



The Pebble

March 25, 2012

Lent 5/Passion Sunday

HYMN TO GOD THE FATHER.

I.

WILT Thou forgive that sin where I begun,
Which was my sin, though it were done before?
Wilt Thou forgive that sin, through which I run,
And do run still, though still I do deplore?
When Thou hast done, Thou hast not done,
For I have more.

II.

Wilt Thou forgive that sin which I have won
Others to sin, and made my sin their door?
Wilt Thou forgive that sin which I did shun
A year or two, but wallowed in a score?
When Thou hast done, Thou hast not done,
For I have more.

III.

I have a sin of fear, that when I have spun
My last thread, I shall perish on the shore ;
But swear by Thyself, that at my death Thy Son
Shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore ;
And having done that, Thou hast done ;
I fear no more

John Donne

A Warm Welcome

to all who are sharing with us in worship this morning. The Ministry of Healing and Wholeness is offered in the Chapel of Our Lady at the back of the Church during Communion. Everyone is warmly invited to Morning Tea in the Parish Lounge after the Solemn Eucharist.

The Liturgy for Today:

8:00 am Holy Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

10:30 am Solemn Eucharist (The Taize Mass setting)

HYMNS:

439 Praise to the holiest in the height

95 When I survey the wondrous cross
And can it be (See Pebble)

'Were you there when they crucified my Lord?' (Arnold Bachop)

92 There is a green hill

READINGS FOR TODAY:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Hebrews 5:7-9

John 12:20-33

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Isaiah 50:4-7

Philippians 2:6-11

Mark 14:1-15:47.

Parish News

The Holy Eucharist is celebrated in the Lady Chapel on Thursday at 10am.

Monday Nights in Lent The Eucharist will be celebrated in the Church on Monday night at 7 pm, followed by a Bible Study in the Vicarage which will consider the New Testament readings for the following Sunday. This will be the last Bible study in Lent.

The Descent into Hell Hans Urs Von Balthasar was one of the most original theologians of the 20th century. He argued that God reveals himself principally through the three transcendentals of the beautiful, the good, and the true. He believed that the most beautiful thing in the world was the life (and death) of Jesus of Nazareth, not in a purely aesthetic sense, but in the sense that the pattern of this life enraptures us, draws us out of ourselves, and into transformative union with God. He saw what took place on the cross as decisively and dramatically changing the nature of human reality, and sought to tease out its full implications in his theology of Holy Saturday. This he thought was a neglected part of the Good Friday/Easter story. But his take on what took place in the descent of Jesus into Hell is controversial, and rather different to those Eastern Orthodox icons of Jesus smashing open the doors of Hell to set free the righteous dead of the Old Testament. To hear more about this come to a lecture on Monday 2 April at 7.30 pm at which Fr Hugh will give an introduction to the life and thought of this

Wise Words about Christchurch Cathedral

Fr Peter Williams, Vicar of St Michael's, Christchurch writes: As I was preparing to write this, I watched the presenter of *Close Up* standing in front of the Crowne Plaza waving his arms and trying to drum up the outrage of the ordinary people of Christchurch at the decision of the Church to demolish the Cathedral. I have never been a great fan of the Cathedral as a building. Among Victorian gothic-revival churches it is very mediocre, and its main impact was in that it was so very far from home. As I said in Synod in 1984, earning the perpetual hostility of the then Dean, it was a nice place to go but just didn't work either liturgically or devotionally. Despite all this I do have to say that, in other respects, the Cathedral has been a roaring success, especially in the last decade. It has managed to win the generous support of the City Council and the wider public of the city, it has become a real centre for many worthwhile things, and it has become the most visited building in the South island, if not the whole land. It has a fine musical tradition and has built up a notable congregation of "regulars". Visitors and locals have identified with it to an incredible degree, and of course are very reasonably upset to be told that it cannot be repaired economically. The Church's recent decision touches a deep pool of cultural bereavement in most of us in post-earthquake Christchurch, and it is being expressed in many ways. This is understandable but the expressions are sometimes regrettable. What amazes me most is the degree of Erastianism which we have accommodated and taken for granted in post-Anglican Christchurch, even to this day, and especially in relation to the Cathedral. This is the very C of E notion that in the ideal community, the civil community has as much of a responsibility to decide the Church's business as has the Church itself. It allows the Church generous access to resources and powers, but can undermine the faith integrity of church communities. The recent Cathedral regime has played this skilfully, even admirably, and with integrity enough, and to the great advantage of the Cathedral, and probably of the wider Church. But now, in the aftermath of the earthquakes, this Erastian consensus is falling apart. Erastianism is not a part of the Bishop's thinking, nor should it be, but those whose allegiances have been more tangential to orthodox church faith (though no doubt of equal integrity), have been enraged. The ground under them has moved, not only taking a beloved symbol of the city, but also now depriving them of a cultural arrangement that was so kindly accommodating, and suited so many so well. I will accept the facts of the cathedral building, and the decisions of those who have to make them, but hope that whatever will take its place will be a worthy successor, expressing the faith and life of the people of God, and also embracing the affection and community commitment of those of many faiths or none.

intriguing Swiss Catholic theologian, and will open up the controversy that swirls around his theology of Holy Saturday. Had he redefined what intimacy is between the Triune persons, or had he ruptured the unity of the Trinity? A Eucharist will precede the lecture at 7 pm. Both are in the Church.

