



Anglican Parish of  
Caversham Saint Peter,  
Dunedin, New Zealand

# THE ROCK

March 2022—Lent



## New Vicar appointed

After an almost one year interregnum, the Bishop has announced this month the appointment of the Reverend Natalie Milliken as Vicar of Saint Peter's Caversham. In this, her first article for *The Rock*, she introduces herself to her new parishioners.

I was born in Cooma NSW in winter. My parents lived above the snow line in a transit camp during the construction of the Snowy Mountains Hydro Scheme and as a result my early education was not typical of most Aussie kids. I attended Cabramurra Primary School, a two-teacher school which consisted of thirty children from a variety of European and Australian backgrounds. We were the only school in Australia to have our own ski tow. Our family, mum, dad and four children moved to Jindabyne for Dad's work and high school.

I met Dan at university while I was studying teaching. Dan was a city boy studying pathology with the RAAF. They say, 'opposites attract' and we can attest to that. We married and moved to Perth for two years and had two little girls. Dan left the Airforce and pursued a career in public health. Then the two boys arrived. Four children in five years.

We moved a number of times, both across town and state, due to housing insecurity and job opportunities. We clocked up fifteen moves in fifteen years.

During this time, we also did a role reversal and I began my career as a primary school teacher while Dan took on

the domestic duties. I had the opportunity to work in small and large schools and even taught in Kent, UK for nine months. Dan worked part-time as a pathology technician in a variety of hospitals.



The Reverend Natalie Milliken, Vicar-designate of Saint Peter's.

PHOTO: SUPPLIED.

I began studying theology to supplement my involvement in church activities. The calling was confirmed a few years later and I was ordained in 2015. I left teaching after twenty-five years and became the Anglican chaplain for Junee Correctional Centre. I have spent the last six years working with inmates and staff. During this time, I completed my Masters in Counselling and supported three different churches by providing services and Holy Communion.

Dan and I are looking forward to meeting more of God's children and experiencing life in another part of this fabulous world. Our family and friends have promised to visit us in Dunedin and we hope you will join us as we share our new home with generosity and grace. 🙏

On page 2: *Unprecedented times. A first letter to parishioners.*



# Unprecedented(?) times

By The Reverend Natalie Milliken, Vicar-designate

I have a confession to make. The photo's I sent you are not a true and accurate record. I have had grey hair since I was in my late twenties and have had it cut and coloured regularly to hide the fact. It first happened when, as a mother of three very small children, a hairdresser transformed my unruly greying mop of hair into a stylish vision of sophistication. After many decades of differing styles and a variety of hairdressers I believe it is time I attempt to gracefully embrace the grey. I have decided to face the fact there are more important aspects of one's life which are judged more keenly than hair colour.

The circumstances of our birth and upbringing, our education and the people we associate with, do not always reflect who we really are. Our Lord Jesus Christ was born in questionable circumstances and grew up in obscurity. We know very little of his adulthood, before his very short and turbulent ministry and he was repeatedly targeted by those in authority as a troublemaker. Yet his life and teachings, death and resurrection continue to resonate in individuals' lives and in society in general.

It takes time and effort to truly begin to know ourselves, let alone others. Learning to be honest about our aspirations and failures, our strengths and insecurities requires faith that we are loved by our Father God.

## Evensong pooch



The Bishop celebrated Evensong and Benediction last Sunday and amongst the attentive and intelligent listeners in the congregation, one paid particular attention to Her Master's Voice.

PHOTO.: INFORMATION SERVICES OTAGO LTD.

*Caption competition*

If you have another caption (or headline) for this photo., email it to [therockeditor@stpeterscaversham.org.nz](mailto:therockeditor@stpeterscaversham.org.nz).

what's the opposite of unprecedented?



familiar, usual, common, normal, ordinary, preceded, hackneyed, standard, commonplace, customary



Thesaurus.plus

In Mark 10: 13 -16

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

Jesus reminds us that we are loved by Him and are to intentionally enter heaven with childlike hearts. Not as experts in our field or as people of wealth or influence, but as children. Open-hearted and trusting that God will provide all our needs. We can often be distracted by events which are happening around us, both personally and internationally, but as history shows, change and disruption has always occurred.

