



St. Peter's Caversham

The Pebble

3 August 2014 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Of the Holy Angels

Everlasting God,
you have ordained and constituted in a
wonderful order the ministries of angels and
mortals:

Mercifully grant that, as your holy angels
always serve and worship you in heaven,
so by your appointment they may help and
defend us

here on earth;

though Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

**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:

451 Songs of praise the angels sang

475 Ye holy angels bright

295 Let all mortal flesh keep silence

304 Once, only once, and once for all

248 O strength and stay

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Isaiah 55: 1-3](#)

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

[Matthew 14: 13-21](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

[1 Kings 19: 9a, 11-13a](#)

[Romans 9: 1-5](#)

[Matthew 14: 22-33](#)

Parish News

Today's sermon is entitled "Those hindering cosmic powers," and considers today's Romans reading as to whether we have guardian angels who assist us in the spiritual contest with malign forces.

Rescheduling the Potluck Lunch Because of hall booking commitments the pot luck lunch that normally follows the 10.30 Service on the second Sunday of the month has had to be rescheduled *for this month only* to 17 August, which is the third Sunday of the month.

The Assumption The feast of the Assumption of our Lady will be celebrated on that same 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.

Wardens meeting The Vicar will meet with the Wardens on Tuesday 12 August. Please mention to Kate or Tubby any matters you want raised at that meeting.

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.

Gaza emergency appeal Christian World Service is asking churches to pray for peace this Sunday as we recall a significant anniversary of the beginning of World War 1, the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, and the desperate need for peace in Gaza. CWS is appealing for donations to enable their development partner Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees to provide \$100 emergency grants to families in need of food, water, fuel or other help. They will fund the extension of the psychosocial programmes for children and mothers and four vocational training centres helping young people gain practical skills. The appeal will also fund three maternal health clinics providing medical services mostly to mothers and young children. Donations to the Gaza Appeal can be made: on line at www.cws.org.nz/donate, sent to P O Box 22652, Christchurch 8140 or by calling 0800 74 73 72.

Please pray for Aspen Ludlow, to be baptised at our 10.30 am Service on Sunday 31 August.

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: and those whose memorial occurs at this time: Leah Palmer, Dorothy Lanham, Robert Stephen, Jan McPhee, William Dawson, and Cecil Palmer.

Bible in Schools In the world we once knew Bible in Schools existed pretty much throughout the NZ state education system. It wasn't perfect – it was always a struggle to find enough motivated and competent teachers, and to get them to use the agreed syllabus, but it did give a smattering of religious knowledge to many children whose families never went near a Church. The first assault on it came from "Tomorrow's Schools" which enabled board of trustees, if they so chose, to ban religious instruction in that particular school, an option which some exercised, though in a few cases things became better as schools chose to have chaplains, something not previously possible. Now a different sort of attack is under way as per the case in Christchurch last week when a mother, who had withdrawn her child from the Bible in Schools class, complained to the human rights commission about her son being made to feel singled out as a result. This complaint is being backed up by the secular education network, a consortium of atheists intent on eliminating religious instruction in schools. Some schools, such as Christchurch East primary, have gone over to an opt in system in which instruction takes place in the lunch break for those who choose it. Out of a roll of 200 pupils 35 to 40 opt in. A recent nationwide survey has found that 37.7 % of primary and intermediate schools offer religious instruction, with 38.8% being in Canterbury, 17.9% being in Wellington, 33.3% in Auckland and 75.4% in Southland. If a child is to have a genuine choice about which faith to follow, and atheism is a faith of a bleak kind, then it must know what the options are, and have a basic religious literacy, otherwise it has no choice at all. As with the exclusion of God from many weddings and funerals now, we are seeing a determined effort by not a few to get God out of NZ life including our schools, but as the prophets of Israel pointed out long ago, interesting things start to happen in the life of a nation that turns away from God.

Parish Priest: Fr Hugh Bowron – 455- 3961

Vicar's Warden: Tubby Hopkins – 454-2399

People's Warden: Kate Paterson – 455-5384

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