



**St. Peter's Caversham**  
**The Pebble**

**12 January 2014**

**Baptism of the Lord**

**God's Grandeur**

The world is charged with the grandeur of God.  
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;  
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil  
Crushed. Why then do men then not reckon his rod?  
Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;  
And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with  
toil;  
And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell:  
the soil  
Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.

And, for all this, nature is never spent;  
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;  
And though the last lights off the black West went  
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastwards,  
springs –  
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent  
World broods with warm breast and with ah!  
bright wings

*Gerard Manley Hopkins*

**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 Sung  
Eucharist this morning**

**The Liturgy for Today:**

**8:00 am** Holy Eucharist  
(1662 Book of Common Prayer)  
**10:30 am** Solemn Sung Eucharist

**HYMNS:**

451 Songs of praise the angels sang  
466 Thou whose almighty word  
55 Hail to the Lord's Anointed!  
58 The sinless one to Jordan came  
431 O Thou who camest from above

**READINGS FOR TODAY:**

[Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7](#)  
[Acts 10: 34-38](#)  
[Matthew 3: 13-17](#)

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:**

[Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6](#)  
[1 Corinthians 1: 1-3](#)  
[John 1: 29-34](#)

**Parish News**

**Today** we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The revision of the liturgical calendar in recent years has encouraged the Church to see Christmas, Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord as part of an

integrated and extended cycle of Scriptural and Eucharistic reflection on the entire mystery of the Incarnation, and its saving implications for us. This morning's sermon is entitled, "Send forth Your Spirit." It reflects on Jesus' baptism as his personal Pentecost, with all the follow on consequences for the Spirit's operations on the web of life and the non human creation.

**New prayers for animals and the Queen** The parish is keen on including prayers for animals and the Queen during the prayers of intercession at the 10.30 am Service. Accordingly the Vicar has accessed new prayers on these subjects in the past week so that our intercessors can exercise some variety when addressing these themes.

**Thursday Eucharists** continue as usual at 10 am in the Lady Chapel throughout January.

**Caversham lectures** This year's Caversham lectures will run through May and early June on the theme of "Great Anglo-Catholics of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century." Personalities and themes to be covered include Percy Dearmer and the creation of the English Hymnal, Austin Farrer, theologian and preacher, wordsmith extraordinaire, Sir Ninian Comper, architect, creator of beautiful Churches and Church interiors, Dom Gregory-Dix and his block buster book on the Liturgy, and Michael Ramsey, Archbishop of Canterbury.

**Sir David** Archbishop David Moxon, recently moved to Rome to represent the Anglican Communion in its diplomatic relationship with the Holy See, is to be knighted in the new year. The last such time that a senior churchman was honoured in this way that the Vicar can recall was the knighting of Paul Reeves, who both encouraged David Moxon's vocation, and ordained him.

**The Pilling report** The task group led by Lord Pilling has reported back to the C of E's bench of Bishops with recommendations about how to proceed in the matter of possible revisions of the Church's marriage canons. Its proposed solution is very English, and is fiendishly clever in its very pragmatic compromising possible way forward. The Church of England would not change its marriage canons, nor authorise the creation of same sex blessings orders of Service. However, those priests and parishes who felt moved to make pastoral accomodation for same sex couples could acknowledge their desire to form/affirm a relationship of faithful, committed, covenanted love within the context of public worship. In other words the Church wouldn't change its official teaching about marriage or its liturgical formularies, but it would allow a discrete change in its practice and discipline, presumably through the medium of write your own blessing ceremonies. Predictably this has come under fire from those who deplore the disjunction between teaching and practice, and those for whom it does not go nearly far enough. But perhaps it might appeal to the Bishops, desperate for a way out of an intractable dilemma.

**Pray for the Sick and Infirm** especially Claire Johnson, Hannah Scott, Cherry Gordon, Juen Miyagi, Coral Paris, Shirley Buxton, and Denise Walker.

**Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time:** Bill Tansley, John Peterson, and Thomas Dutton

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

**Vicar's Warden:** Tubby Hopkins 454-2399

**People's Warden:** Kate Paterson 455-5384

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