



St. Peter's Caversham
The Pebble

27 July 2014 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Predestining Purpose

We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the first-born among many brethren. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Romans 8: 28-30

We live our lives within an order of physical and psychological laws, but our inner man is renewed day after day (2 Cor 4: 16) by a communion which transcends that order, because there is in it a divine spontaneity – for “grace” is essentially spontaneity – which does not, indeed, suspend the operation of natural law, but creatively brings new facts into play and so alters the whole situation.

C H Dodd

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:

397 Let us, with a gladsome mind

64 Be thou my guardian and my guide

357 Father, hear the prayer we offer

72 My faith looks up to thee

249 Round me falls the night

READINGS FOR TODAY

[1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12](#)

[Romans 8: 28-30](#)

[Matthew 13: 44-52](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

[Isaiah 55: 1-3](#)

[Romans 8: 35, 37-39](#)

[Matthew 14: 13-21](#)

Parish News

Replacing the flag Grateful thanks to all those who contributed so generously to our new Anglican Communion flags. We have now received the full amount by parishioner subscription.

Ministry of healing training event On Saturday 23 August there will be a time of reflection and teaching for those who pray with others in the Lady Chapel each Sunday during communion. We will begin at 2 pm with a Eucharist in the Lady Chapel, to be followed by a time of teaching and discussion in the Vicarage.

Thursday Eucharist The 10 am Thursday Eucharist is celebrated in the Parish Lounge.

Vestry news The Vestry considered the recent announcement that the government is about to change the wave lengths on which many public address and sound systems operate on, with possible cost implications for the Church wireless sound system. Research is under way into this matter. The Vestry considered its level of insurance cover on parish buildings in the light of the news that the Diocese is changing its insurance classification system. Enquiries are being made as to whether the insurers have responded to instructions issued by the parish through the diocesan office in recent years. The diocesan property committee has requested that each parish fill out a property questionnaire on each building it owns. This involves consideration of future use and ownership of these buildings and will require some prior thought by Vestry members before completing the questionnaires at the August meeting. The Vicar reported on his new responsibilities on the diocesan trust board and the board of governors of Selwyn College, together with an analysis of some of the challenges facing the Cathedral Chapter.

The death of Lynda Patterson Dean of Christchurch Cathedral, at the age of 40 is a great loss to the Christchurch diocese and to the Province. Originally from Northern Ireland, and a graduate of the Oxford Divinity School, she was a brilliant New Testament scholar, a great preacher, and a warm effective pastor. She showed her grasp of Provincial affairs at the recent General Synod when presiding over the house of clergy and knowing every priest there by name. Lynda had been troubled by ill health for some time. Though often thrust into the limelight, particularly around the Cathedral's controversies, she much preferred going into her cave back home with her books, and music, and recipes. Her considerable abilities will be now be lost to the action group tasked with translating motion 30 into reality. A compassionate, intelligent liberal, there are few obvious candidates to take her place in a Church somewhat short of talent. Bishop Victoria Matthews will celebrate and preach at a requiem for Lynda on Tuesday at 1 in the Transitional Cathedral, and will then accompany her body to Northern Ireland, where Lynda's funeral Service will take place at Dromore Cathedral. **Second departure** After motion 30 (on same sex blessings) passed the General Synod the only departure from the Anglican Church was the Revd Charlie Hughes, Vicar of Henderson in the Diocese of Auckland, who has moved to be Pastor of an independent evangelical

church. Although he encouraged former parishioners to join him, the parish of Henderson has limped along with a sufficient rump core to continue, for now at least. Now a second departure, in the diocese of Waikato, is more serious. The Revd Michael Hewatt has departed from Hamilton West parish taking 95% of his parishioners with him. This is one of the liveliest and most well attended parishes in the diocese, with a leading edge in youth work. Waikato diocese has been holding its own in the urban areas, though many rural parishes are on the verge of collapse. It has few endowments, and so the blow to the diocesan budget will be serious. For the new Bishop Helen Ann-Hartley this will be a major set back. Michael Hewatt was also the part time Provincial Co-ordinator of AFFIRM, the charismatic renewal movement ginger group. Now across the country ECO (Evangelical, Charismatic, Orthodox) groups are forming to continue the struggle in a different form. It is interesting that the departees are opting to go the independent evangelical way, rather than joining alternative Anglican structures as in America.

The Assumption The feast of the Assumption of our Lady will be celebrated on Sunday 17 August. In order to give due honour to this important celebration the film "England's Nazareth: a pilgrimage to the shrine of our Lady of Walsingham," will be shown in the Vicarage that afternoon, with Sung Evensong and Benediction to follow at 5 pm. A light meal of soup and rolls will follow the Service.

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Claire Johnson, Hannah Scott, Cherry Gordon, Juen Miyagi, Shirley Menzies, Eileen Pratt Denise Walker and Abbot Michael of Camperdown.

Pray for those who have died recently: The Very Reverend Lynda Patterson and those whose memorial occurs at this time: Dorothy Dickie, Arthur Hughes, and Irene Wright

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