



St. Peter's Caversham

The Pebble

10 August 2014 Feast of the Transfiguration

Collect for the Feast of the Transfiguration

God of glory,
you gave the vision of your Son
to those who watched on the mountain;
grant that by our glimpses of him
we may be changed into his glorious likeness
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
one God now and forever.

1989 New Zealand Prayer Book

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:

234 Christ whose glory fills the skies

177 Christ upon the mountain peak

432 O what their joy and their glory must be

176 O vision blest, of heavenly light

247 O Gladsome light, o grace

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14](#)

[2 Peter 1: 16-19](#)

[Matthew 17: 1-9](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

[Revelation 11: 19; 12: 1-6, 10](#)

[1 Corinthians 15: 20-26](#)

[Luke 1: 39-56](#)

Parish News

Today's sermon is entitled "The Transcendent Christ." Every generation refashions its image of Christ according to its current pre-occupations and interests, but this usually says more about them than him. In recent times the human side of Jesus has been very much emphasised to make him approachable and accessible to a world unsure about the Divine. Yet the Transfiguration tells us of an awe inspiring encounter of his inner group with the transcendent Christ, a figure of Divine power, who prefigures his resurrection appearances as an inhabitant of the age to come. This Christ is sovereignly himself, he breaks out of all our preconceptions about him, and so is free to surprise us, and to save us from ourselves by doing so on his terms and not on ours.

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 at 3.30 pm. This film includes footage of Rowan Williams as Archbishop of Canterbury as celebrant and preacher at Walsingham's National Pilgrimage, together with recollections of his first visit to the shrine as a student. Sung Evensong and Benediction will follow the film screening at 5 pm. A light meal of soup and rolls will follow the Service.

Wardens meeting The Vicar and Wardens meeting has been rescheduled to Monday 18 August. Please mention to Kate or Tubby any matters you want raised at that meeting.

Rock deadline The deadline for copy for this month's edition of the Rock is Sunday 24 August.

Public medicines clinic The University of Otago School of Pharmacy is offering a Public Medicine's Clinic to discuss people's medications. This will be in St Peter's Hall on Friday 22 August from 1 to 4 pm.

Spring Flower Festival St Peters will be hosting a Spring Flower Festival over the weekend of 20-21 September. There will be displays of vestments and liturgical items for public inspection in the Church on the Saturday of that weekend.

Gaza emergency appeal 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, and Denise Walker.

Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time: Alan Gale, Gaynore Newbound, Jennifer Fraser, Ronald Preston and Mavis Willinson.

Why We Stand at the Great Thanksgiving Prayer at the 10.30 am Eucharist

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer is one of the major high points of the Eucharist. In it the people of God join with the celebrant in taking part in an action in which we recall and make real in our midst all that Jesus did in his life, death and resurrection. This action also forms us into the body of Christ, his collective presence in Caversham on that Sunday morning. The dynamism of this action requires us to be aware of each other, in contact with each other. So we stand to make this possible, just as the early Christians did, for whom standing was the normal and default prayer position. Standing also enables us to participate fully because we can sing and speak out the responses better than if we are hunched over in a crouching position. Since the liturgical movement renewed the liturgy in recent times standing at the Great Thanksgiving Prayer has become normative in Anglican Churches. The key parts of our Service, particularly the Great Thanksgiving Prayer are not long, no more than 5 minutes. The recent changes in our Service booklet are designed to make the Eucharistic action flow with energy and resolution, so that is what is requested is within most people's comfort levels. There are those who by reason of frailty or infirmity need to sit for much of the Service, and that is just fine. But they need not be the trend setters in this respect, in which everyone else follows by default.

There is ample opportunity to kneel during the prayers immediately before communion, and during the prayers of intercession. We sit for an ample period of time during the lessons and the sermon. Here at St Peters an atmosphere of quiet prayerfulness is encouraged before the start of the Service, and the liturgy is lead with dignity and gravitas, with the ceremonial and ritual action being carried out to a high standard of excellence as we come before the Triune persons in a movement of love, praise and thanksgiving. There is no danger of irreverence, or that an atmosphere of devotion may evaporate as a result of our standing to pray together at this key moment in the liturgy.

Parish Priest: Fr Hugh Bowron – 455- 3961

Vicar's Warden: Tubby Hopkins – 454-2399

People's Warden: Kate Paterson – 455-5384

www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz