



St. Peter's Caversham

The Pebble

16 AUGUST, 2015

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

TO HAVE WITHOUT HOLDING

Learning to love differently is hard,
love with the hands wide open...
It hurts to thwart the reflexes
of grab, of clutch; to love and let
go again and again...
.....to love consciously,
conscientiously, concretely, constructively...
..... to have
And not to hold, to love
with minimized malice, hunger
and anger moment by moment balanced.

Marge Piercy

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

HYMNS:

186 Tell out, my soul
181 The Lord whom earth and sea and sky
104 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
184 Shall we not love thee, Mother dear
362 Glorious things of thee are spoken

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Revelation 11: 19, 12: 1-6, 10](#)

[1 Corinthians 15: 20-27](#)

[Luke 1: 39-56](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-17, 18](#)

[Ephesians 5: 21-32](#)

[John 6: 60-69](#)

Parish News

Fellowship group The Fellowship group will meet at 2 pm on Tuesday 25 August at Ronda Tatnell's house - 38b Bellona Street, St Kilda, to watch the film "Annie" with afternoon tea to follow. Contact Raylene Ralston 455 2389.

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

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

150th Anniversary registration A list of those who have registered for the 150th anniversary celebrations can be found on the table in the Link. Please check it to see if you are on the list.

Draft 10.30 roster Please check the draft 10.30 am roster on the Link noticeboard to see if there are any clashes with your future commitments.

Film festival Three documentaries stood out in the film festival which draws to a close this weekend. *Best of Enemies* chronicled the television debates between Gore Vidal and William Buckley junior during the 1968 Republican and Democrat conventions. A sparkling, brilliant and venomous exchange of key political ideas still crucial for America. On the down side this momentous debate set the stage for future television gladiatorial contests in which issues and ideas were sacrificed for superficial shouting matches. *From Scotland with love* was a patchwork of documentary footage from Scotland's recent past with no voice over or editorial comment. A brilliant soundtrack from contemporary Scottish folk singer Kenny Anderson made this a poignant and heart-warming film. *Red Army* told the story of the crack Russian Ice Hockey team. More than a sports doco this is a revealing insight into pre and post *perestroika* Russia. The central protagonists bore their sufferings and their triumphs with a quiet dignity, and showed nobility of soul. A film to make Russians proud of themselves. The team's captain Viacheslav Fetisov went from being lionised to being persecuted to being puzzled by life in the west, and is now Putin's Minister of Sport. For these men collective spirit is the way to play and to live, rather than the rampant individualism of western sportsmen. The Vicar will endeavour to obtain these three for a future film season.

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

Pray for those who have recently died John Hudson

Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time Molly Scrivener and Esther Chetwin.

The quest for national identity Continuing on from last week's discussion of the proposal to get God out of the national anthem what underlies this debate, and the one about our proposed new flag, is a search for a new sense of national identity. Cultural

nationalism has been working its way through our culture for the last few decades with its insistence that we throw off our dependence on Britain's apron strings to think our own thoughts, make our own films, write the great New Zealand novel, and paint authentically New Zealand paintings. To some extent our artists, writers and intellectuals have done this, though their cultural products are not as Godless as some would wish – consider Colin McCahon's frequent use of biblical texts and subjects in his paintings, he was after all married to the daughter of the Vicar of St Matthew's Dunedin. While kiwis are proud of all this the reality is that most of what they watch and read comes from elsewhere, especially the Atlanticist world, and many young New Zealanders live in the diaspora of the western world, preferring the wider horizons and greater opportunities to be found there. Paintings and poems about our empty landscape don't fit any more as most kiwis live in cities, live very urban lives, and only occasionally visit our bush, forests and lakes. The churches' sentimental attempt to manufacture what could be called a tramping club spirituality missed the mark here. Our self-image as a modest egalitarian people is less and less true since the Rogernomics revolution keyed in to kiwis' desire to seize business opportunities and to become more entrepreneurial. There is a growing gap between rich and poor, and the wealthy feel little shame in flaunting their good fortune. The growing desire amongst pakehas to trace back their ancestral roots to their family origins in the Atlantic islands means that while Britain is no longer called "home" it nonetheless has a treasured place in many people's hearts. We do keep travelling there.

Parish Contacts.

Parish Priest: Fr Hugh Bowron – 455- 3961

Vicar's Warden: Tubby Hopkins – 454-2399

People's Warden: Kate Paterson – 455-5384

Stewardship Recorder: Averil Hopkins - 454-2399

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