



St. Peter's Caversham

The Pebble

18 May 2014

Easter 5

No Time

She left me. What voice
colder than the wind
out of the grave said
“It is over?” Impalpable,
invisible she comes
to me still, as she would
do, and I at my reading.
There is a tremor
of light, as of a bird crossing
the sun's path, and I look
up in recognition
of a presence in an absence.
Not a word, not a sound,
as she goes her way,
but a scent lingering
which is that of time immolating
itself in love's fire.

R S Thomas

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:

437 Praise the Lord! Ye heavens adore him

478 Ye watchers and ye holy ones

296 Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour

298 May the grace of God our saviour

374 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Acts 6: 1-7](#)

[1 Peter 2: 4-9](#)

[John 14: 1-12](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

[Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17](#)

[1 Peter 3: 15-18](#)

[John 14: 15-21](#)

ORGAN POSTLUDE: *Choral Song* S.S. Wesley (1810-1876)

Parish News

This morning's sermon is entitled “The Presence in the Absence,” and reflects on the way in which Jesus promises his disciples that, though he will be absent from them after the

resurrection, he will in fact be available to them in a different and more useful way, as he is indeed to us.

Parish forum A parish forum will follow the 10.30 am Service today. It will focus on recent news from the General Synod, the Church security system, and the possibility of a parish history.

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.

Diocesan appointments The Vicar has been appointed to the Selwyn College Board of Governors, and to the Diocesan Trust Board.

Third Caversham lecture The third Caversham lecture for this year will be on Tuesday at 2 pm and then again at 7.30 pm. Its subject will be Dom Gregory-Dix, Benedictine Monk and liturgist, whose book "The Shape of the Liturgy," transformed Anglican thinking about worship. This presentation will also give attention the origins of his Benedictine community at Nashdom, and also to Walter Frere, Superior of the Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield, and liturgist. There will be a pause for the following week while the Vicar attends the diocesan retreat, and the series will then resume on Tuesday 3 June profiling Austin Farrer, Warden of Keble College, Oxford, a great preacher, philosopher and theologian.

Read, Mark, Learn and Inwardly Digest Copies of the full text of the decision made at General Synod this past week about the blessing of same sex relationships is available at the back of the Church for you to take away and peruse at your leisure.

Rock The deadline for copy for this month's edition of the Rock is next Sunday

Balclutha institution The Vicar will be attending the institution of the new Vicar of Balclutha, Griffith Moses, who is from Cheltenham in England. The Service will be today at St Mark's at 4 pm.

Sustainable living The diocesan social justice working group is holding a workshop called Sustainable Living on Saturday 7 June, at St John's Roslyn from 10am to 3.30 pm. It will be led by Maureen

Howard, who runs these courses for the Dunedin City Council. Maureen is very experienced and very practical.

Outcome of General Synod Tikanga Maori dropped the motions proposing reducing a three tikanga Church to a two tikanga Church of just Maori and Pakeha, accepting that this was their opening bid in a long poker game to get to this objective in due course. The debate over same sex relationships went far past the budgeted time, with a working group bringing in an all have run and all shall have prizes motion, that was adopted by General Synod. A working group will be appointed to bring a report to the 2016 General Synod outlining how clergy who wish to bless same sex relationships may do so, and bringing together a liturgy for that purpose. At the same time they are to propose measures protecting clergy who do not wish to do so on conscience grounds from prosecution on the grounds of human rights legislation. In the interim clergy may recognise in public worship same gender civil unions or state marriages, in effect informal blessings of such relationships. An unreserved apology was issued to the LGBT community for past unjust treatment of them. A 4 year timeline has been established to bring about change with recommendations to the achieve the above reported back to the 2016 General Synod, with the required constitutional and canonical changes reported back to episcopal units for confirmation at the 2018 General Synod. While the motion declares that there will be no change to the church's understanding of marriage this is in effect a foot in the door step by step change designed to bring about just such a revolution in church teaching in the hope that orthodox Anglicans can be carried along by such a gradualist approach, and wont leave.

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

Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time: Elizabeth Dutton, Rena Goodwillie and Harriet Hamer.

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