



St Peter's Caversham
www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

The Pebble

23 July 2017

16th Sunday

On the Holy Scriptures

Why did our blessed saviour please to break
His sacred thoughts in parables; and speak
In dark enigmas? Whosoe'er thou be
That findst them so, they were not spoke to thee:
In what a case is he, that haps to run
Against a post, and cries, *How dark's the sun?*
Or he, in summer, that complains of frost?
The Gospel's hid to none, but who are lost:
The Scripture is a ford, wherein, 'tis said,
An elephant shall swim; a lamb may wade.

Francis Quarles

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

HYMNS:

365 God moves in a mysterious way
499 Thy kingdom come, O God
294 Just as I am, without one plea
249 Round me falls the night

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19](#)

The response to [Psalm 86](#) is:

Lord, you are good and forgiving

[Romans 8: 26-27](#)

[Matthew 13: 24-43](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12](#)

[Romans 8: 28-30](#)

[Matthew 13: 44-46](#)

PARISH NEWS

Vestry news It was noted that the proposed Armistice Day Service was already receiving an encouraging response and suggestions were brought forward for publicity initiatives to make it known in the wider community. Planning had begun for a Walsingham quiet day and a tentative date had been set for this on Saturday 9 September.

The return of Fr Chris Holmes Parishioners have been enquiring when Fr Chris Holmes will be taking the Sunday Services again here at St Peter's. Chris is booked in next for Sunday 1 October.

Armistice Day Service St Peter's 12 November Sunday Services will focus on the theme of Armistice Day. Are any of your relatives/ancestors amongst the 50 or so names of the local war dead memorialised in our Church porch? If so please let the Vicar know as their biographical details could form part of the Service.

Fellowship group The Fellowship group will meet at Gwen Hudson's home, 1 Wycolla Avenue at 12.15 pm on Tuesday 25 July for a Pot Luck meal. Please bring a little keepsake to talk about. Please phone Raylene 455 2389 if you plan to be there.

Two new Polynesian Bishops It has been announced that Dr Afa Vaka will be the first Bishop to preside over the newly constituted episcopal unit of Tonga. Archdeacon Henry Bull will be the next Bishop of Vanua Levu and Tavenini in Fiji and will succeed Bishop Api Qiliho who retires next year.

Iranian born Bishop for Loughborough When the Iranian revolution took place the Anglican Bishop was forced into exile, his wife having been wounded and his son subsequently murdered. Now one of his daughters Guli Francis-Dehqani has been nominated to the newly created suffragan episcopal unit of Loughborough, one of the most ethnically diverse cities in Britain. The Church of England has been concerned for some time about the lack of ethnic diversity in its higher leadership echelons.

Farewell Debbie Debbie Flintoff, for many years our Episcopal PA, and latterly also the Diocesan Manager, will step down from her job on 22 September.

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Claire Johnston, Cherry Gordon, Margaret Sterling, Mahlia and Sheree Napier and Jonathan Gillies

Pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time Irene Wright, Martha Allen, Marie Brown, Alice Hopkins, and Beryl Heazlewood.

Motion 29 Working Group Parishioners may recall that the last General Synod deadlocked on the issue of same sex blessings, resolved to let the controversial Motion 30 lie on the table, and set up a working group to bring fresh proposals to the 2018 General Synod. These came out in the past week. Central to them is that the decision as to whether or not to authorise same sex blessings in a diocese would rest with the diocesan Bishop, who if he or she proposed to do so would then authorise certain clergy to be the approved celebrants of these Services. These could only take place if the couples had been duly married under civil law, if the Vestry had been consulted and their advice given in good faith, and if the Service was in a form authorised by the Bishop. This is significant in that the Province would not be producing an authorised liturgy for this purpose. The authors of the report insist that the Church's doctrine of marriage would not change. They also propose that clergy and office holders would no longer be required to declare a signed submission to the authority of the General Synod but would rather assent to the Constitution and Code of Canons and would agree to be bound by the decisions of the Church's decision making bodies. Presumably this is an attempt to deal with the situation that caused the West Hamilton parish to break away from the diocese of Waikato and the Anglican Church when its Vicar informed his Bishop that he could no longer feel bound by his obedience to the General Synod in the wake of the Motion 30 same sex blessings proposals it had brought forward. His newly ordained Bishop took this to be a challenge to her authority and the ensuing showdown led to the departure of one of the strongest Anglican parishes in the diocese. At the time many thought that if cooler heads had prevailed this distressing and unnecessary outcome could have been avoided.

Parish Contacts

Parish Priest: Fr Hugh Bowron - 455- 3961

Vicar's Warden: Tubby Hopkins - 454-2399

People's Warden: Kate Paterson - 455-5384

Director of Music: David Hoskins 453-4621

Stewardship Recorder: Averil Hopkins - 454-2399