What amazes me is the over use of the word 'unprecedented.' The media isn't reporting anything unique or extraordinary. We may not have personally witnessed these events before but If we truly look through time, things are no more or less turbulent than before. War, death, drought, floods, earthquakes and disease

have always affected either ourselves or our neighbours. The question for the Church is how do we react to these constant challenges? Do we rail against the apparent unfairness of the situation or do we trust that our Father God will provide.

Do we turn to our neighbour in need or do we distance ourselves to avoid involvement?

Jesus Christ provided a precedent for the Church. As the children of the living God we are to face the changes and challenges of life confident in two things. Confidence in Jesus Christ our brother and redeemer and the gift of the Holy Spirit. 📖

# What about the ‘End of the world’ then?



By Father Kit Bunker

That is possible but highly unlikely. When I was small, I thought my big brother knew absolutely everything and it was of him that I asked my difficult questions. Could we build a flying car in the cellar? “No.” A more persistent question might follow, ‘But could someone build a flying car at home?’ Questions like this, I learned, usually had the answer “It is perhaps possible, but really highly unlikely”. That seems to me to be the most honest answer to give to anyone wondering whether what we are living through is what is described in the later chapters of the *Book of Revelation*. It is unlikely.

I did have another read of the book a few weeks ago to check up what I remembered the later chapters as describing. It is as I remembered...



the first few chapters make extraordinarily good sense, but then the book becomes progressively weird, weirder and then really really weird.

Scripture being scripture, I expect the later chapters of Revelation will make excellent sense when the end of the world really is imminent. But this is not it. How do I know? Simply because the descriptions of the world in those later chapters of the book do not have any resemblance to the kind of world we live in now. So what do we do?

We believers need to keep faith in difficult times. We may be frightened, but we will not act frightened and will be ready to give ‘reason for the faith that is within us’.

This is not the ‘End of the World’. See if I’m not right.☑

## The Frolicsome Friar



“The emoji she used says she loves me, but not in that way because our souls are on a different path to enlightenment. Or, it’s just a smiley face and I’m reading too much into it.”

SOURCE: WWW.HOWTOGEEK.COM..

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:AskTheVestry@stpeterscaversham.org.nz)

## Happy 21<sup>st</sup>

When The Reverend Natalie Milliken is installed as our Vicar, she will be the 21<sup>st</sup> Vicar of Saint Peter’s Caversham.



Prior Vicars have been a varied lot—from the academic to the seriously practical, from the musical to the tone deaf. Find out who they were on our web site at <http://www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz/vicars.html>



To learn more about this year’s Lenten Appeal, including how to donate, visit

[HTTPS://ANGMISSIONS.ORG.NZ/APPEALS/LEN-TEEN-APPEAL-2022](https://angmissions.org.nz/appeals/len-ten-appeal-2022)





# Nutritious

## The importance of the wild crops



By Alex Chisholm

There are several foods which could vanish from our kitchens and ingredients from our recipes, due to the damage done to their wild relatives. Climate and weather pattern change, ravages of crops by insects, agriculture in otherwise wild areas and pesticide use—all these have played a part.



Vanilla an orchid native to South and Central America is critically endangered on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) list of threatened plants and animals. Of the dozens of wild relatives studied, at least 16 have been used to breed crops which are more resilient to extreme weather and other threats. However if this genetic diversity is lost it could be difficult to produce new resilient strains.

