



St. Peter's Caversham

## The Pebble

4 May 2014

Harvest Festival

### The Servant Girl at Emmaus (A Painting by Velazquez)

She listens, listens, holding  
her breath. Surely that voice  
is his – the one  
who had looked at her, once across the crowd,  
as no one ever had looked?  
Had seen her? Had spoken as if to her?

Surely those hands were his,  
taking the platter of bread from hers just now?  
Hands he'd laid on the dying and made them well?

Surely that face -?

The man they'd crucified for sedition and blasphemy.  
The man whose body had disappeared from the tomb.  
The man it was rumoured now some women had seen this morning,  
alive?

Those who had brought this stranger home to their table  
don't recognise yet with whom they sit.  
But she in the kitchen, absently touching  
The wine jug she's about to take in,  
A young Black servant intently listening,

swings around and sees  
the light around him  
and is sure

*Denise Levertov*

### 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

### HYMNS:

259 Come, ye thankful people, come  
414 O for a closer walk with God  
261 To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise  
285 For the beauty of the earth  
264 All things bright and beautiful

### READINGS FOR TODAY

[Acts 2: 14, 22-33](#)

[1 Peter 1: 17-21](#)

[Luke 24: 13-35](#)

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

[Acts 2: 14, 36-41](#)

[1 Peter 2: 20b-25](#)

[John 10: 1-10](#)

### Parish News

**Harvest Festival** This morning we celebrate God's goodness to us in creation. The collect and the intercessions will reflect the Harvest Festival theme.

**This morning's sermon** is entitled "an idyllic walk in the countryside." In the walk to Emmaus Luke provides us with a transition scene between the appearance of the risen Jesus to individuals, and later to the whole community. The former scenes are often surrounded by an atmosphere of shock and surprise.

This morning's one has a more pastoral quality to it, and its more tranquil ambience and tone are a clue to some subtle shifts developing in the content and style of the resurrection appearances.

**Offering envelopes** The recorder requests that we do not use last year's offering envelopes. She writes: You may in many cases have a new number. So to make sure your offering goes to the right person, please destroy any old envelopes you may still have. If anybody would like to have a set of weekly or monthly offering envelopes, ring me on 454 2399 and I will drop them off to you. I am happy to answer any questions you may have regarding envelopes – Averil Hopkins.

**Automatic payment tokens** If you are giving to the parish by means of automatic payments, a highly desirable means of doing so, and wish to have something to place in the collection bag as a symbol of your offering, you will find some appropriate tokens you can uplift on the table at the back of the Church.

**Thursday Eucharist** The Thursday 10 am Eucharist will be celebrated in the Parish Lounge from now on through the Winter months.

**Technology news** The Church alarm system was repaired during the week by means of replacing the siren. Investigations continue as to appropriate means of developing a more robust security system for the Church and the Vicarage, particularly in the light of the high number of psycho-active substance and synthetic cannabis users in the surrounding community. One of the Church heat pumps had begun to blow cold air on a consistent basis, and has been repaired.

**First Caversham lecture** The first Caversham lecture for this year will be on Tuesday. Its subject will be Percy Dearmer, Vicar of St Mary's Primrose Hill, instigator of the English Hymnal, and generator of the Sarum Use, an English take on ceremonial, ritual and liturgy, designed to lead Anglo-Catholicism away from what he saw as a slavish copying of Roman Catholic practices. Conrad Noel, the eccentric and extreme socialist Vicar of Thaxted, will also be discussed. The Vicar and David Hoskins share the podium for this presentation, which will be made at 2 pm and then again at 7.30 pm. Ninian Comper, Church architect, will be the subject of the following lecture on Tuesday 13 May.

**Ma Whea Commission** The Ma Whea Commission has offered the General Synod, which meets in the Bay of Islands this month, a smorgasbord of 10 options to choose from, in dealing with possible changes to the marriage canons. They are: Affirm the Traditional Understanding, Preserving the Present Circumstances, Bishops to Determine what Equals Right Relationships in each diocese, Delegate to Diocesan Synods Power to Determine Right relationships in each diocese, Adopt a New Understanding (accept Gay Marriage), The Anglican Church Having Two Views (Tikanga Gay Church and Tikanga Orthodox), Dual Episcopacy (like the Flying Bishops option in the C of E), Planned Dismembering (an orderly break up of the Anglican Church into two varieties of Anglicanism in New Zealand along the fault lines of this issue), Anglican Church to Add a New Rite of Blessing by Priests of Those in a Same Sex Relationship, Adopt a Two Year Period of Focussed Discussion within Church Communities With a View to making a Decision in (say) 2016.

**Solomon Islanders need help now**

Christian World Service is appealing for funds for the 52,000 people affected by the massive flooding. Donations can be made: On line and by direct deposit, by phone with a credit card: 0800 74 73 72, by post to: CWS, P O Box 22652, Christchurch 8140

**Pray for the Sick and Infirm** Claire Johnson, Hannah Scott, Cherry Gordon, Juen Miyagi, Irene Waters, Shirley Menzies, Shaun McGlynn and Denise Walker.

**Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time:** Alan Paris, Muriel Jones, Nellie Bremner, Alfred Chetwin, Glenda Thomas, Emily Idour, John Beatty, Eileen McLeod and John McGlynn.

**Parish Contacts:**

**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)