



St. Peter's Caversham
The Pebble

6 March

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Vivid Remembering in the Eucharist

In the Eucharist...the Church perpetually reconstitutes the crisis in which the Kingdom of God came into history.

At each Eucharist we are there - we are in the night in which he was betrayed, at Golgotha, before the empty tomb on Easter day, and in the upper room where he appeared; and we are at the moment of his coming, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, in the twinkling of an eye at the last trump.

Sacramental communion is not purely a mystical experience, to which history...would be in the last resort irrelevant; it is bound up with a corporate memory of real events.

C H Dodd

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:

369 Happy are they, they that love God

383 Jesus, lover of my soul

302 O Thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray

70 Lord Jesus think on me (Tune 2)

306 Strengthen for service, Lord

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Joshua 5: 9, 10-120](#)

The response to [Psalm 34](#) is:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord

[2 Corinthians 5: 17-21](#)

[Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Isaiah 43: 16-21](#)

[Philippians 3: 8-14](#)

[John 8: 1-11](#)

Parish News

Mothering Sunday Today is Mothering Sunday. Sprigs of Rosemary will be blessed and given out after the Service.

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 Painted Churches of Romania* and *The Cathedral of Monreale*. These are two brief documentaries from the series *The World's Greatest Churches* presented by Professor

William R. Cook, part of the DVD lecture series *The Great Courses*. The walled monasteries of Bukovina have some of the most beautiful wall decorations of the Christian world. The Cathedral of Monreale in Sicily was built by the Normans and is a remarkable combination of Byzantine, Muslim, Frankish, Italian and Jewish influences. Its mosaics are its most stunning feature.

Fish and Chip Friday Eucharists 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.

Evensong and Benediction This evening at 5 pm.

Parish Garage Sale The garage sale proceeds have now reached a figure of \$1,655 with further increments expected to take it higher.

Wardens meeting The Vicar will meet with the Wardens on Saturday 12 March. Please mention to Tubby Hopkins or Kate Paterson any matters you want raised at that meeting.

Francis Hodgkins The Francis Hodgkins house group will meet on Monday 14 March at 2 pm in the Garden lounge. *The Cathedral of Monreale* and *The Painted Churches of Romania* documentaries will be shown at this gathering.

Brass cleaning There will be brass cleaning at 10.30 am on Holy Saturday 26 March. Helpers welcome.

An addition to the family Tess Hicks is expecting a child in June, which will be their fifth. The parish supports this missionary family by both a parish contribution and the donations of particular mission partner parishioners. Jon is a graduate of the Otago theology department and is now teaching at the Trinity School for theology and ministry on the island of Malaita in the Solomons. He is ordained and was a guest preacher at our Patronal festival several years ago.

Confession Lent is a good time to make your confession in preparation for Holy Week. You can do this by making a time with the Vicar.

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

Pray for those who have died Frederick White, Marjerie Scott, Kaye Fowler, George Hopkins, John Hamer, Thomas Robbins, Claude Morris and Philip Hitchcox.

Christian fiction Two new authors of interest have emerged as writers of interesting novels on Christian subjects. Richard Beard's *Lazarus is Dead* is a clever and interesting speculation about what happened to Lazarus after he was brought back from the dead, a topical theme in the second half of Lent as John's gospel makes it clear that the raising of Lazarus was the ignition point for the Jewish religious authorities to begin plotting the death of Jesus. The novel also offers an explanation for the friendship between the two men speculating that they were childhood friends. Catherine Fox has written *Acts and Omissions* and *Unseen Things Above*, two novels set in the fictional diocese of Lindchester. A latter day version of Trollope's *The Barchester Chronicles*, these are gossipy and amusing satires on the contemporary Church of England. She finds it hard to be sympathetic to evangelicals, currently the dominant group in the C of E, but writes with wry insight into the mind-set of liberal and middle of the road Anglicans. Fox has got her details right from diocesan safeguarding officers to women Deans to gay Vicars planning to marry but something is missing compared to Susan Howatch, the last novelist to venture into this territory. Usually in Howatch's Starbridge novels there is a central protagonist who, despite their flaws, is wholly admirable and rather striking. Fr Jonathan Darrow the Fordite monk, for instance, is the kind of spiritual director and confessor we would all like to have. It is harder to detect the centre of moral gravity in Fox's novels, or if they are there to reckon that they have much existential density, but these novels are highly entertaining and hard to put down. Incidentally Susan Howatch's churchy novels were such a commercial success and the spiritual epiphany that inspired her to write them was so transforming that she used the profits to endow a chair of theology at Cambridge University.

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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