



St Peter's Caversham

## The Pebble

22 July, 2012

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Year B

### Sonnet 19

When I consider how my light is spent,  
Ere half my days, in this dark world and wide,  
And that one talent which is death to hide,  
Lodged with me useless, though my soul more bent  
To serve therewith my maker, and present  
My true account, lest he returning chide  
"Doth God exact day-labour, light denied,"  
I fondly ask; But patience to prevent  
That murmur, soon replies, "God doth not need  
Either man's work or his own gifts; who best  
Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best; his state  
Is kingly. Thousands at his bidding speed  
And post o'er land and ocean without rest:  
They also serve who only stand and wait."

*John Milton*

### 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)

### HYMNS:

471	We love the place O God.
483	The Church of God a kingdom is
332	All hail the power of Jesu's name
442	Prayer is the soul's sincere desire
245	God, that madest earth and heaven

### READINGS FOR TODAY:

Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Ephesians 2: 13-18

Mark 6: 30-34

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

2 Kings 4: 42-44

Ephesians 4: 1-6

John 6: 1-15

### Parish News

**Today's sermon** is entitled, "Why walls must come down." The epistle to the Ephesians uses the image of a wall, built by all the fears, suspicions and hatreds of the human race in its inability to cope with difference and otherness, which could potentially divide the Church in the same way. But Christ by his death on the cross has pulled off a sociological miracle, breaking down the wall between outsiders and Jews, and uniting all the different sections of the human family into his new Temple, the Church. Thus the Church today has no excuse for dividing itself into ethnic enclaves, or turning itself into a homogeneous haven for birds of a feather flocking together. It is to be a vive la difference community.

**A prayer tip** Scripture is a rich mine for personal prayer. One way into this treasure house of resources is to take the Sunday readings, and to slowly read through them

until a line, a sentence, or a phrase stands out. Then slowly turn it over in your mind in a contemplative way, allowing it to calm the mind, and to engage with it in a more than rational way so that intuition, imagination and memory also consider it. Then shorten the phrase until only the essentials stand out, and let this mantra be the theme of your time with God. When the time of prayer comes to an end the chances are that the phrase of Scripture will echo through your day. Augustine of Hippo had a wonderful way of expressing this. "God has sent us letters from heaven – they are the books of the Bible."

**Margaret Fraser RIP** Margaret Fraser, one of the great characters of the 8 o'clock congregation, died on Wednesday morning. Her funeral will be at Gillions on Monday at 2.30 pm with Fathers Carl Somers-Edgar and Hugh Bowron presiding.

**Organ Concert** The St Peters Fellowship present an Organ Concert by David Hoskins on Saturday 28 July at 2 pm. It will be a 'light' programme called 'Afternoon Delights' and includes an improvisation on themes suggested by the audience. Admission is free. Parishioners please bring a plate for afternoon tea. A raffle will be held to raise funds for missions.

**Looking ahead** On Sunday 5 August we will celebrate the feast of the Transfiguration, and on Sunday 19 August the feast of the Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Vicar turns 60 on Wednesday 5 September. There will be an early evening celebration of the Eucharist, followed by a party in the Vicarage, to which all parishioners are invited. Synod meets in Dunedin over the weekend of 14-16 September.

**St Kilda pot luck dinner** The gathering together of St Peters parishioners in the St Kilda area for a pot luck meal will be on Tuesday evening 31 July at Tubby and Averil Hopkins's home 10 Hardy St.

**The Rock** Copies of the July edition of the Rock are available at the back of the Church. Dereck Gray has advised that because of out of town commitments he is unable to continue as Editor of the Rock. The parish owes him a considerable debt of gratitude for turning the Rock into such an attractive magazine. David Scoular has kindly agreed to take over this role. The new emphasis will be on short articles and opinion pieces from parishioners about things of particular interest to them. Already Fr Geoff has agreed to contribute a Fr Geoff's culinary corner column. Please let the Vicar or David Scoular know if there is something you would like to write about.

**Annual adjustment** It is appropriate that we adjust our giving to the parish each year as salaries, wages and benefits are generally annually adjusted upwards, and of course the parishes costs annually increase. A greater generosity towards God and his Church would also be much appreciated to meet the challenges ahead of insurance costs and earthquake strengthening. At present our giving does not meet our month-by-month expenses, and so we draw down our bequest income to meet the shortfall. In the future the bequest income will need to be focussed on the challenges just mentioned, with the living Church paying its way, and not just relying on the generosity of the Church of former times to sustain it.

**Pray for the Sick and Infirm:** Rita Marlow, Claire Johnson, John Peterson, Hannah Scott, Lil Bedford, Cherry Gordon, Ben Chisnall, Frances Jenson Denise Walker and Margaret Fraser.

### **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)