



St. Peter's Caversham

# The Pebble

13 January 2013

Baptism of the Lord

## The Bishop's Prayer at Confirmation

God of mercy and love,  
new birth by water and the Spirit is your gift,  
a gift none can take away;  
grant that your servants may grow  
into the fullness of the stature of Christ.  
Fill them with the joy of your presence.  
Increase in them the fruit of your Spirit:  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of love, patience and gentleness,  
the spirit of wonder and true holiness.

Creator Spirit,  
strengthen *N*  
with your gifts of grace,  
to love and serve  
as a disciple of Christ.

Guide, protect,  
uphold *her/him*  
that *s/he* may continue  
yours for ever.

**Amen.**

*New Zealand Prayer Book 1989*

**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)

### **HYMNS:**

- 148 The God of Abraham praise  
282 Faithful Shepherd feed me  
52 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness  
58 The sinless one to Jordan came  
391 King of glory, King of peace

### **READINGS FOR TODAY**

[Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7](#)

[Acts 10:34-38](#)

[Luke 3:16-16,21-22](#)

### **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:**

[Isaiah 62:1-5](#)

[1 Corinthians 12:4-11](#)

[John 2:1-11](#)

### **Parish News**

**Today's sermon** is an explanation of how the Church has arrived at its present thinking and practice in its

sacraments of Christian initiation – baptism and confirmation.

**Confirmation** Have you been confirmed? The introduction of the admission of baptised children to communion in recent years has resulted in far fewer confirmations than there used to be. Confirmation is a valuable opportunity to deepen your walk with Christ, to further your Christian education, and to claim the promises made on your behalf by your parents and Godparents. An adult candidate has begun instruction, and the Vicar would welcome enquiries from others who are interested in claiming their full sacramental credentials of Christian belonging.

**Procession** A procession around the interior of the Church will begin our 10.30 am Liturgy. Please feel free to join in.

**Best books of 2012** Hilary Mantel's *Bring Up the Bodies* was 2012's brilliant successor to *Wolf Hall*, an insider's view of the court of King Henry 8<sup>th</sup> through the eyes of Richard Cromwell, the able civil servant who did so much to further the King's designs, and to advance the cause of the Reformation. Cromwell has been vilified since *A Man for all Seasons* depicted Thomas Moore, one of his victims, as a saint and a man of outstanding integrity. The cleverness of Mantel's novels is that she shows Cromwell as a man with his own particular set of virtues, who, if we do not totally sympathise with his methods, we can at least admire his ability, and empathise with his personal situation. To understand the origins of the Church of England, and of Anglicanism, as we now know it requires knowledge of Tudor history. This gives it to us in part, and without the endless titillating obsession with Henry's wives that make up

so many recent books and films. Now the reading public are waiting agog for the publication of the third in this series of novels, in which Cromwell will go the block as a result of arranging a marriage that does not please his psychopathic master.

**Film season resumes** Tomorrow night the outstanding Finnish film, "Letters to Fr Jacob," will be shown in the Vicarage. The Russian film, "The Island," will be shown on Monday 21 Jan, and "Molokai," will be shown on 28 Jan, the story of Fr Damien and his ministry on the leper island of Molokai. A 7 pm Eucharist in the Church will precede the screenings.

**Thank you** Averil and Tubby Hopkins for trimming the bushes along the pathway. This makes funeral processions a lot easier.

**New thurible** The new thurible, so generously subscribed by parishioners, has arrived, and is in use this morning.

**Lectern** The lectern, which is used for lectures, funerals and Vigil Services, is being stained to blend in with the pews, and will be back with us next week.

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

**Pray for those who have died** especially those whose memorial occurs at this time: John Peterson, Thomas Dutton, Christine Robinson and May Graveson,

#### **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)