



THE PEBBLE

The Anglican Church of Saint Peter, Caversham.

4th Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2011.



WELCOME!

A warm welcome to our Celebrant and Preacher, Fr. Geoff Hughes and everyone in Church today as we meet together to worship God the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier.

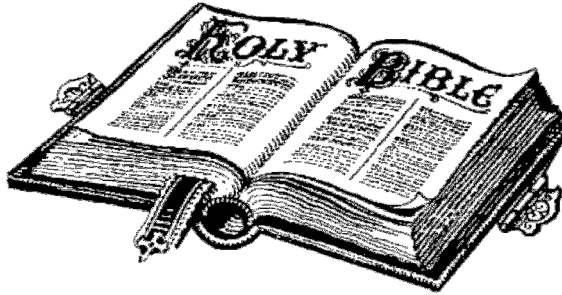
Entrance: 104 (T.383[1]) **Gradual:** 459 **Offertory:** 100 (T.128[2])

Communion: 282 **Postcommunion:** Words in this Pebble.

The Ministry of Prayer for Healing and Wholeness is offered in the Lady Chapel at the back of the Church during Communion.

Everyone is warmly invited to Morning Tea in the Parish Lounge after the Solemn Eucharist.

READINGS FOR TODAY.



1st Reading: Acts 2:14-41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its

power. For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you both see and hear. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.'" Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel: John 10:1-10

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find

pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Collect:

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **AMEN**

Readings for Next Sunday – 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 6:1-7/1 Peter 2:4-9/John 14:1-12.

Parish Prayers



WE PRAY for the people of Christchurch and surrounding districts devastated by earthquake and loss of life and heritage. We pray especially for Bishop Victoria, the clergy and people of the Diocese of Christchurch as they proclaim God's care for the city and its people.

WE PRAY for people throughout North Africa and the Middle East at this time of revolution and conflict.

WE PRAY for the sick and infirm, and especially for Rita Marlow, Louis Hourlier, Gary Pearson, Nell van Laar, Adrienne Garrod, Claire Johnson, John Petersen, Hannah Scott, Beryl Barclay, Lil Bedford, Cherry Gordon, Ian Gordon and Fr Bill Schroeder.

WE PRAY for the Departed, for those who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Barbara Margaret Rodgers, Arthur Bath and Louise Lewis.

Parish News.



The Holy Eucharist is celebrated in the Parish Lounge on Thursday at 10 am.

Observances: (19) Dunstan.

The New Edition of the Rock is now available. Make sure you get your copy!

Monday Club meets in the Hall from 10 am. Everyone is assured of a warm welcome!

Vestry meets on Wednesday at 7.30 pm in the Parish Lounge.

Working Bee: Everyone is invited to join the Toroa Lions group in a tidy-up of the church grounds, Saturday May 21, starting at 9.30 am (weather permitting). Bring garden tools, refreshments and humour!

Parish Contacts.



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