

31 MAY, 2015

TRINITY SUNDAY

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

In Christ the life-giving law of the Spirit: has set us free from the law of sin and death.

All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God: It is the Spirit that enables us to cry, Abba, Father.

The Spirit confirms that we are God's children: and if children then we are heirs.

We are heirs of God, and fellow-heirs with Christ: if we share his sufferings now, in order to share his splendour hereafter.

The sufferings we now endure: bear no comparison with the splendour to be shown to us.

The created universe itself waits with eager longing: for the children of God to be revealed.

based on Romans 8: 2, 14-19 New Zealand Prayer book 1989, page 101 This section of the NZPB has an excellent set of Canticles suitable to each liturgical season of the Church's year

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:

148 The God of Abraham praise

360 Firmly I believe and truly

433 O Worship the King

147 Most ancient of all mysteries

248 O Strength and Stay upholding all creation

READINGS FOR TODAY

Deuteronomy 4: 32-34, 39-40

Romans 8: 14-17 Matthew 28: 16-20

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Exodus 24: 3-8

Hebrews 9: 11-15

Mark 14: 12-16, 22-26

Parish News

<u>Procession</u> To honour the feast of the holy, blessed and glorious Trinity we begin today's 10.30 am Service with a procession around the Church, which you are most cordially invited to join.

Companion mission link to Revd Jonathan Hicks Last week's Vestry meeting decided to forge a companion mission link the Revd Jonathan Hicks, the young American priest who preached at our Patronal Festival in recent times, who will be deploying to the Solomon's in August to teach at the theological college there. The link means that we will be in regular touch with them as a family,

will pray for them, and will receive deputation visits from them every two to three years. \$1,500 from parish funds will be sent to the Church Missionary Society each year to support them, with another \$500 being provided by individual parishioners as parish mission companions. The Vicar has already signed up to this, and invites parishioners to join him by letting him know of their willingness to do this also.

<u>Catering for the choir visit</u> We would be most grateful if parishioners could sign up to the catering notice on the link noticeboard to provide items of food for the lunch we will be providing for the Christchurch Cathedral Choir visit on Sunday 28 June after the 10.30 am Service.

<u>Evensong and Benediction</u> Our first Sunday of the month evening Service will take place next Sunday at 5 pm, followed by a social gathering in the lounge afterwards. This will be a particularly appropriate Service as we will be celebrating the feast of Corpus Christi that day.

<u>Frances Hodgkins</u> The Vicar will celebrate the Eucharist at Frances Hodgkins on Thursday at 11 am. The house group meeting will take place on Monday 8 June at 2 pm in the Garden Lounge.

150th **Anniversary registration** It is important that parishioners register for the parish 150th anniversary celebrations over the weekend of 27-28 September, in addition to the former parishioners from out of town. You can do this by filling in the registration form in the Pebble and putting it in the box at the back of the church, or by emailing 150th@stpeterscaversham.org.nz.

Rock This month's edition of the Rock is available at the back of the Church and in the Link.

<u>Ordination</u> The Vicar will travel to Balclutha this evening to attend the priesting of the Revd Peter Ross, whose discernment process he oversaw at the beginning of Peter's path to ordination.

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

<u>Please pray for those who have recently died</u> Marie Chote <u>Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time:</u> Betty Wyatt and Amy Hore

The right to die The Lecretia Seales High Court case this week is the culmination of her campaign to give her doctor immunity from prosecution when terminating this patient's life. The sympathetic media coverage she has received conceals several truths. Palliative care and pain control have now advanced to the point where few if any people need end their days in pain. Those of us who attend many death beds know that there is a grey area where physicians often take measures such as instructing that liquids no longer be provided, or that morphine dosages be stepped up considerably, that have the effect of bringing the end of life closer. Few dispute the validity of these measures. There is an old legal adage that "hard cases do not make good law" since heart rending stories do not make for considered, careful, just legislation. The case pivots off the right of the individual to decide when they should die. The unexamined assumption behind this is the post-enlightenment belief in the radical autonomy of the self, an erroneous notion since we belong within networks of community relationships, and the community through its legal and political decisions has the right to make major decisions about our lives that override our personal preferences. Another background assumption is the right to be in control of our lives right up to the end, by people with very well managed lives, but the truth about ageing and dying is that in the end we lose control of our lives often inch by inch - this is an inescapable truth about being human. For Christians there are two other assumptions that are now harder to voice in a secular society. While suffering should be alleviated wherever possible there are situations where it is unavoidable, and right suffering is as important as right belief and right action. Life is a gift from God and we do not have the right to return the gift with "No thanks" stamped on the parcel.

Parish Contacts.

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