

## St Peter's Caversham



# The Pebble

May 27, 2012

Pentecost

Without the Holy Spirit, God is far away  
Christ stays in the past,  
the Gospel is a dead letter,  
the Church is simply an organisation,  
authority is a matter of domination,  
mission is a matter of propaganda,  
the liturgy is no more than an evocation  
Christian living a slave morality.

But in the Holy Spirit;  
the cosmos is resurrected  
and groans with the birth pangs of the Kingdom,  
the risen Christ is there,  
the Gospel is the power of life,  
the Church shows forth the power of the Trinity,  
authority is a liberating service,  
mission is a Pentecost,  
the liturgy is both memorial and anticipation,  
and human action is deified

*Patriarch Ignatios  
World Council of Churches Assembly  
Uppsala, Sweden, 1968*

## A Warm Welcome

to all who are sharing with us in worship this morning.  
**The Ministry of Healing and Wholeness is offered in the Lady Chapel 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 Sung Eucharist (The Taize Mass setting)

## HYMNS:

- |     |                                   |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 148 | The God of Abraham praise         |
| 342 | Breathe on me breath of God       |
| 138 | Come Holy Ghost our souls inspire |
| 137 | Come down, O Love Divine          |
| 431 | O Thou who camest from above      |

**Organ Prelude:** *Veni Creator Spiritus: Duo*

**Organ Postlude:** *Veni Creator Spiritus: Dialogue sur les Grandes Jeux.* Nicholas de Grigney (1672-1703)

## **READINGS FOR TODAY:**

Acts 2:1-21.

1 Cor. 12:3-7, 12-13.

John 15: 26-27; 16: 12-15.

## **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:**

Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40.

Romans 8:14-17.

Matthew 28: 16-20.

## **Parish News**

**Today** is Pentecost Sunday, a feast of equal significance to Easter. Accordingly we will begin the 10.30 am Service with a procession around the interior of the Church, as we did last Sunday.

**Today's sermon** is entitled "The Fading Echoes of His Presence." When Christians imaginatively dwell on the dramatic events which founded the Church on the day of Pentecost their reaction tends to be – "Well that's great, but it is miles away from our actual experience of church life now." It is as though our beginnings were framed by an event of striking power, but that since then we know only the fading echoes of his presence as our Lord the Holy

Spirit recedes into distant memory. Christians have tended to react to this perception in one of two ways – either they write down their expectations of what the Spirit will do in their lives, or they try and hype themselves up to artificially produce the experience of Pentecost. This is why the Christian religion in the west tends to oscillate between cold formalism and a wild, anarchic revivalism. What then is a more useful and helpful view of this primal event, and its significance for our day-to-day lives as Christians?

**Movie season extended** An extra film has been added to our line up of Monday night films, this one covering the Reformation, without which it is difficult to understand the evolution of the Anglican Church in its present form. The remaining dates and titles now are Richard Taylor’s “Churches: How To read them,” 28 May “The Reformation,” 4 June “The Oxford movement and modern period” in the same series. These will be preceded by a celebration of the Eucharist in the Church at 7 pm.

**Saturday Special** There will be an afternoon of music here in St Peter’s Church next Saturday at 2 pm featuring Arnold Bachop (tenor) Mike Crawl (accompanist and solo) David Hoskins (organ) Sarah Olivier (mezzo-soprano), with a special appearance by Australian and New Zealand Champion of Champions Cornet player John Lewis. Door sales only, admission of \$15 includes afternoon tea, with proceeds contributing to the internal repainting of our hall.

**Regional potluck dinners** St Peter’s parishioners are dispersed across a wide area, and are sometimes unaware of the existence of one another in the same locality. To help us to get to know one another, and the Vicar to get to know his parishioners, a series of potluck dinners will be held throughout the winter in different localities. We begin in Mosgiel on Tuesday 12 June at the home of Dereck and Kay Grey, who have kindly made their King St home available for this purpose.

**Ordination** The Revd James Harding, who will be our guest preacher at the Patronal Festival, will be ordained a Priest this evening at 6 pm in the Cathedral. James is Curate of All Saints.

**The Origins of the Eucharist** On Saturday evening 9 June, the eve of the feast of Corpus Christi, we will gather in the hall at 5.30 pm to recreate the Agape Banquet, or Love Feast, which is the way the first generation of the Church celebrated the Lord’s Supper. The sacred meal, which is the centrepiece of our Sunday worship, was first celebrated in the context of a community meal when the Church met together on Sunday. This is the pattern we see in 1 Corinthians 11, and to some extent in the accounts of the Last Supper in the synoptic gospels. In the following years we will trace the evolution of the Eucharist through its successive historical stages as we meet on Corpus Christ eve in this same way of teaching, worship and social gathering. Please sign the notice in the porch to indicate if you will be attending so we can cater for you. A simple meal of fish and bread will be served. Please bring with you a gold coin donation, a salad and or something to drink.

**The Holy Eucharist** will be celebrated in the Lady Chapel at 10am on Thursday.

**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, Heather Robertson, Frances Jenson Denise Walker and Margaret Fraser.

**The Rock** The May edition of the Rock is available at the back of the Church.

**Parish forum** There will be a parish forum next Sunday, which will briefly consider parish insurance issues, but will spend most time on the Filioque clause in the creed, a vital issue for Trinity Sunday, and for Christians. Does the Holy Spirit proceed from the Father, or the Father and the Son?

#### **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](http://www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz)