



# THE PEBBLE

**The Anglican Church of Saint Peter, Caversham.**

**7th Sunday of Easter/Ascensiointide June 5, 2011.**

**WELCOME!**

A warm welcome to our Celebrant and Preacher, Archdeacon Bernard Wilkinson 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.

**Hymns for Today: : Entrance: 134 Gradual: 130 Offertory: 271 Communion: 129 Post-communion: 443**

**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.**

**Collect:**

O Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## READINGS FOR TODAY.



### **1st Reading: Acts 1:6-14**

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

### **2nd Reading: 1 Peter 4:12 - 5:11**

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, a criminal, or even as a mischief maker. Yet if any of you suffers as a Christian, do not consider it a disgrace, but glorify God because you bear this name. For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God; if it begins with us, what will be the end for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And “If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinners?” Therefore, let those suffering in accordance with God’s will entrust themselves to a faithful Creator, while continuing to do good. Now as an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory

to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it—not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. In the same way, you who are younger must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

### **Gospel: John 17:1-11**

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.” I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

### **Readings for Next Sunday – Pentecost.**

Acts 2:1-21/1 Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13/ John 20: 19-23.

## 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 those in Anglican Religious Orders in Melanesia, Polynesia, and Papua New Guinea.

**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, Suzanne Drummond and Fr Bill Schroeder.

**WE PRAY** for the Departed, for those who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time, Amy May Hore, Elma Coxon, Winifred Mary Murray and Mary Ann Brown.

### **PRAYER FOR THE PARISH:**

**GOD OUR FATHER** you have welcomed each one of us in Jesus and called us to be His Body in this place; send us your Holy Spirit, at this time of uncertainty and change, to fill us with vision, energy, and faithfulness in prayer, that we may be true to our calling to bring new life to our community; and guide with your heavenly wisdom those who are to choose a new Priest for this parish, that the one whom we receive may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people: ready to serve us with joy, to build us up in faith, and to lead us by example in loving obedience to your Son, Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

## Parish News.



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

**Observances:** (5) Boniface (8) Thomas Ken (9) Columba (11) BARNABAS.

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

**The Lenten Mission Boxes** can be handed to Rita-May Brown. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Pot Luck Lunch** next Sunday after the 10.30am Solemn Eucharist. All Welcome.

**Diocesan Social Justice Training Day.** Next Saturday, June 11, 10am-4pm, in St Peter's Hall. Details are posted on the Link noticeboard. Our parish Social Justice representative is Joan Dutton. She is happy to assist with any queries.

**Material for the next Rock** is due next Sunday.

**St Peter's Fellowship.** To celebrate the formation of the St Peter's Fellowship, there will be an afternoon tea in the Parish Lounge preceded by an organ concert in the church by David Hoskins. **Date: June 18th. Time: 2pm. Everyone Welcome.**

**The St Peter's Friendship Group** meets in the Parish Lounge on Tuesday **June 14** at **2pm.**

**A Message From Fr. Bernard:** Next Sunday (June 12) is Pentecost Sunday, one of the major festivals of the Church. It commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit, and the flames of fire. Why not help us to celebrate Pentecost? Wear something red to church, a red dress, red tie, red jersey, red shirt – even red socks! After all, I'll be wearing red vestments! Set the church alight! There'll be a prize for the most imaginative use of red at 8 am and 10.30 services.

## **Parish Contacts.**



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