Augustine of Canterbury

Sun 29th May - 5th Sunday after Easter

Wed 1st June - Justin, Martyr at Rome, c165

Fri 3rd June - Boniface Bishop of Mainz, 754

Sun 5th June - Ascension Day

Thu 9th June - Columbia of Iona, Abbot, 597

Sat 11th June - St Barnabas the Apostle

Sun 12th June - Sunday after Ascension Day

Mon 13th June -Anthony of Padua, Preacher, 1231

Tue 14th June - Basil the Great B.of Caesarea in Cappadocia 379

Wed 15th June - Evelyn Underhill, Mystic, 1941

Sun 19th June - Day of Pentecost - Whitsunday

Sadhu Singh, Teacher, Evangalist, 1299

Tue 21st June - Henare Taratoa of Te Ranga, 1864

Wed 22nd June -Alban, first Martyr of Britain, 304

Thu 23rd June - Wiremu Tamihana, Prophet,1886

Fri 24th June - St John the Baptist

Sun 26th June - Trinity Sunday

Tue 28th June -Irernaeus, Bishop of Lyons, c200

wed 29th June - St Peter & St Paul, Martyrs