



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

12 APRIL, 2015

LOW SUNDAY

**BEING A CHRISTIAN**

How do we know that "God is for us"? Because Jesus Christ, the one human being who is completely in tune with God – with what God wants and what God is doing – has carried the burden of our human betrayals of God and running away from goodness. He has let himself be betrayed and rejected, executed in a humiliating and agonising way, and yet has not turned his back on us. Death did not succeed in silencing him or removing him from the world. He is alive; and that means that his love is alive, having survived the worst we can do.

Nothing – says St Paul in the same passage – can separate us from his love. But this isn't an excuse for doing what we like, knowing we can get away with it. Once we know that God is "for us", we open up to the gift that God wants to give us – which is a share in his own love and freedom and mercy. We breathe with his breath – that's part of what it means to say that we receive God's "Spirit", which makes us live like Jesus "in tune" with God. If we have really taken the message in, we shall live lives of selfless generosity, always asking how the gifts given us – material or imaginative or spiritual or whatever – can be shared in a way that brings other people more fully alive. And we shall be able to trust the generosity of others and be free to receive what they give us.

Generosity, gratitude, confidence that when we fail we are still loved – all of this focused on Jesus' life and death and resurrection. That's where we start in the lifelong job of being a Christian.

*Rowan Williams*

**The Liturgy for Today:**

8:00 am Holy Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)  
10:30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist

**HYMNS:**

107 Good Christian folk, rejoice and sing.  
118 The Lord is risen indeed!  
103 Alleluya! Alleluya! Hearts to heaven and voices raise.  
121 This joyful Eastertide.  
120 Thine be the Glory.

**Organ Postlude:** *Prelude in Classical Style.* Gordon Young.  
(1919-1998)

**READINGS FOR TODAY**

[Acts 4: 32-35](#)

[1 John 5: 1-6](#)

[John 20: 19-31](#)

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

[Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19](#)

[1 John 2: 1-5](#)

[Luke 24: 35-48](#)

**Parish News**

**Captured on film** This year's Easter Vigil Service was filmed by David and Shelley Scoular. Edited highlights will be posted on the parish website. The Bishop's sermon can be viewed now if you go to "theology" and then activate the drop down menu and click on "the pulpit."

**Parish AGM** Notice is hereby given the Parish AGM will be held on Sunday 26 April after the 10.30 am Service for the purpose of hearing reports, receiving the accounts and the budget for the year ahead, and electing the parish officers. Election forms for Vestry

and the People's Warden and can be found at the back of the Church. You must be on the parish roll to nominate someone, and must have obtained their consent to be nominated.

**The Easter season film season** Running over five weeks on 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 in which an Australian actress in Moscow bumps in to notorious spy and traitor Guy Burgess, 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*, 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, 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.

**Vicar away** The Vicar is on leave from Tuesday until Friday week visiting his brother who lives outside Perth. Funeral cover during this time will be provided by Fr James Harding p 453 1956. This Sunday's celebrant and preacher will be Fr Roger Barker. This will be Fr Roger's final visit to us.

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

**Pray for those who have died recently**, especially Bastow Wilson. Please pray for Raewyn and the family. His Requiem celebrated at All Saint's, North Dunedin, Monday at 2pm. Fr. Carl Somers-Edgar (St Michaels Antiochian Orthodox Church) will be the preacher.

**Raffle Results:** 1<sup>st</sup> Buster Sinclair 2<sup>nd</sup> Michael Forrest 3<sup>rd</sup> Gay Web

**Pot Luck Lunch** today after the 10.30am Solemn Sung Eucharist.

**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary programme** The anniversary celebrations will run over the weekend of 26-27 September. Registration and welcome will begin at 1pm on the Saturday with an organ recital to follow soon after by Douglas Mews, Wellington city organist. Afternoon tea will be followed by the screening of "Thanks for the Memory", edited highlights of recent film interviews with parishioners regarding the recent history of the parish. If time permits the Vicar will give a brief presentation on "Colourful clergy from St Peter's past." A conversazione will conclude the first day. On Sunday our usual Services will be amalgamated into one at 10 am, with Bishop Victoria Matthews presiding and preaching. A bus will then take us to J-Tee's Function Centre at East Taieri for lunch. The celebrations will conclude with Evensong and Benediction at 4 pm.

**Recalling the past** It is to be hoped that the forthcoming celebrations will have fewer dramatic incidents than the 125<sup>th</sup>. A new switchboard had been fitted to the church, which burnt out on Sunday morning so that the hymns had to be accompanied on the piano, and the church illuminated by candlelight only.

**Jonathan Hicks** Jonathan Hicks has been accepted as a society member with the New Zealand Church Missionary Society ahead of his missionary deployment to the Solomons later this year. CMSNZ are encouraging them to begin the process of support raising with the churches they have been in touch with. Jonathan was our guest preacher at our Patronal Festival two years ago during the time he was completing his theology doctorate at Otago. This new NZ mission relationship means that the Hicks family will be visiting New Zealand at least every three years.

### **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)**