

St. Peter's Caversham The Pebble

21 December, 2014

Advent 4

# Annunciation

She had been a child who played, ate, slept like any other child – but unlike others, wept only for pity, laughed in joy not triumph. Compassion and intelligence fused in her, indivisible.

Called to a destiny more momentous than any in all of Time, she did not quail,

only asked a simple, "How can this be?" and gravely courteously, took to heart the angel's reply, perceiving instantly the astounding ministry she was offered:

to bear in her womb Infinite weight and lightness; to carry in hidden, finite inwardness, nine months of Eternity; to contain in slender vase of being, the sum of power in narrow flesh, the sum of light. Then bring to birth, push out into air, a Man-child needing like any other, milk and love –

but who was God.

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:

33 Of the Father's love begotten (omit verses 2 and 3)

- 187 Virgin born we bow before thee
- 357 Father, hear the prayer we offer Communion: In the bleak midwinter (Gustav Holst) Soloist: Arnold Bachop.
- 16 Wake! O Wake! With tidings thrilling

## **READINGS FOR TODAY**

<u>2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16</u> <u>Romans 16: 25-27</u> Luke 1: 26-38

## **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

<u>Ecclesiasticus 3: 2-6, 12-14</u> <u>Colossians 3: 12-21</u> <u>Luke 2: 22-40</u>

## Parish News

**Frances Hodgkins Christmas Service** In order to make it possible for Anglicans resident at Frances Hodgkin's to make their Christmas communion, who cannot get to a Christmas Day Service, the Vicar will celebrate the Eucharist in the Garden Lounge on Tuesday at 11 am.

<u>Confession</u> Advent is a good time to make your confession in preparation for Christmas. To proceed with this helpful spiritual practice please contact the Vicar to arrange a time. <u>Deputy Vicar General</u> The Bishop announced in this week's

News Update that the Vicar has been appointed Deputy Vicar General. The post is one that gives the diocese back up capacity in the event of the Bishop and Vicar General being indisposed or unable to continue in office.

<u>Christian World Service Appeal</u> The Christian World Service Christmas appeal is commended to you for your generous support. An inset sheet about a CWS project is in your Pebble, and appeal gift envelopes can be found on the display table at the back of the Church set aside for this purpose.

<u>**The Rock</u>** The December edition of the Rock is available at the back of the Church, and in the Link.</u>

<u>Nine Lessons and Carols Readers</u> A gentle reminder to readers at tonight's Nine Lessons and Carols readers to please bring your Scripture text with you.

<u>Christmas Eve at St Barnabas</u> Our first Mass of Christmas begins at St Barnabas at 6 pm, accompanied by Carol singing. This Service may suit some parishioners who cannot attend the other Christmas Services.

## *Christmas at St Peter's.* This evening, 7 pm.

The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. **Wednesday December 24, Christmas Eve, 11 pm:** Carols, Midnight Mass of the Nativity and blessing of the Crib by Candlelight. **Thursday December 25, Christmas Day: 8 am** Holy Eucharist (1662) **10.30 am** Sung Solemn Eucharist and Carols. <u>**Pray for the Sick and Infirm**</u> Claire Johnson, Hannah Scott, Cherry Gordon, Juen Miyagi, Shirley Menzies, George and Nonie Connor and Denise Walker.

**Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time** David, John and Richard Tourelle, Noel McQuarrie, Francis Hore, William Littler, Doreen Fraser, and Lena Holmes.

**Anglican Family Centre Episcopal statement** A statement from Bishop Kelvin regarding the recent industrial action and negative publicity affecting the Anglican Family Centre can be found on the CWS table at the back of the Church. St Peters devotes a major share of its giving to mission and social service agencies to Anglican Family Care.

<u>New Year's Eve Watchnight Service</u> poster advertising our Christmas Services has gone up on the Hillside Rd public noticeboard. You will see listed there the Watchnight Service on New Year's Eve starting at 10.30 pm, and timed to conclude close to the Midnight seeing in of the New Year. The Service consists of a Vigil of Readings and accompanying prayers, together with suitable hymns. It concludes with a celebration of the Eucharist according to the Liturgy of St Basil, which we use on special occasions. This is a wonderful and most appropriate way to see out the old year and see in the new.

<u>Vigil lesson readers requested</u> If you are attending the New Years Eve Watchnight Service, and would like to read a lesson, please contact the Vicar.

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