A Lent Book Sometimes a brief, accessible book on theology or spirituality can be a great help to deepening our walk with Christ in Lent. As the last Vicar of this parish was fond of saying, "God so loved the world that he sent the paperback." If you are having difficulty in finding something suitable to read please mention this to the present Vicar who may be able to lend you something appropriate and useful. Blessed are they who are reliable at returning books.

Services in Holy Week

Monday

7 pm Holy Eucharist

Tuesday

11 am Holy Eucharist (at St Barnabas)

Wednesday

7 pm Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday

7 pm Commemoration of the Institution of the Lord's Supper,
Washing of Feet.

Good Friday

10 am The Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
(at St Barnabas)

12 noon The Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
(at St Peter's)

Holy Saturday

6 pm Eucharist (at St Barnabas)

8 pm Easter Vigil, Service of Light, Sung Eucharist (at St Peter's)

Easter Day

8 am Holy Eucharist

10.30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist

The Rock. The latest edition of the Rock has just been published and awaits your collection at the back of church and in the Link.

Parish Forum A parish forum will follow the 10.30 am Service **TODAY**. It will be a round up of diocesan and parish news.

Wellington to choose new Bishop Our prayers are requested for the Wellington electoral Synod that meets this weekend to choose a new Bishop, under the chairmanship of Richard Ellena, Bishop of Nelson.

Palm Sunday is next Sunday. See the Holy Week Service schedule in the Pebble and the Rock to guide your participation in the most important season of the Christian year.

Brass Cleaning There will be brass cleaning on Saturday 7 April, Easter Eve at 10.30 am in the Parish lounge. Your help would be much appreciated.

Observances: (28) Stephen of Citeaux (30) Thomas Cranmer (31) John Donne.

Pray for the Sick and Infirm: Rita Marlow, Louis Hourlier, Nell van Laar, Adrienne Garrod, Claire Johnson, John Peterson, Hannah Scott, Lil Bedford, Meg Dunbar, Cherry Gordon, Ben Chisnall and Denise Walker.

Pray for those who have Died: Alexander Wood and Evelyn Edmundson.

Confession Lent is a good time to make your confession, particularly as we draw near to Holy Week. Often known now as “reconciliation of a penitent,” this sacrament is a great comfort to the convinced Christian, and in many ways is one of the best-kept secrets of Anglo-Catholicism. To learn more about it take a look at page 750 of the 1989 New Zealand Prayer book. Please contact the Vicar to make a time if you would like to make your confession.

Preparing Palm Crosses Palm Cross assemblers and creators will gather in the hall next Saturday March 31 at 10.30 am. All welcome.

Southern Coastal Deanery Appeal for Jesse Bessant **The order has now been made with the Deanery. Please place your payment in an envelope marked Hot Cross Bun Appeal with your name and place it in the offering box at the back of church. Queries to David Hoskins 455-7537.**

St Peter's Fellowship On Tuesday March 27, at 7.30 pm in the Parish Lounge, a Dutch Auction will be held with proceeds going to the Men's Night Shelter and Women's Refuge. Please bring a wrapped gift worth no more than \$5. Everyone welcome!

Rowan Williams to step down as Archbishop of Canterbury. Rowan Williams has announced that he will step down from his position of Archbishop of Canterbury at the end of the year, to take up the position of Master of Magdalene College Cambridge. This will make his last official overseas Communion duty chairing the Anglican Consultative Council meeting in Auckland late this year. It has been a turbulent ten years in the job, which is why perhaps he said that his successor would need “the constitution of an ox and the hide of a rhinoceros.” Not since Michael Ramsey in the 1960's has the Anglican Communion had such a scholarly and saintly Archbishop, but this is not the time for saints and scholars at the top as the job now has an unavoidably sharp political edge. His election by the Fellows of Magdalene College is a tribute to the fact that he is one of the most respected public intellectuals in Britain. Now he will be free to teach and write, and to play to his strengths as a theologian.

Offertory Hymn

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain—
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all: th'Immortal dies:
Who can explore His strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire no more.

He left His Father's throne above
So free, so infinite His grace—
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race:
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray—
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free,,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

Charles Wesley

Parish Contact Details:

Parish Priest: Fr Hugh Bowron – 455- 3961
Vicar's Warden: Tubby Hopkins – 455-3613
People's Warden: Joy Henderson – 456-1141
Website: www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz