



St Peter's Caversham

www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

The Pebble

1 January 2017 St Basil the Great and St Gregory Nazianzen

St Gregory Nazianzen

Of all the ancients,
You I think I could live with,
(some of the time)
comfortable in you
like an old coat
sagged and fraying at the back,
(its pockets drooping with important nothings
like string, and manuscripts of poems)
perfect for watching you off your guard,
rambling round your country garden,
planting roses, not turnips,
contrary to the manual for a sensible monk;
master of the maybe;
anxious they might take you up all wrong;
shaking your fist at an Emperor,
(once he had turned the corner
out of sight);
every foray into speech
a costed regret.

Your heart was like a spider's silk
swinging wildly at the slightest breeze,
too tender for this tumbling world
of mountebanks, and quacks and gobs,
but tuned to hear the distant voices
of the singing stars
and marvel at the mercy of it all.

John McGuckin

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 after the Solemn Sung
Eucharist

THE LITURGY FOR TODAY

8.00 am Holy Eucharist (1662)
10.30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist
5.00 pm Sung Evensong and Benediction

HYMNS:

40 What child is this, who, laid to rest
360 Firmly I believe and truly
417 O God, our help in ages past
138 Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire
342 Breathe on me breath of God

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Wisdom 7: 7-10, 15-16](#)

The response to [Psalm 23](#) is:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want

[Ephesians 4: 1-7, 11-13](#)

[Matthew 23: 8-12](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Isaiah 60: 1-6](#)

[Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6](#)

[Matthew 2: 1-12](#)

PARISH NEWS

Evensong and Benediction this evening at 5 pm with a social gathering to follow in the parish lounge.

Agnes on deck We welcome to the organ console this morning Agnes Beamish whose accompaniment of our Service this morning enables David Hoskins to have a holiday.

Holy Cross St Kilda windows The four stained glass windows from Holy Cross St Kilda came to St Peter's for storage on Friday 23 December and are now in the ground floor of the Bell Tower. A You Tube clip of the removal process of the windows from Holy Cross can be viewed on the parish web site. The new purchasers of Holy Cross have put the Church on the market again as health difficulties have obliged them to change their plans to live in the Church as a private dwelling.

Next Sunday We will celebrate the feast of the Epiphany.

An assessment of the new format of Christmas Services Two years ago we switched the Nine Lessons and Carols Service to the morning slot with good results. The 2016 Service exceeded expectations with the 60 Service books being not enough for the 70 who attended. The Frances Hodgkins Saturday morning 11 am Christmas Eve Service had just over 20 in attendance with a number of grateful comments afterwards. This will be difficult to repeat this year as Christmas day will fall on a Monday. Perhaps the greatest success was the reformatted and retimetabled Christmas Eve Service at St Peter's with a wonderful candlelit ambience and slow paced contemplative mood of readings and carols making for a memorable Service attended by 40 people. We need to advertise and promote this service more in the future. The earlier start gave us the opportunity also to have a Christmas celebration in the lounge afterwards. Changing the format of the Christmas day 10.30 Service to a simpler and more informal style worked well too for the modest yet appreciative group who attended this Service who needed in the main a Service that was relatively brief as they proceeded on to family Christmas dinners.

Pray for those who have recently died especially Anita Stephens.

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Claire Johnson, Cherry Gordon, Jun Miyagi, Margaret Sterling, Mahlia and Sheree Napier, Joan Ferguson, Jonathan Gillies, Katie Bowron and Denise Walker.

Pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time Arthur Hill, Mary Wood, Marjorie Welch, and William Bloxham (Priest)

The year in retrospect In 2016 St Peter's hosted the Cathedral choir for Evensong and Benediction at a somewhat earlier date than anticipated due to the unexpected and imminent departure of George Chittenden to a glamorous job in Sweden. The day before he gave a stunning organ recital. This year's organ recitalist will be the music director of Christchurch Cathedral John Linker. The Vicar was capped for his Master of Theology and off the back of the distinction awarded him for his thesis was granted a university scholarship that enabled him to begin writing the parish history as a History PhD thesis. A parish bus outing to Teschemakers included a celebration of the Eucharist in the beautiful Dominican Chapel, lunch at Teschemakers and a shopping expedition to Oamaru. The Caversham lectures in November covered topics of wide ranging interest such as what makes for a good doctor, the new data sharing strategy of the government to make care of vulnerable children more effective, practical end of life issues, New Zealand's pioneering youth justice system and the life enhancing possibilities of stem cell research. A Stewardship programme invited parishioners to review their giving to God and his Church. In the Easter season there was a special evening Service based around the poetry of John Donne. The Parish Patronal celebrations concluded with a luncheon outing to the Wharf hotel. The first Sunday of the month Evensong and Benediction Services continued to attract a loyal and slowly growing congregation.

Parish Contacts

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