

22 MARCH, 2015 LENT 5

THE MERCY TREE

Will you offer me compassion?
Will you walk the road with me?
Brother, sister, will you feed me
ripe fruit from the Mercy Tree?

Will you utter words of comfort?
Will you bless me with your peace?
Mercy is the gift I long for:
mercy from the Mercy Tree.

I do not deserve your loving, brother, sister, yet I plead -I am human, I have need of mercy from the Mercy Tree.

If you offer me your friendship, if you make your peace with me, mercy will most surely touch you: mercy from the Mercy Tree.

John Weir, Society of Mary New Zealand poet and hymn writer

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:

- 507 Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us
- 353 Dear Lord and Father of mankind
- 78 Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle
- 82 Drop, drop, slow tears.
- 92 There is a green hill far away

READINGS FOR TODAY

Jeremiah 31: 31-34 <u>Hebrews 5: 7-9</u> John 12: 20-33

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

<u>Isaiah 50: 4-7</u> <u>Philippians 2: 6-11</u> <u>Mark 14: 1-15: 47</u>

Parish News

<u>Four Fridays in March</u> This year's Lenten extra consists of a Eucharist celebrated in the lounge at 5.30 pm on each of the Fridays in March, during which there will be teaching session on four themes in Mark's gospel, with an opportunity for questions and dialogue at that point. The Service is followed immediately by a fish and chip tea, together with offerings of salads or any other extras parishioners may care to bring. Do join us.

<u>Vanuatu cyclone appeal</u> Houses were flattened, trees toppled, crops and water supplies destroyed by Cyclone Pam. Families have been left with little. They need food, water, shelter and healthcare. Local people are already picking up the pieces and will need more help to rebuild their homes and livelihoods. Christian World Service is asking for your support. They are working with ACT Alliance members, and the Presbyterian and Anglican churches to make sure help gets to those who need it most in remote communities. You can uplift a brochure from the back of the church with details on how to make a donation to CWS.

Bring a bell This year's Easter Vigil is special with Bishop Kelvin attending to confirm a parishioner and to receive another into the Anglican Church. Parishioners are strongly encouraged to attend this most wonderful of our liturgies, which will be on Holy Saturday night at 8 pm. Please look out for a bell you can bring with you to ring as the Gloria is sung and the lights are turned on at the conclusion of the Vigil of readings.

<u>A BBQ needed</u> Please could someone lend us their BBQ for the ceremony of new fire as part of the Easter Vigil Service. It doesn't need to be a big one, just a small portable one would be ideal.

Evensong and Benediction Evening Services are resuming this year once a month on the first Sunday of the month on a trial basis. We begin in April, so that means our first Evensong and Benediction for the year will be on Easter Sunday. The Service starts at 5 pm, will last about 40 minutes, and will be followed by a social time in the lounge.

Brass cleaning There will be brass cleaning on Easter Saturday, 4 April at 10.30 am.

<u>Fellowship group</u> The Fellowship group will meet on Tuesday at 2 pm in Lorraine Mitchell's home – 23 Tainui Road. There will be an informal discussion of your favourite book.

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

<u>Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time:</u> Doreen Price, Norma Moorhead, and Alexander Nugent

successive Tuesday nights throughout Paschal time between Easter and Pentecost five films will be shown in the Vicarage. Mass will be celebrated in the Vicarage at 7 pm, followed immediately by the screening of the film. The films are 21 April An Englishman Abroad, a BBC version of an Alan Bennett play which imagines an Australian actress in Moscow bumping in to notorious spy and traitor Guy Burgess, who, out of his bored and claustrophobic life due to his Soviet handlers, makes some unusual requests, 28 April Looking for Light: Jane Brown, a recent documentary about the Observers portrait photographer, whose low key, disarming personality enabled her to take some of the most famous photographs of recent times, 5 May George Mackay Brown - Hamnavoe, one of Owen Shears documentary series A Poet's Guide to Britain, profiling the famous Orkney poet, and one of his better known poems, 12 May Buck, a documentary about Buck Brannaman, America's most accomplished horse whisperer who transcended the appalling abuse dished out to him by his father to develop a remarkable empathy for the animals he works with, who he mostly diagnoses as horses with people problems, i.e. their owners, 19 May The Secret Life of Words, Tim Robbins and Sarah Polley put in stunning performances in an Almodovar film in which a wounded oil worker forms an unlikely and emotional relationship with a nurse based on his need to divulge the secrets of his past and her mysterious silence about her own identity, one of the Vicar's top five films.

The Easter season film season Running over five weeks on

Parish Contacts.

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