



THE ROCK



Anglican Parish of
Caversham Saint Peter,
Dunedin, New Zealand

February 2019
Trinity—Ordinary Time

2019 already looks busy and interesting

With the year barely under way, indications are that Saint Peter's parish life will again be active and cater to a variety of interests, with the return of several favourite activities, functions and Services and some new ones already planned.

On **2 March** we mark the 150th Anniversary of our Diocese with a lecture by The Vicar on *The Advent of Ritualism in the Diocese of Dunedin*. This will be followed by morning tea, then a Solemn Sung Requiem Eucharist for our founding Bishop, Samuel Tarratt Nevill. The Service includes little known but remarkable features of the Bishop's life and ministry.



Evensong Expands

Since the start of this year, Sung Evensong and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is being celebrated on the first, third and fifth Sundays of the month.

In addition, the Service has been improved to include the traditional Introduction and Confession. Provision has also been made to vary some of the hymns used during the Service.

A steady group of "regulars" has developed since Evensong was re-started last year and early indications are that the group is appreciating the extra opportunities to attend this delightful Service. The Vicar, Father Hugh Bowron, says "There is still room for more people though, so why not come and join this musical and liturgical treat".

A curry evening on **5 March** precedes Ash Wednesday which falls on **6 March** and will again be celebrated with a Service of the Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes at 10am and again at 7pm.



PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA

Then, on **Fridays throughout Lent**, the popular *Fish and Chip Eucharist* returns in the lounge at 5.30pm.



There will be a working bee in the Church grounds on Saturday, **9 March**, the parish AGM on **17 March** and a Garage Sale on **6 April**.

Saturday, **18 May**, sees the next in our series of celebrity organ recitals. This year's performer is New Zealand-based international organist Kemp English (pictured at right), a former Dunedin City Organist. The programme has not yet been decided, but the artist's history suggests a wide-ranging, exciting and enjoyable mixture according to Saint Peter's Director of Music, David Hoskins.

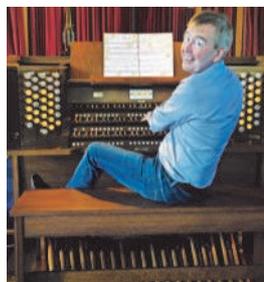


PHOTO: GISBORNEHERALD.CO.NZ

Later in the year we expect to see *The Caversham Lectures 2019*, and of course the Fellowship Group will be offering a variety of interesting get-togethers during the year.

All in all, something for everyone and lots to look forward to. And who knows what else may come to pass as the year progresses.



Evensong
And
Benediction

First, Third and Fifth
Sunday of the month at
5pm

Join us for this quintessentially
Anglican close to the weekend

The Service includes:

Evensong

Benediction of the Blessed
Sacrament

Shrine Prayers



I Believe in Angels

By The Vicar

A letter writer to the editor of *The Rock* asks [see at right—Ed.] why the church does not teach about angels today. In this article I am happy to respond to the challenge.

In the New Testament angels come and go according to crucial movements of the Spirit. We hear of them around Christmas time as they came down out of the night sky outside Bethlehem to startle the shepherds. Already Mary had received a visit from one, with amazing news about the way in which the Son of God would arrive in our world.

Angelic protection saves Jesus as a little child when Joseph is directed to seek refuge for the holy family in Egypt, thus saving them from Herod's murderous cull of local children. As Jesus prepares to begin his ministry by coming to terms with his temptations in the desert angels succour him during his 40-day fast. What kept Jesus safe was not the wild and predatory animals turning over a new leaf, but rather the protection he enjoyed from a rather different kind of being—the angels. Mark seems to be saying that when he reports, "He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him."

Angels are there again close to the end sustaining Jesus and comforting him on his last night on earth in that very difficult and distressing time of anxious waiting in the garden of Gethsemane. This brings to an end what has been a three year absence of angels during the ministry of Jesus. They will also announce to the dispirited followers of Jesus that he has risen from the dead. As Matthew tells it, the first witnesses of the resurrection are confronted by a vivid and powerful reappearance of an angel.

The function of angels is to bring momentous news from God; but they are not just messengers, they also prepare the ground and emotionally prepare people, so they are in a position to receive this startling information. As any of us know who have had to be the bearer of either sad or happy news it is essential to do



An angel is a feature of the James Hodgson memorial window in Saint Peter's.

PHOTO.: INFORMATION SERVICES OTAGO LTD.

Letters

In The Bible, John the Baptist's father, Zacharias the High Priest, refused to believe what the Archangel Gabriel told him his punishment was that he went 'dumb' for a season (Luke 1:20).

Today's Church fails to talk of "angels" and they also have become dumb.

Jesus said that "the angels of heaven do not marry" (Matthew 22:30). Angels save lives. Demons destroy them.

While you are with your families, spare a thought for the unmarried and childless people who live alone this Christmas for no fault of their own.

"And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid..

And the angel said unto them fear not: for behold I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people...

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a saviour, which is Christ the Lord...

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying...

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men'...

"And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, let us now go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known to us..

"And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph and the babe lying in a manger." (Luke 2:9-11,13,-16 KJV)

Merry Christmas, Happy 2019

(Continued on page 3) Anthony Skegg, St Clair.✉

Letters

The Rock welcomes letters to the Editor. Letters are subject to selection and, if selected, to editing for length and house style. Letters may be :

Posted to : The Editor of The Rock,
c/- The Vicarage, 57 Baker Street,
Caversham,
Dunedin, N.Z. 9012

Emailed to: TheRockEditor@stpeterscaversham.org.nz

Ask The Vicar

For answers to questions doctrinal, spiritual and liturgical.

Write to: Ask The Vicar, c/- The Vicarage as above

Or email: AskTheVicar@stpeterscaversham.org.nz

ASK THE VESTRY

Questions about the secular life and fabric of the parish may be:

Posted to : Ask The Vestry, c/- The Vicarage as above

Emailed to: AskTheVestry@stpeterscaversham.org.nz

The Articles of Religion

ISSUED BY THE CONVOCATION OF CLERGY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN 1571

XXXI. Of the one Oblation of Christ finished upon the Cross.

The Offering of Christ once made is that perfect redemption, propitiation, and satisfaction, for all the sins of the whole world, both original and actual; and there is none other satisfaction for sin, but that alone. Wherefore the sacrifices of Masses, in the which it was commonly said, that the Priest did offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, were blasphemous fables, and dangerous deceits..

The Frolicsome Friar



"I'll allow it this time, but from now on let's just communicate through Email, Instagram, Texting, Snapchat, Twitter, FaceTime, Kik, Messages, or Facebook."

SOURCE: WWW.HOWTOGEEK.COM.

Raymond Hargreaves RIP

By The Vicar

Ray Hargreaves, a faithful member of our 8 o'clock congregation, died recently in Leslie Groves rest home. Originally from Whangarei and Auckland, Ray met his future wife Cleone through their shared participation in the worshipping life of Holy Trinity Tauranga, the church in which they were married.



Looking back



Ray Hargreaves' series of articles on Church and local history appeared between February 2014 and November 2016; see *The Rock Archive* on Saint Peter's website.

Ray and Cleone moved to Dunedin where for over three decades he would teach in the Otago University Geography department. He was the author of a history of Selwyn College and also undertook useful historical research into the stained glass windows of Saint Peter's and wrote articles on them and other topics for *The Rock*.

For many years he and Cleone worshipped at St Mary's Mornington, the parish church of the suburb in which they lived. In latter years they transferred their church membership to Saint Peter's Caversham. Ray loved traditional Anglicanism and the Book of Common Prayer and requested that his liturgical farewell be drawn from this source.

He is survived by his wife Cleone and two daughters, one of whom lives in Christchurch and the other in Florence, Italy. ☞



I Believe in Angels

(Continued from page 2)

some preliminary work, some tuning in to the person concerned, rather than just blurting it out. Angels are in the business of helping people through these kinds of transitions so they are in a space and a place to hear what God has to say. Given that Mary of Magdala and Mary are about to meet the risen Jesus face to face, they need all the help they can get.

But the reappearance of angels is of significance at another level also. Another momentous transition is occurring, another changing of the gears is under way in terms of the way God reveals himself in our world, and another mode of disclosure of God the Word is coming into clear focus. That is the other function of angels—they are heralds of a new dawn of God's relationship with us.

That isn't the last we see of angels either. They reappear in a major way in the last book of the Bible. In the book of Revelation they have vital tasks to perform in heaven, and they do battle with the agencies of spiritual evil. Their contest parallels the struggles of the saints on the earth as they contend for the gospel truth despite persecution and opposition. Michael the archangel, the prince of the heavenly host, is the captain of a band which is working in concert with Christian believers in every age and place.

Always at our Sunday Services we are joined I am sure by a great number of the company of heaven, the angels and archangels, who surround us on every side, joining in our every hymn of praise.

Just in case we are inclined to get sceptical and dismissive about angels as remnants of a bygone age of magical explanations for what happens in the world let me report that I find it mighty interesting that some of the finest minds in 20th century theology gave generous time and attention to those spiritual beings. Their report card is that angels are indispensable in the story of our



Abraham Lincoln.

PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA.

salvation—that these remarkable beings have at present unique privileges of access to the Divine being, but that in the long run we human beings have more to hope for and more to expect in terms of our status within the life of the world to come. Angels are spiritual intelligences who serve within the courts of heaven. However, they lack our embodied status which will in the end give us greater glory and an enhanced capacity to be close to God since our humanity makes us akin to the incarnate Jesus.

There is something about Angels which is useful for us in the Lenten observance we are about to begin. Abraham Lincoln used a wonderful phrase in his inaugural address as President appealing to his fellow countrymen to step back from the madness of civil war. He appealed to "the better angels of our nature." By that he meant that inner voice of calm conscience, of moderating common sense, of prudence and restraint which has learnt from past mistakes and is alert to the necessity of not repeating them again. Above all, the better angels of our nature are those peaceable parts of our higher nature which counsel us against the destructive effects of bitterness, angry passion and divisive conflict. They are all for us remaining cool, calm and collected. More than that they encourage us to be messengers of peace when all around us are losing their heads.

As we grow in years and experience we hopefully grow also in emotional intelligence, relationship skills and self-awareness of our impact on others. While concentrated moral effort is a big help in mobilising the better angels of our nature in this regard, we shall also require help—Divine assistance no less. If angels have a protective role—if each one of us has a guardian angel—then let us ask God to send our guardian angel to watch over us with special attention throughout the 40 days of Lent, to guard us, guide us, warn us and encourage us to renounce the sharp tongue and the unkind turn of phrase. May the better angels of our nature combine and coalesce with the heavenly angels to make us better people who are more pleasant to have around, and, dare I say it, more Christian. ☞



Do we each have an angelic part to our nature?

IMAGE: WWW.THEBALANCESMB.COM



Nutritious

Sea Change;



from MED to SEAD

By Alex Chisholm



Portuguese food guide



Having heard we were going to have the chance to taste Portuguese wine at the first 'after Benediction' function of 2019 I realised I didn't know much about Portuguese food so went looking for information and recipes.

Among Portuguese snack foods I discovered Crostini (see at right). This short venture into Portuguese cuisine lead me to an article on the Southern European Atlantic Diet (SEAD) (1). This is the traditional diet of Northern Portugal and Galicia, a

region in northwest Spain. From the health point of view, the Atlantic diet has been associated with a lower risk of non-fatal acute heart attack (AMI) and with a lower concentration of markers of inflammation and with reduced triglycerides, insulin, insulin resistance and systolic blood pressure. There would seem to be two main influences in Portuguese cooking; the Atlantic diet and a more Mediterranean eating pattern.

The SEAD is characterised by high consumption of cod, other fish, red meat, dairy products, vegetables and legumes, soups, potatoes, whole-wheat bread and wine (1). Food recipes are simple, and boiling and steaming are the main cooking techniques. The SEAD

differs from the traditional Mediterranean diet in at least two important aspects; namely the high intake of red meat, pork and fish; and the fact that olive oil is not the main source of total fat. Nuts and fruit also are not prominent components of the Atlantic diet. Similarly to the Mediterranean diet though, the SEAD has a high

(Continued on page 7)

THE RECIPE—CROSTINI

Base:

French baguette loaf, sliced on the diagonal
or Toast sliced bread—for example: Spelt and Flaxseed, Barley and Sunflower seed, Mixed grain heavy or lighter varieties

Fat for coating the bread:

Oil: olive or canola; or table spread (margarine) melted—sufficient to coat both sides of the bread

Method:

- ♦ Pre-heat oven to 150-160°C fan bake or 170-180°C conventional oven bake
- ♦ Brush each side (I used a pastry brush) with oil or melted table spread
- ♦ Place a baking sheet / tray (or a large baking dish) on the oven rack.
- ♦ Lay out the bread slices evenly with a little space between them
- ♦ Bake for 20-30mins until the bread is golden and crunchy but not hard
- ♦ Store in an air tight container until ready to use.

Topping suggestions:

- ♦ Mackerel or Herrings in tomato sauce (optionally add a few heated and mashed chilli beans)
- ♦ Sardines in different flavours
- ♦ Chopped cucumber, capers, sundried tomato on cottage cheese
- ♦ Mixture of finely chopped black olives, anchovy fillets, fresh thyme on ricotta cheese
- ♦ Skinned cooked, chopped broad beans mashed, finely chopped red onion, mint, basil
- ♦ Cottage or feta cheese (optionally add a few chilli flakes), sprinkle of finely chopped nuts—top with a slice of roasted red capsicum
- ♦ Roasted tomato topped with grated Parmesan on ricotta or cottage cheese
- ♦ Olives, tomato and blue cheese on drained and mashed chickpeas
- ♦ Or try Eggplant Caponata Crostini



REFERENCES AND FOOTNOTES:

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In Saint Peter's Garden



By Warwick Harris

Once was a Garden of Eden



Path leading to the entrance of the Qal'at al-Bahrain fort.

PHOTO'S: SUPPLIED.

Like New Zealand, the Kingdom of Bahrain is an archipelago. Located in the Persian Gulf, Bahrain is connected to the eastern shore of Saudi Arabia by a 25km long causeway. Bahrain's natural area, 665 square kilometres, has been increased by land reclamation to 765 square kilometres. Compare this with New Zealand's area of 268,000 square kilometres, 350 times that of Bahrain.

More statistics further emphasise large differences between the two countries. With a population of 1.5 million people Bahrain is much more densely populated

than New Zealand, now approaching five million people. Bahrain is a desert country with mean annual rainfall of 70mm, much drier than Christchurch, New Zealand's driest city, at 620mm and vastly drier than our wettest city, Whangarei, with annual rainfall of 1320mm. Bahrain's hottest month, August, has a monthly average of 38°C. Sufficient to say that if any place in New Zealand reaches a daily temperature of 38°C it is headline news.

It is a custom of New Zealanders is to use weather as an opening subject of conversation. The variability of New Zealand's daily and seasonal weather provides plenty of scope for this. When we visited our oldest son and his wife who now reside in Bahrain, Deirdre and I were fortunate to be accommodated in their spacious air-conditioned house within a compound. From there we went to visit several remarkable historical and modern sites of Bahrain. This involved only short exposures to 40°C temperatures before retreating to the comfort of air-conditioned cars or buildings.

Our first experience of this routine was to visit Qal'at al-Bahrain, otherwise known as the Bahrain or Portuguese Fort. This remarkable archaeological site is now known to have been occupied by people for 5000 years. Human occupation of Bahrain can be traced back for

9000 years. Excavations of the Fort site, which began in the 1950s, by Danish, French and Bahraini archaeologists have revealed its occupation by seven civilizations, beginning with the Dilmun empire. From 1821 the Portuguese occupied the site as the centre of their control over Bahrain for 80 years. British influence prevailed for much of the 19th and 20th centuries before Bahrain became an independent nation in 1971.

The fort was originally on an island, but reclamation has connected it to the mainland of modern Bahrain. Walking to view the fort we saw one ripple of fresh water bubbling up through the brackish water on one side of the fort. This ripple was a relic of fresh water which once came from the Dammam Aquifer in abundance and was essential for human life on Bahrain. Its mixture with salt water produced the marine environment for Bahrain's pearl fisheries—the setting for Bizet's opera *The Pearl Fishers*. Degradation of this unique aqueous environment, and the development of the artificial culture of pearls in Japan, jointly brought about the decline of Bahrain's Pearl Fishery.

Freshwater from the Dammam aquifer once would have replenished the water supplies of ships which carried cargoes from countries of the Indus Valley to countries bordering the Persian Gulf. This sea trade was a focus of piracy and British influence in the Gulf was important in bringing it under control in the 1800s.

(Continued on page 6)



Perspiring visitors take shade from the searing heat of the Bahrain sun in a restored part of Qal'at al-Bahrain fort



Path to the fort alongside brackish water retaining a relic of fresh water from the Dammam aquifer.

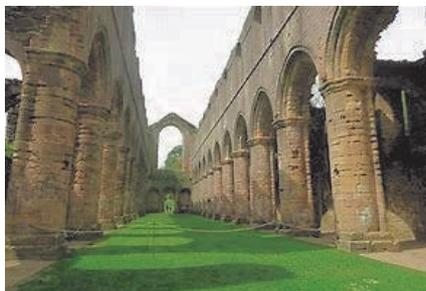
By Di Bunker,
People's Warden

Fountains Abbey is one of the largest and best preserved ruined Cistercian monasteries in England. Founded in 1132, the abbey operated for 407 years becoming one of the wealthiest monasteries in England until its dissolution in 1539 under the order of Henry VIII.



Above: The location of Fountains Abbey in Yorkshire.
Right: The ruins of Fountains Abbey.

MAP: GOOGLE; PHOTO'S: WIKIPEDIA



It is set in 70 acres of grounds and the ruins are magnificent. I could not find out how many monks would be in residence at any one time, but judging by the size of the ruins it must have been dozens. It is located near Ripon in Yorkshire and well worth a visit. I find it awe inspiring every time I visit.

CHURCHWARDEN
CORNER

In Saint Peter's Garden

(Continued from page 5)

Water from the aquifer was once sufficient to meet the requirements of the people and their livestock living on Bahrain and for irrigation of their crops. It has been postulated that Bahrain was the location of the Biblical Garden of Eden. Now, Bahrain's primary economic lifeblood is oil and its need for water, even that required for growth of drought tolerant date palms, is provided by desalination. Tourism will be a growing source of Bahrain's income in future and the country's ancient history and archaeological sites will be key factors in this.

Currently the number of tourists visiting Bahrain annually is about five times the number of residents. Mostly the tourists are from nearby Arab States, many travelling by the causeway linking Bahrain with Saudi Arabia. While these tourists are mostly pleasure seekers, development of museums and revelations of archaeological sites are in future likely to attract more interest from

Once was a Garden of Eden

tourists with interests in the environment and history. New Zealand, with its emphasis on greenness and ideal of a land of milk and honey, can learn much from what has happened, and is happening, to Bahrain.



High rise buildings of Bahrain's modern capital, Manama, provide a background for archaeologically excavated relics of settlements associated with Qal'at al-Bahrain.

Rock music
Organ Recital?

(Continued from page 8)

instrument which still stops worshippers and concert-goers in their tracks. In England the municipal organ was an essential part of late 19th century and early 20th century life. At the Alexandra Palace the famed 'Father' Willis organ was proclaimed the 'finest in Europe' and regularly played to thousands. Dunedin's own town hall organ, 'Norma', has always played an important part in the life of the city.

After World War 2 many instruments had been destroyed in bombing and fires. Municipal authorities were too concerned with housing and public amenities to worry about pipe organs in town halls. However, from the early 1980s a movement has grown world-wide to restore or rebuild-in-the-style-of many of the pipe organs once thought lost forever. New and exciting instruments have been commissioned such as in the Auckland Town Hall, where the German firm of Klais

installed a large instrument in 2010.

Organ recitals reflect this diversity of instruments. Everything from Bach to Widor to Messiaen and beyond now forms part of a contemporary programme alongside popular transcriptions. The organ recital now features 'something for everyone'. The Saint Peter's concert will reflect that. It will also be a chance to hear the large touring organ, the Johannus D470. I heard it when it was installed in St Paul's Cathedral in the Octagon and what a sound!

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Regular Services

(for variations consult *The Pebble* or our website)
All services are held in Saint Peter's unless noted otherwise

SUNDAY:

8am: Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer
10.30am: Solemn Sung Eucharist

5pm: **first, third and fifth Sundays of the month only** : Evensong and Benediction followed by a social gathering in the lounge.

THURSDAY:

10am: Eucharist

FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH:

11am: Eucharist in the lounge of Frances Hodgkins Retirement Village, Fenton Crescent

Special Services

Contact The Vicar to arrange baptisms, weddings, house blessings, burials, confessions and other special services.

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vestry meetings are generally held every two months.

The February meeting was held after press time. A summary of proceedings will appear in the Pebble.☒



Nutritious

Sea Change; from MED to SEAD

(Continued from page 4)

intake of vegetables and whole foods and moderate wine consumption with meals.

One cross sectional dietary and health marker survey ascertained that legumes and vegetables, whole-grain bread, dairy products and wine were the foods which contributed most to the reduced risk of acute myocardial infarction (AMI). In Southern Portugal—the Algarve—production of food, which includes a variety of fish and other seafood, different types of fruit such as oranges, figs, plums, carob beans and almonds, is also economically important for the region.

Incidentally, in an assessment of 41 diets by a panel of experts the Mediterranean Diet has just been voted the most popular diet, very narrowly ahead of the DASH diet according to the 2019 U.S. News and World Report annual diet rankings (2).

As there seems to be a growing attention given to regional diets as evidenced by increased interest in the Nordic Diet, maybe it and the SEAD will in future also feature in the list. Portugal also is co-operating with the FAO on "Revitalisation of the Mediterranean Diet for the Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems".

As I gather there will be Portuguese wine again soon I'll be making crostini with some different toppings—the previous ones seemed to go down well.

See *The Recipe* on page 4 for the general directions for the base and some suggested toppings.☒



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For your diary

Tuesday, 5 March : Curry evening at 6pm at Shree Indian restaurant in the Mornington shopping centre. Please sign the notice in the Link so we can make a booking

Wednesday, 6 March : Ash Wednesday : Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes at 10am and again at 7pm

Friday, 8 March and each following Friday until Good Friday : Fish and Chip Eucharist in the lounge at 5.30pm

Saturday, 9 March : Working Bee in the Church grounds

Sunday, 17 March: Parish AGM following the 10:30am Service

Sunday, 24 March : Deadline for copy for the March edition of *The Rock*

Saturday, 6 April : Garage Sale

Saturday, 18 May : Organ recital by Kemp English at 2.30pm

Rock music

By David Hoskins, Director of Music



What exactly is an 'Organ Recital'?

The eminent New Zealand organist Kemp English is set to present an organ recital at Saint Peter's later this year. It will be a 'not-to-be-missed' and Mr. English's remarkable talents will ensure a fine music time will be had by all. He will be presenting what we have come to call an organ recital. But what of this term. There is more to it than first imagined.

We know little of what constituted organ recitals in the time of J.S. Bach (1685-1750). The organ was expressly for use in a liturgical context, though throughout Baroque Europe the instrument became larger and larger due to a growing sense of competitive civic pride. Certainly, Bach was engaged on numerous occasions to open new organs.



The massive instrument built by Wm Hill in the Sydney Town Hall in 1890. It features an earth-rumbling 64ft pedal rank!

PHOTO: SUPPLIED.

We know little of the programmes or even if the concerts were large public occasions. Bach was an improviser of renown and extemporised music was to the fore.

George Frederick Handel (1685-1759) was famed for his improvised playing of the small chamber organ during intervals of his opera performances. However, these could not be classed as recitals.

Any form of recital during this period would have been extended voluntaries before and after services. It is at the beginning of the 19th century that the organ recital as we now know it began to develop. European synagogues did not permit organs in worship but did allow the performance of organ music before the sundown Shabat service.

The form we now have developed in the USA in the early 19th century and consisted of transcriptions of orchestral music and sacred hymns interspersed with solo and choral items. Musicians such as Dudley Buck (1839-1909) and John Paine (1839-1906) were part of the first contingent of gifted American musicians to study in Germany. They returned with organ music by Bach and the contemporary German composers such as Joseph Rheinberger (1838-1901). Along with other talented players they began subscription organ concerts—particularly in and around Boston. With the building of the large Boston Music Hall organ in 1869 and the construction of ever-larger churches and church organs, the organ recital began to take form—particularly as a Sunday afternoon event.

The repertoire included Bach but relied on the transcriptions of popular orchestral and vocal music of the day. It was in the organ transcription that most people heard movements of symphonies and overtures for the first time. By the end of the 19th century the organ recital was a world-wide phenomenon. Visiting virtuosi could pack out a large concert hall with audiences in excess of 3,000. The instruments themselves reflected the eclectic musical fare on offer as they became bigger and filled with ranks of pipes imitating orchestral instruments.

The French organists became famous for their recitals and no trip to Paris was complete without hearing an organist such as Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937) at Saint-Sulpice on the huge and thunderous

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Justin Welby
The Archbishop of Canterbury



God's language of love changes us as we use it. When we weep over the suffering of a friend, lament the loss of one whom we loved, celebrate new life, discover how much someone loves us, we do so more deeply when we are filled with the love of God, a love expressed in the Word that comes into our lives through this child in the manger, God's language of love.

When great events stir us, or gathering shadows in nation or world wake us in the dark hours, we bring light when we turn to God made flesh and speak the language of God's love.

When suffering overwhelms, and all answers seem vain, God's word is faithful—faithful to those who do not have the strength to hang on to God. This language is spoken even when we cannot receive it. 

More online :

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