



St. Peter's Caversham
The Pebble

4 January, 2015

Epiphany

The Gate of the Year

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and put your hand in the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

And he led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

So heart be still:

What need our little life
Our human life to know,
If God hath comprehension?
In all the dizzy strife
Of things both high and low,
God hideth his intention

God knows. His will
Is best. The stretch of years
Which wind ahead, so dim
To our imperfect vision,
Are clear to God. Our fears
Are premature; In Him,
All time hath full provision.

Minnie Louise Haskins

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:

○ God beyond all praising (see inset sheet)

48 Bethlehem of noblest cities

50 From the eastern mountains

248 ○ strength and stay

52 ○ worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Isaiah 60: 1-6](#)

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

[Matthew 2: 1-12](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7](#)

[Acts 10: 34-38](#)

[Mark 1: 7-11](#)

Parish News

Farewell Nola Powell The Vicar presided at the funeral of Nola Powell at the Cathedral on Saturday. Nola was a former resident of Frances Hodgkins, and near neighbour of Tubby and Averil Hopkins. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Frances Hodgkins in January The Vicar will celebrate the Eucharist at Frances Hodgkins on Thursday 15 January at

11 am. The Frances Hodgkins housegroup will have its first meeting for the year on Monday 26 January in the Garden Lounge at 2 pm.

Forward planning for Lent On the four Fridays in March there will be an early evening Eucharist, in the context of which the Vicar will offer some teaching on a suitable Lenten topic. This will be followed by a fish and a chip supper in the lounge with orders being placed and required cash collected before the start of the Service. Lent and Holy Week fall early this year with Ash Wednesday occurring on 18 February and Easter Sunday on 5 April. Bishop Kelvin will be with us for the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening 4 April, at which a Confirmation will occur.

Grandchild inspection and connection The Vicar will make a quick dash to Wellington from 19 to 21 January to meet his new grandchild Leo, whose arrival has been welcomed by his one and a half year old brother Oscar. Teachers should have little trouble remembering their names.

Film season being planned Past film seasons in the Vicarage have proved popular, though some have commented that they have been somewhat serious, bleak and deeply religious in tone and content. This year's films will be lighter and more accessible and more anchored in the things of this world, while at the same time being thought provoking and unusual, a kind of Vicar's top five. Dates and titles to be announced as the planning of the parish year proceeds.

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.

Pray for those who have died recently: Nola Powell, and those whose memorial occurs at this time: Christopher Holden, Arthur Hill, Mary Wood, Marjorie Welch, William Bloxham (Priest), Francis Mumford, Robin Heaps and Janet Younie.

The Anglican Ecclesiastical world in retrospect 2014 saw the announcement by Bishop Kelvin that he would retire upon turning 65 at Easter 2017. Archbishop Justin Welby decided to indefinitely postpone the next Lambeth Conference, due to take place in 2017, until such time as he and the other Primates, in consultation with one another, could find a suitable date to come together. It has been assumed that this is an attempt to avoid the kind of global south boycott that characterised the last Lambeth Conference. Meanwhile he presided over the Church of England's General Synod ram rodding the women bishop's legislation through. New Zealand's General Synod met, and after lengthy debate passed motion 30, which was an attempt to find a way through the same sex blessings dilemma. Over a four-year period the New Zealand Anglican Church would develop and propose for adoption a same-sex blessing rite, while at the same time attempting to develop legislation that would protect from human rights prosecution clergy who could not in all conscience preside at such ceremonies. Meanwhile parishes who wished to, could informally recognise in the context of worship those couples who had already been married or civil unioned to same sex partners. It was felt that the working group tasked with bringing these proposals into some sort of workable form had a formidable challenge ahead of them, and that the next two General Synods, due at two year intervals, could go either way on the issue.

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

Parish Contacts.

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