



St. Peter's Caversham  
**The Pebble**

28 December, 2014

Holy Family

***Our Homes***

Gentle God,  
grant that at home  
where we are most truly ourselves,  
where we are known at our best and  
worst  
we may learn to forgive and be forgiven,  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

*New Zealand Prayer book 1989*

**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:**

39 Unto us a boy is born

40 What child is this

285 For the beauty of the earth

45 The growing limbs of God the Son

25 God rest you merry, gentlemen

**READINGS FOR TODAY**

[Ecclesiasticus 3: 2-6, 12-14](#)

[Colossians 3: 12-21](#)

[Luke 2: 22-40](#)

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

[Isaiah 60: 1-6](#)

[Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6](#)

[Matthew 2: 1-12](#)

**Parish News**

**Christian World Service Appeal** This next week is a final opportunity to make a contribution to the CWS Christmas appeal.

**Attendances up at English Cathedrals** Statistics just released show an encouraging rise in attendances at English Cathedrals, though with an oblique edge to them since the rise is in mid-week Services (a doubling of numbers over a decade), with Sunday Service numbers being relatively static. Deans put this phenomenon down to the fact that many people live pressured lives with the weekends mortgaged to many rival leisure activities, so that people in this situation welcome the opportunity to attend relatively short mid-day midweek Services. The anonymity of Cathedral Services also means that people can “slide in from the side” without being noticed, or collared to do Church sustaining jobs, as tends to happen at parish churches. Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark Cathedral (a Mirfield trained priest) has disputed national headlines that Sundays are inconvenient. “I would be most reluctant to accept that. I think you have to challenge whether going to a DIY store is actually a priority for their lives, or worship...People need to be drawn into the priority of God. If we begin to suggest that Sunday is the same as any other day, I think we are doing a disservice to the God of Easter.” Dean Nunn has also pointed to a considerable rise in Sunday attendances at Southwark Cathedral, which he attributed to a focus on welcome, the quality of the liturgy, and an emphasis on inclusivity. Another factor drawing people to Cathedrals is thought to be the opportunity for those burnt out through over-involvement in their parish Church to be a part of what amounts to a recovery ward, in which their needs are met without any demands being made on them.

**New Zealand Cathedrals** By and large New Zealand Cathedrals are doing relatively well in attendances, with Christchurch's transitional Cathedral averaging around 150 people at the main Sunday Service. Nelson Cathedral has more modest yet respectable Sunday attendances, and is trying something new, with the Dean adding a fourth Service

to the Sunday line up, a children and young person's Service after Evensong, which he leads. Dunedin Cathedral is struggling, both in attendances and in financial self-sufficiency.

**Pray for the Sick and Infirm** Claire Johnson, Hannah Scott, Cherry Gordon, Jun Miyagi, Shirley Menzies, George and Nonie Connor, Kaye Fowler and Denise Walker.

**Thursday Eucharist** The Thursday 10 am Eucharist continues as usual throughout January.

**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.

**New Year's Eve Watchnight Service** On Wednesday evening there will be a New Year's Eve Watchnight Service 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.

**Vigil lesson readers requested** If you are attending the New Year's Eve Watchnight Service, and would like to read a lesson, please contact the Vicar.

### **Parish Contacts.**

**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](http://www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz)**