Drought resistant potatoes and higher yield maize varieties are two which have been developed. The losses of plant habitats are affecting low-income communities, especially those which rely on agriculture for food security and the economy, and where people traditionally use a variety of plants as food and medicine. Indigenous cultures and local groups have key roles to play in their preservation. In New Zealand a large variety of heritage vegetables is available for us to plant. Mesoamerica (southern North and most of Central America) is the home of major crops and their domestication so it is important worldwide that the wild crops with their genetic differences are preserved. Wild relatives of food crops such as banana, apple, prunes and ginger are also on the red list as threatened.

A ready supply of coffee may also be affected!



The foods at risk are not rare or exotic items but ones used in meal preparation. Amongst them are potatoes, vanilla, avocado, cocoa, beans, squash, chilli pepper and some tomato varieties.

Order on-line @ [www.unclejoes.co.nz](http://www.unclejoes.co.nz)



IMAGE: [HTTPS://WWW.BRAINPOP.COM](https://www.brainpop.com).



### REFERENCES:

[HTTPS://WWW.THEGUARDIAN.COM/ENVIRONMENT/2021/SEP/07/AVOCADO-AND-VANILLA-AMONG-HUNDREDS-OF-CROP-WILD-RELATIVES-FACING-EXTINCTION-STUDY-AOE](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/sep/07/avocado-and-vanilla-among-hundreds-of-crop-wild-relatives-facing-extinction-study-aoe)

'THESE CROPS COULD GO EXTINCT'. LIZZY ROSENBERG, ASSOCIATE EDITOR, DISTRACTIFY.

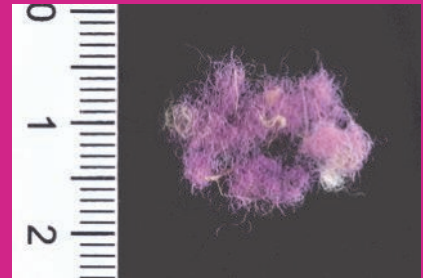
# The Royal purple connection

-when sea snails weren't used for food.

By Alex Chisholm

**I**n the ancient world purple was the colour reserved for royalty or people of high importance. Recent findings by Israeli researchers of cloth fragments in 'true' "argaman" royal purple have been dated to around 1000BC. They were found in an ancient copper mine at the Timna Valley in southern Israel, near Eilat and offer startling new insight into an ancient elite class. These are the earliest finds of the colourful fabrics in the Southern Levant, during a period when the Bible recounts the conquering of the Edomites by King David.

True purple was produced primarily from three species of sea snails (pictured at right) found in the Mediterranean and involved a very complicated process. Only a very tiny amount of dye could be extracted from each snail and the true purple colours ranged in shades from purplish-red to violet-blue. Common evidence of the purple-dye industry in archaeological sites are the large quantities of murex shells, from which the dye-glands were removed. However, these heaps may indicate other uses of the snails, including food. 📧



## REFERENCES:

CITATION: SUKENIK N, ILUZ D, AMAR Z, VARVAK A, SHAMIR O, BEN-YOSEF E (2021) EARLY EVIDENCE OF ROYAL PURPLE DYED TEXTILE FROM TIMNA VALLEY (ISRAEL). PLOS ONE 16(1): e0245897. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1371/JOURNAL.PONE.0245897](https://doi.org/10.1371/JOURNAL.PONE.0245897)

## More colours coming | Alex Chisholm has more colourful foods in our future.

**A**t this time of year we are enjoying the purple and red fruits of Autumn which still includes berries.

Recently I received a mail from a friend who posted news with a photo of her bramble gathering success. It took me back to memories of gathering berry fruits not only in our garden but in areas where we probably wouldn't be allowed today.

In more recent times when my daughter and her family were away for their summer holiday I was left 'in charge' of the house and garden, with instructions to help myself to fruits and vegetables which needed picking. I didn't need any encouragement as this included keeping their very extensive raspberry canes in check. A bonus that something which tasted so good could also be good for your health.

Raspberries, like most of the berry fruits, are low in energy (calories) but rich in compounds which promote health, including heart health.

