



St. Peter's Caversham
The Pebble

2 AUGUST, 2015

18 TH SUNDAY, YEAR B

WE ARE WHAT WE EAT

“Man is what he eats.” With this statement the German materialist philosopher Feuerbach thought he had put an end to all “idealistic” speculations about human nature. In fact, however, he was expressing without knowing it, the most religious idea of man. For long before Feuerbach the same definition of man was given by the Bible. In the biblical story of creation man is presented, first of all, as a hungry being, and the whole world as his food. Second only to the direction to propagate and have dominion over the earth, according to the author of the first chapter of Genesis, is God’s instruction to man to eat of the earth. “Behold I have given you every herb bearing seed...and every tree, which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat...” Man must eat in order to live; he must take the world into his body and transform it into himself, into flesh and blood. He is indeed that which he eats, and the whole world is presented as one all-embracing banquet table for man. And this image of the banquet remains, throughout the whole Bible, the central image of life. It is the image of life at its creation and also the image of life at its end and fulfilment: “...that you eat and drink at my table in the Kingdom.”

Alexander Schmemmann

For the Life of the World: Sacraments and Orthodoxy

A Warm Welcome

to all who are sharing with us in worship today. 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

5.00 pm Sung Evensong and Benediction

HYMNS:

234 Christ, whose glory fills the skies

353 Dear Lord and Father of mankind

381 Jerusalem the golden

299 My spirit longs for thee (T.471)

244 Glory to thee, my God, this night

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Exodus 16: 2-4, 12-15](#)

[Ephesians 4: 17, 20-24](#)

[John 6: 24-35](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[1 Kings 19: 4-8](#)

[Ephesians 4: 30-5: 2](#)

[John 6: 41-51](#)

Parish News

Evensong and Benediction This evening at 5 pm, followed by a social hour in the lounge.

Today's sermon is about the issue of dealing with destabilising temptations that lead us to do things we don't want to do. Today's Ephesians reading proposes that we deal with this reality by renewing our minds by means of a spiritual revolution. How shall we set about doing this? In large measure by taking today's gospel reading seriously that speaks of Christ as our source of spiritual sustenance at a number of levels.

Frances Hodgkins The Vicar will celebrate the Eucharist at 11 am on Thursday at Frances Hodgkins. The monthly house group meeting will take place on Monday 10 August at 2 pm in the Garden Lounge.

St Peters Festival of Flowers St Peters will be hosting a Festival of Flowers over the weekend of 17-18 October based around the theme of St Peter the fisherman. Parishioners may recall the very successful similar event which came to us for the first time last year. This event will be provided by the Dunedin Floral Art Society, of which our Faye-Noel Brown is the President. If you can help with sourcing fishing nets and glass tiles for a "Sea of Galilee" scene please contact Faye-Noel.

Parish forum A parish forum will follow the 10.30 am Service on Sunday 16 August. This will discuss concerns about the Anglican Family Centre, and will report back on further developments regarding the proposed diocesan tithing levy.

Film festival The annual international film festival is now under way. *Going Clear: Scientology and the Prison of Belief* should be interesting, the documentary that the Church of Scientology took out full page advertisements against, a reminder that not all forms of religion are healthy.

Wardens meeting The next Wardens meeting will be on Monday 17 August. Please let Tubby or Kate know of any matters you want raised at that meeting.

150th Anniversary registration We are receiving an encouraging number of parishioner registrations. Please remember to get your registration fee to us as soon as possible.

Thursday Eucharist Missed church on Sunday because of bad weather. Then why not come to the Thursday 10 am Eucharist? It is in the lounge in the winter because that is easy to heat and warmer than the church.

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Claire Johnson, Hannah Scott, Cherry Gordon, Jun Miyagi, Shirley Menzies, Margaret Sterling, Joan Thompson and Denise Walker.

Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time Jan McPhee, William Dawson, and Cecil Palmer

The three year cycle Year B of the Sundays in Ordinary time focuses on the gospel of Mark, taking us through it in steady

progression. However, at present we are dipping in to John, whom we last focussed on in Lent and the Sundays after Easter. This is because the three year cycle takes each of the synoptic gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke, in turn, and must find John places at various intervals throughout the year. Mark is also the shortest of the gospels, so Year B provides more opportunity to give John space. We will stay with John until the end of August, when we turn our attention again to Mark. The three year cycle was part of the liturgical reforms brought in at Vatican 2 designed to give the Bible a more prominent place in the liturgy by reading the major parts of it through consecutively, instead of chopped up little bits of it based around feasts that continually interrupted any attempt to introduce worshippers to the thought world of the Bible as a coherent whole. This of course was what Cranmer was attempting at the Protestant Reformation in the Book of Common Prayer, but the cycle of readings he introduced was not as all-embracing as the three year cycle. Although introduced by the Roman Catholic Church many other churches used it as well as an opportunity for the majority of the Christian world to be reading and preaching off the same Scriptures Sunday by Sunday, a great ecumenical opportunity. Some Anglican parishes have now turned to the revised common lectionary, which is based around the three year cycle but has longer readings that try to take the books of the Bible on their own terms rather than serving them up in short gobbets designed to fit in with the supposed attention span of the Mass going laity. This more Bible centred approach to liturgy has been a great gain based as it is on the insight that the same Word that is read out in the first half of Eucharist is the same Word which, read out over the bread and wine, transforms it into the body and blood of Christ.

Parish Contacts.

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