



St. Peter's Caversham

# The Pebble

23 December 2012

Advent 4

## That Holy Thing

They were all looking for a king  
To slay their foes and lift them high:  
Thou can'st, a little baby thing  
That made a woman cry.

O Son of Man, to right my lot  
Naught but thy presence can avail;  
Yet on the road Thy wheels are not,  
Nor on the sea thy sail!

My how or when Thou wilt not heed,  
But come down Thine own secret stair,  
That Thou mayst answer all my need –  
Yea, every bygone prayer.

*George MacDonald (1824-1905)*

### A Warm Welcome

to all who are sharing with us in worship today. 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)

**7.00 pm** Nine Lessons and Carols

### HYMNS:

- 9 Lo! He comes with clouds descending  
186 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
408 Love divine, all loves excelling  
297 Lord Jesus Christ  
16 Wake, O Wake! With tidings thrilling

### READINGS FOR TODAY

[Micah 5:1-4](#)

[Hebrews 10:5-10](#)

[Luke 1:39-44](#)

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

[Sirach 3:2-6,12-14](#)

[Colossians 3:12-21](#)

[Luke 2:41-52](#)

### Parish News

**Today's sermon** is entitled "When theology and gynaecology meet." It considers the intellectual challenges and theological issues involved in the doctrine of the virgin birth.

**Christian World Service** As Advent draws to a close our compassionate concern turns to the many in the

third world who lack the necessities of life. Christian World Service is the ecumenical agency that translates New Zealand Christians desire to help into effective aid programmes that empower the world's poor. You will find CWS aid envelopes at the back of the Church.

**Carol Service** The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols will be here tonight at 7 pm. Come and reflect on the joy and the wonder of the Incarnation in Scripture and song.

**Christmas Services** Christmas Eve – Eucharist and carols at the St Barnabas Chapel 6 pm, Carol singing at St Peters 11 pm, followed by Midnight Mass beginning at 11.30 pm. Christmas day 8 am Holy Communion, 10.30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist.

**Watchnight Service** You are invited to see in the New Year at your parish Church as we celebrate the Liturgy of St Basil, preceded by a Vigil of Readings especially suitable for greeting the New Year, beginning at 10 pm. A social gathering in the Vicarage will follow this as we await midnight. Please write your name on the notice on the noticeboard, which lists the Vigil readings if you are available to read a lesson at this Service.

**The Rock** is available for collection at the back of the Church.

**Clergy moves** The Revd Helen Wilderspin, Vicar of Andersons Bay and the Peninsula parish, and Vicar General, is to move to the Hawkes bay to become the Vicar of St Matthews, Hastings. The Revd John Sherlock is leaving St Mary's, Mornington to become priest in charge of Mapua in the diocese of Nelson. The Revd Jan Clark will have pastoral responsibility for Mornington and Holy Cross, St Kilda, together with Green Island and Brighton.

**Film season resumes** From mid to late January a series of the best religious films of recent years will be shown on successive Monday nights in the Vicarage. These will include the outstanding Finnish film that came out this year, "Letters to Fr Jacob," (14 Jan) the Russian film, "The Island," (21 Jan) and, "Molokai," (28 Jan) the story of Fr Damien and his ministry on the leper island of Molokai. But moviegoers need to go to Mass first on those Monday evenings.

**Confession** Advent is an appropriate season to make one's confession, and can be arranged by contacting the Vicar.

**Pray for the Sick and Infirm:** Rita Marlow, Claire Johnson, John Peterson, Hannah Scott, Cherry Gordon, and Denise Walker.

**Pray for those who have died**, especially those whose memorial occurs at this time: Francis Hore, William Littler, Doreen Fraser, Lena Holmes and Christopher Holden, and for Lil Bedford whose funeral was on Saturday.

**Rowan Williams** Those who can go online might like to visit [the Taonga website](#), the New Zealand Anglican Church's official news service, for an excellent interview with Rowan Williams while he was out here on his official visit. Incidentally, the filmed recording of the Vicar's lecture on the theological world of Rowan Williams has been posted on the St Peter's web site.

### **Parish Contact Details:**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Hugh Bowron – 455- 3961

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