I'll be writing more about this very soon. Meanwhile enjoy the bounty of the red and purple fruits of Autumn. 📧

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## Correction

**R**osemary Brown advises her obituary for Eileen Pratt, published last month, incorrectly noted Eileen was at Otago Girls' High School. In fact she went to King Edward Technical College.

At left is a recent photograph of Eileen supplied by her daughter Catherine. 📧

By Di Best

People's Warden

**D**eirdre and I are very grateful for all the support we have had from Bishop Steven and visiting clergy as well as Father Kit and Father James from Saint Peter's.

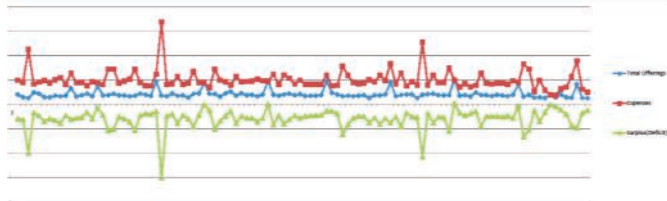
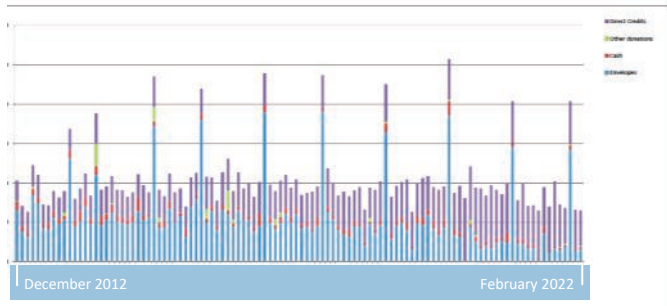
The Bishop has been so helpful in guiding us through this difficult time and taking so many of the services. We look forward to him presiding at all the Easter Services and hope you support us by attending most of them.



Due to COVID and parishioners dying or moving away during the last year, donations have decreased quite considerably and we need to look very hard at what each of us can manage to give to keep the parish able to support a full time priest. Though we are unable at present to visit the retirement and rest homes, in normal times there are 20 services a month plus home communions and this is too much of a workload for a part time priest.

Thank you all for continuing to come to Saint Peter's despite the pandemic. 🙏

CHURCHWARDEN CORNER



Financial history: The top chart shows the monthly offerings over the past ten years. The lower graph maps our operating expenses (red line) and total offerings (blue line) during the same period. The green line indicates the difference between the two—consistently well below break-even.

YOU CAN HELP

With a new vicar about to arrive we need to make the vicarage liveable.



Please let the wardens know if you have any spare furniture, linen, cutlery, cups, saucers, plates etc. to give or lend to the cause.



Lenten array

**T**he chasuble which celebrants of the Said Eucharist are wearing in Saint Peter's during Lent was found recently in the church vestment cupboard. Father Carl Somers-Edgar observes "It is obviously intended to be worn during Lent as it is made, appropriately, of a drab material resembling sackcloth. It is also beautifully embroidered with a Crown of Thorns for Passiontide as well."

Parishioner Jenny Maffey has made a matching stole, burse and veil to complete the set. All items are pictured here in photo's by Jenny Maffey. 🙏



## 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: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month: Evensong and Benediction

### SECOND AND FOURTH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH:

11am: Holy Communion  
in the chapel of the Home of St Barnabas, Ings Avenue

### 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.

### Parish Contacts:

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#### AND PARISH CENTRE MANAGER:

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## 'Who Wrote that Lovely Piece?'

(Continued from page 8)

just a small chamber organ. The opus 4 concertos were for organ or harpsichord, are tuneful and quite simple with an 'ad.lib' section where it is expected the player improvise in suitable style.

By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century the organs on which these concertos were performed had become monstrous in size and volume. A recording exists on YouTube of Sir George Thalben Ball playing with the Philharmonia Orchestra in the late 1940s which demonstrates this very well. The performance pauses while Sir George launches into an extraordinary, florid and very loud cadenza which goes on at great length. However, that tradition is now discredited and performances more in keeping with the chamber resources called for by Handel are generally the norm today.

The organ concertos are well worth searching out. They are charming and often surprisingly virtuosic. Handel, after all, had to entertain the audience. 🎹

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FUNERAL SERVICES

## For your diary

**Fridays in Lent** : Holy Eucharist followed by a Fish and Chip supper in the Parish Lounge at 5.30pm

### Services for Holy Week and Easter at Saint Peter's Caversham

**Palm Sunday—10 April 2022**  
8am Holy Eucharist (1662)  
10.30am Solemn Sung Eucharist  
**Maundy Thursday—14 April**  
7pm Commemoration of the Institution of the Lord's Supper, Stripping of the Altar and Vigil  
**Good Friday—15 April**  
12noon Celebration of the Lord's Passion and Veneration of the Cross  
**Holy Saturday—16 April**  
8pm Easter Vigil, Service of Light and the First Mass of the Resurrection  
**Easter Day—17 April**  
8am Holy Eucharist (1662)  
10.30am Solemn Sung Eucharist and Procession  
5pm Evensong and Benediction

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

## 'Who Wrote that Lovely Piece?'

After a recent Evensong I played an arrangement of a slow movement from an organ concerto by George Frideric Handel (1685-1759). The organ stood in for the orchestra and the arrangement works very well as the



George Frideric Handel.

Handel was German-born but spent the greater part of his life living and working in London. He became famous for his operas, oratorios, anthems and organ concertos among other works. Having received the majority of his musical training in Halle, Hamburg and Italy, he settled in London in 1712 and became a naturalised British subject in 1727. He was influenced by the music of the Italian Baroque and the great German polyphonic choral tradition.

Within 15 years of arriving in Britain, Handel had started three commercial opera companies to satisfy the needs of a large, affluent audience for the then

Saint Peter's instrument has a very good, digital harpsichord included in its array of special effects. People have asked about the music and the origins of this lovely music.



The interior of Covent Garden theatre with Handel's organ on-stage.



By David Hoskins, Director of Music

wildly-fashionable Italian opera.

Many musicologists have noted how Handel was not only a brilliant musician but possessed a genius for theatrically dramatic theatre.

However, after the success of the choral work, *Alexander's Feast* in 1736, Handel did not return to the Italian operatic genre. With the even greater success of *Messiah* in 1742, he devoted his composing life to dramatic sacred works. He lived in England for nearly fifty years and died, almost blind, a rich and respected man in 1759. His state funeral at Westminster Abbey was followed by his burial within the Abbey as a final honour.

The organ concertos have been published in two volumes—the excerpt played at Saint Peter's came from the opus 4 set published by John Walsh in 1738. Handel originally wrote them to fill in the intervals of performances of various oratorios at Covent Garden.

Handel would utilise the orchestra on hand for the choral work and by all accounts his improvised performances of the solo part caused amazement. The concertos paved the way for the concertos of Mozart and Beethoven.

The organ Handel had constructed at Covent Garden was quite resourceful and not

(Continued on page 7)



Justin Welby  
The Archbishop of Canterbury

A Sermon preached on 7 February, 2022 at Belfast Central Mission as part of the Four Corners Festival.

“Today across much of the world there will be a grateful remembering of the 70 years of service that the Queen has given. Service she gives first to God, then to the country and far more widely. It reaches far beyond those places where she's head of state. It is seen and summed up in words she has used when asked about her wants and desires. She says 'it's not about me'. In that faithfulness to duty based in faithfulness to God, we see her bearing the fruit of a life of service and of love.”



More online :

Read the complete sermon at:

<https://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/speaking-writing/sermons/archbishop-justins-sermon-four-corners-festival-belfast>

