

24 JANUARY, 2016

3ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sacred Scripture

Those who wrote down the words of Scripture were inspired by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit guided the writers so that they recorded God's revelation to us. At the same time, these writers had full use of their intelligence, their hearts, their insights, and access to their everyday experiences. They were not mindless scribes, unaware of that they were writing. It is as though they were so in tune with the Holy Spirit that everything they chose to write was exactly what needed to be written. Therefore, we believe that the books of Scripture teach solidly, faithfully, and without error everything that God wants to teach.

The Church venerates sacred Scripture and the Body of Christ with the same vigour. Both of these are celebrated in our Liturgy. The bread of life we are offered at Mass flows both from God's Word and from Christ's Body. The altar around which we gather at Mass is really both the table of the Word of God and the table of the Body of Christ. All the teaching of the Church is nourished and focused, therefore, by Sacred Scripture. In Scripture, God meets us and speaks to us with great love. The force and power of the Word of God is so great that it stands as the support and energy of the whole Church, the strength of faith for its members, the food of the soul, and the pure source of the spiritual life.

The Constitution on Divine Revelation, the Documents of Vatican 2 Excerpts from Chapters 3 and 6, Paraphrase text, Huebsch and Thurmes

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) **10:30 am** Solemn Sung Eucharist

HYMNS:

437 Praise the Lord! Ye heavens adore him

407 Lord thy Word abideth

483 The Church of God a kingdom is

53 This day the first of days (T. 244)

476 Ye servants of God

READINGS FOR TODAY

Nehemiah 8: 1-4, 5-6, 8-10

<u>Psalm 19</u> The response to the psalm is:

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life

<u>I Corinthians 12: 12-30</u>

Luke 1: 1-4, 4: 14-21

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Jeremiah 1: 4-5, 17-19

1 Corinthians 12: 31-13:13

Luke 4: 21-30

Parish News

Bishop expected Bishop Kelvin will take the 8am and 10.30am Services next Sunday when the Vicar will be on leave. He will be on leave from Monday 25 January to Saturday 6 February.

Documentary film season in February and March The documentary film season will run over five successive Tuesdays in February and March. The films will be shown in the Vicarage with a start time of 7.30 pm. These will include *From Scotland with Love* a skilfully blended collage of documentary footage with no voice over or commentary just a brilliant sound track from one of

Scotland's leading folk singers - 9 February, *Red Army* about the Red Army Ice Hockey Team, world champions whose fortunes mirrored the rapid social and cultural changes in Russia on 16 February, *The Salt of the Earth* about Sebastiao Salgado one of the world's great social photographers who photographed some of the major humanitarian disasters of the late 20th century - to be screened on 23 February, *Best of Enemies* about the 1968 series of television debates between Gore Vidal and William Buckley Junior at the time of the 1968 Republican and Democratic political conventions on 1 March, and excerpts from *The World's Great Churches* on 8 March, which will include the painted churches of Romania and the Cathedral of Monreale in Sicily.

<u>Frances Hodgkins start up</u> The Vicar will take his first Service for the year at Frances Hodgkins on Thursday 11 February at 11 am. The first Frances Hodgkins house group meeting will be on Monday 15 February at 2 pm in the Garden Lounge.

<u>Parish Garage Sale</u> Saturday 27 February 10 am to 1 pm. We need your trash and treasure for this important fund raiser. Please leave goods in the Link on Sundays – other times contact David Hoskins on 453 4621. If you can help in this way please let David know.

Return of the Rare Byrds Dunedin's Tudor music group will hold a concert in the Church the following day on Sunday afternoon 28 February as part of Dunedin's early music festival. They first came to us last year and it will be good to welcome them back again.

Making a submission on the assisted suicide bill Submissions to the parliamentary committee looking into the assisted suicide bill can be made up until 1 February. It is important for as many Christians as possible to make a submission opposing the bill. You can do this either by googling the Family First website "reject assisted suicide" section or by asking the Vicar for a form.

<u>Meditation group</u> The parish meditation group has resumed its regular weekly meetings gathering at Joan Dutton's residence after the Thursday 10 am Eucharist.

<u>Pray for the Sick and Infirm</u> Claire Johnson, Cherry Gordon, Jun Miyagi, Margaret Sterling, Anita Stephens, Mahlia and Sheree Napier, Katie Bowron and Denise Walker.

<u>Pray for those whose Memorials occur at this time</u> Helen Dutton, Margaret Peterson, and Vera Paris.

Analysis of last week's Primates meeting The Primates meeting decided that representatives of the Episcopal Church will not be allowed to attend meetings of the Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission or any ecumenical gathering for a three year period. The Archbishop of Canterbury explained that this was not a punishment or sanction but was rather a matter of TEC having to accept the consequences of its unilateral action in altering its canons on marriage so as to accept gay marriage. The three year period is seen as an opportunity for considered reflection on the part of TEC before its General Convention meets in 2018 to finally ratify changes to its marriage canons. If it were to press ahead with this change the possibility of its withdrawal from the Anglican Communion would emerge, either voluntarily or as a result of disciplinary action. The Primates agreed to meet again in 2017 and in 2019, a useful thing to do as they monitor the developing situation. They also agreed to support the Archbishop of Canterbury in his proposal to call the Lambeth Conference of Bishops in 2020, a significant decision since any further delay or its cancellation to be replaced by rival gatherings would have signalled the breakup of the Communion. The Canadian Anglican Church was not mentioned in these decisions since so far it has only permitted same sex blessings although it is on the road to accepting gay marriage. Archbishop Foley Beach of the Anglican Church of North America (a 100,000 member church composed mostly of those who have broken away from TEC) was present for the entire meeting and took part in all the votes save for the one relating to TEC, a de facto recognition of him as a Primate. It was decided that the consideration of the required application for admission to membership of the Communion of ACNA was a decision properly belonging to the Anglican Consultative Council. It was recognised that such an application, were it to come forward, would raise significant issues of polity and jurisdiction.

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