

21 February

LENT 2

Night

Dear Night! This world's defeat; The stop to busy fools; cares check and curb: The day of Spirits; my souls calm retreat Which none disturb! Christ's progress and his prayer time; The hours to which high Heaven doth chime.

Were all my loud, evil days Calm and unhaunted as is thy dark Tent, Whose peace but by some Angels wing or voice Is seldom rent; Then I in Heaven all the year long Would keep, and never wander here.

There is in God (some say) A deep, but dazzling darkness: As men here Say it is late and dusky, because they See not all clear; O for that night! Where I in him Might live invisible and dim.

Henry Vaughan

Excerpts from this poem are chosen because of its parallel to the conclusion of this morning's Genesis reading, "As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him".

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:

507 Hear us, O Lord178 Tis good, Lord, to be here440 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty67 Forty days and forty nights389 Jesus these eyes have never seen

READINGS FOR TODAY

Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18 The response to Psalm 27 is: **The Lord is my light and my salvation** Philippians 3:17–4:1 Luke 9: 28-36

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12 Luke 13: 1-9

Parish News

Omit the Gloria A reminder that we omit the Gloria in Lent as it is a penitential season.

Documentary film season On Tuesday evening at 7.30 pm in the Vicarage we will be watching *The Salt of the Earth.* For the past 40 years acclaimed photographer Sebastiao Salgado has travelled the world, capturing moments that have defined humanity. He has witnessed and documented wars, famine, the mass exodus of people and even genocide. But now he is embarking on a new

journey: to discover the grandiose landscapes and epic beauty of nature and encapsulate it in one sweeping photographic tribute to our planet's magnificence. This Oscar nominated documentary is by his son Juliano and world renowned filmmaker Wim Wenders. <u>Fish and Chip Friday Eucharists</u> Our Lenten extra is a Eucharist celebrated at 5.30 pm each Friday in Lent in the parish lounge with a dialogue sermon followed by a shared fish and chip tea.

Parish Garage Sale Next Saturday 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.

<u>Return of the Rare Byrds</u> Dunedin's Tudor music group will hold a concert in the Church the following day on Sunday afternoon 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. Some minor changes to the Church interior can be expected to give the performers a stage area.

Flag pole In order to prevent any further flag thefts the flag pole has been modified so that flags can only be raised or lowered from the top of the bell tower. Ken Ferguson has kindly agreed to be the one who clambers up the bell tower to raise and lower the flag.

<u>The St Peter's Fellowship Group</u> had its first meeting in January and has a good year planned with the February meeting on Tuesday 23 February in the Gardens' Kiosk for afternoon tea followed by a stroll around the Gardens. If you need a ride please call Raylene ph 455 2389 or Gay ph 476 1613.

<u>Rock deadline</u> The deadline for copy the Rock is today.

Parish AGM The parish annual general meeting will be on Sunday 24 April after the 10.30 am Service. Special permission has been granted for this meeting to take place after the usual end of March deadline as this coincides with Easter this year.

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

<u>**Pray for those whose Memorials occur at this time**</u> Cyril Tourelle, Rosemary Simons, Marjorie Booker, Douglas Gordon, and Christian Hansen,

Vestry news The Vicar discussed with the Vestry the stewardship programme that will take place in either April or May. The Vestry felt that it was important that the Vicar have one of his financial facts sharing sessions with parishioners soon. It was noted that Averil and Tubby Hopkins have looked after the Church grounds for the last five years but will not be able to do so for much longer. Other garden care options were discussed. There would be parish working bees at quarterly intervals, and parishioners would be encouraged to take responsibility for particular areas of the grounds. The Vicar now trims the hedges. It was decided to accept a quote to trim the branches that overhang the hall and driveway leading to the kitchen from the tree on the adjoining Eastbourne St property. A quote is being sought to remove the moss build up on the hall and Church roofs. It was noted that it may be appropriate to move the Corstorphine church bequest into the St Peters Renovation fund as interest rates fall and as the unit price of the Renovation fund declines to an attractive purchase price. It was decided that this year's Patronal Festival Services in late June would be followed by a parish lunch at the Mornington Tavern, with Evensong and Benediction to round off that Sunday. It was noted that attendances were well down at the Christmas Midnight Service. The Vicar outlined the new format for this Service for future use, and reported that in future the Service would start at 10.30 pm and conclude at Midnight. He would also be taking a Christmas Eve celebration at Frances Hodgkins as the regular attendances there were so good.

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 www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz