



THE PEBBLE

The Anglican Church of Saint Peter, Caversham.

4th Sunday after Trinity

July 17, 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.



Today Liturgy:

8.00am Holy Eucharist (1662) **10.30am** Solemn Eucharist (1989)

Mass Setting: The Taize Mass.

Prelude: Vesper Voluntary (Edward Elgar)

Entrance: 436 Gradual: 486 Offertory: 420 Communion: 414 Post-communion: 477 (T.408)

Postlude: Variations on a Ground (Leo Sowerby)

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.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings for Today.



First Reading: Wisdom of Solomon 12: 13-19

For neither is there any god besides you, whose care is for all people, to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly; nor can any king or monarch confront you about those whom you have punished. You are righteous and you rule all things righteously, deeming it alien to your power to condemn anyone who does not deserve to be punished. For your strength is the source of righteousness, and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all. For you show your strength when people doubt the completeness of your power, and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it. Although you are sovereign in strength, you judge with mildness, and with great forbearance you govern us; for you have power to act whenever you choose. Through such works you have taught your people that the righteous must be kind, and you have filled your children with good hope, because you give repentance for sins.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called

according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 13: 24-43.

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing. This was to

fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: "I will open my mouth to speak in parables; I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world." Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Next Sunday's Readings: Trinity 5/Mary Magdalene.

Ruth1: 1-18/Acts 13: 4-52/John 20:1-18.

Parish Prayers



WE PRAY for the people of Christchurch and surrounding districts rebuilding homes and lives after the devastation of the earthquakes. 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 Sisters of the Community of the Sacred Name, their work in Fiji at St Christopher's Home and elsewhere.

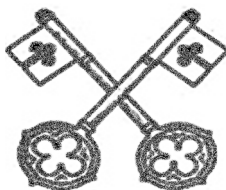
WE PRAY for the sick and infirm, and especially for Rita Marlow, Louis Hourlier, Nell van Laar, Adrienne Garrod, Claire Johnson, John Petersen, Hannah Scott, Beryl Barclay, Lil Bedford, Meg Dunbar, Ruth Brown, Cherry Gordon, Ian Gordon, and Suzanne Drummond.

WE PRAY for the Departed, for those who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Len Burt, Beatrice Mary Beattie, Evelyn Ward, Dorothy Genevieve Dickie and Arthur Hughes.

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: (19) Gregory of Nyssa (22) MARY MAGDALEN (23) John Cassian

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

The Rock. The new edition of the Rock is published. Copies available in church and the Link.

St Peter's Women's Group. As the visit to Rockburn has had to be postponed, this month's get together will be at St Peter's on Saturday July 23 at 2pm. The guest will be Denise Gow who will speak about her life in a wheelchair following a horse-riding accident.

Christian World Service Appeal. Details of the **urgent appeal** for those affected by the drought in the Horn of Africa are in the Link today.

Vestry meets in the Parish Lounge on Wednesday (20) at 7.30pm.

The Friendship Group meets at St Barnabas Home on Tuesday August 9, commencing with a Eucharist at 11am followed by a luncheon at 12.15pm to celebrate the **Guild's 130th anniversary.**

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