



St. Peter's Caversham
The Pebble

11 January, 2015

Baptism of the Lord

**Epiphany Seasonal Prayer
for the Blessing of the Water at Baptism**

Father, we give you thanks and praise
for your gift of water in creation;
for your Spirit, sweeping over the waters,
bringing light and life;
for your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
baptised in the river Jordan.

We bless you for your new creation,
brought to birth by water and the Spirit,
and for your grace bestowed upon us your children,
washing away our sins.

May your holy and life-giving Spirit
move upon these waters.

Restore through them the beauty of your creation,
and bring those who are baptised

to new birth in the family of your Church.

Drown sin in the waters of judgement,
anoint your children with power from on high,
and make them one with Christ

in the freedom of your kingdom.

For all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours,
now and for ever.

Alleluia. Amen.

Common Worship, Church of England

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:

338 At the name of Jesus

431 O thou who camest from above

352 Crown him with many crowns

Clear Vault of Heaven (see insert)

245 God that madest earth and heaven

READINGS FOR TODAY

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

[Acts 10: 34-38](#)

[Mark 1: 7-11](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19](#)

[1 Corinthians 6: 13-15, 17-20](#)

[John 1: 35-42](#)

Parish News

Procession This morning's 10.30 Service begins with a procession around the Church. Please feel free to join in.

Frances Hodgkins in January The Vicar will celebrate the Eucharist at Frances Hodgkins next Thursday 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.

Roster A new roster of 10.30 am liturgical duties has been produced, and will be distributed in the coming week.

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, 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.

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

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

Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time: Bill Tansley, John Peterson and Thomas Dutton.

You've got mail The Vicarage mail box is checked with anticipation and sometimes pleasure six days of the week. The director of New Zealand Post announced last week that mail volumes had fallen again over the past year, thus justifying NZ Posts plans to reduce mail deliveries to three days a week from July. These plans are of a piece with recent moves to reduce mail sorting staff, and close some mail sorting centres, with consequent slow downs in mail delivery times. The director conceded that parcel deliveries had reached record levels in the fortnight before Christmas, yet it would seem that this type of mail is counted separately so as not to interrupt the narrative of falling mail volumes. Indeed, the fact is that the advent of Trade Me, Amazon, and a variety of on line shopping options, have boosted parcel volumes, yet it would seem likely that these may increasingly be delivered by separate courier arms. It seems odd that a struggling business responds to its difficulties by raising prices and reducing its services, thus creating a self fulfilling prophecy of further decline. The usual response is to reduce prices and improve services in new ways so as to recruit new customers. What will follow if the three day delivery regime is declared to be uneconomic? Perhaps the dinosaurs who continue to send and receive letters will be required to collect their mail from the nearest Post Shop, that is if it hasn't been closed as part of further cost cutting measures. This trend resister tries to keep mail volumes up by declining company requests to send their reports and bills by e mail, and by using postal services on every possible occasion. He believes that letters communicate in a more nuanced and fuller range of meanings, thoughts and feelings than e mails ever can, since they are a very flat medium of communication.

Parish Contacts.

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www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz