



St Peter's Caversham

www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

The Pebble

17 December 2017

Advent 3

Song to the Lord God

Lord God, you are above and beyond all things,
Your nature is to love,
You put us in the furnace of the world
To learn to love you and one another.

Father, we sing to you in the furnace
Like the three Jewish children.
The hope and the doom of the love of friends
Is eating up the marrow of our bones.

Lord Christ, you are the house in whom we live,
The house in which we share the cup of peace,
The house of your body that was broken on the cross,
The house you have built for us beyond the stars.

Lord, Holy Spirit, beyond, within, above,
Beneath all things, you give us life.
Blaze in our hearts, you who are Love himself,
Till we shine like the noonday sun.

Lord God, we are the little children,
The feeble ones of the world.
Carry us for ever in your breast, Lord God,
Give us the power by love to be your holy ones

James K Baxter

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:

15 The Lord will come and not be slow

11 O Come, o come, Emmanuel!

322 Pour out thy Spirit from on high (T. 358 /2)

3 Come, thou long expected Jesus

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11](#)

The response to the canticle is:

My soul rejoices in my God

[1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24](#)

[John 1: 6-8, 19-28](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

As per Nine Lessons and Carols

PARISH NEWS

Omit the Gloria in Advent A reminder that we omit saying or singing the Gloria in Advent as it is a penitential season.

Wardens' meeting The Vicar will meet with the Wardens tomorrow. Please let Kate Paterson or Tubby Hopkins know of any matters you want raised at that meeting.

Bird infiltration Usually St Peter's gets just a few birds entering the church a year but lately these infiltrations have increased considerably with four in a recent week. A gap has opened in the masonry where the sanctuary meets the nave above the organ and curious sparrows cannot resist the temptation to check out the church. Steps are about to be taken to block this infiltration route.

Make hope my story Your donation to the Christmas Appeal will make the hopes and prayers of people facing violence, poverty and injustice come true. Please give generously to the 2017 Christmas Appeal.

Watchnight Service New Year's Eve occurs two Sunday evenings from now. As is our custom we see in the New Year with a candlelit Vigil Service and Eucharist followed by a social gathering in the lounge. Please sign the notice if you can assist by reading a lesson.

Epiphany Carol Service A new Service we are introducing next year is the Epiphany Carol Service on Sunday 7 January at 10.30 am. Similar in structure to the Nine Lessons and Carols Service it takes advantage of the wonderful Epiphany music that we often glide over because of the great New Zealand shut down.

Readers for Nine Lessons and Carols Please sign the notice on the Link noticeboard if you would like to read a lesson at the Nine Lessons and Carols Service.

Brass cleaning There will be brass cleaning on Friday 22 December at 10.30 am. Gay Webb welcomes helpers for this.

Christmas Services

Sunday 24 December Advent 4:

8 am Holy Communion (1662)

10.30 am Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve Sunday 24 December:

6 pm Eucharist at St Barnabas

10.30 pm A candlelit Service of Carols, Readings and first Mass of the Nativity

Christmas Day Monday 25 December

9 am Holy Communion (1662) with Carols

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Claire Johnston, Cherry Gordon, Margaret Sterling, Joan Dutton, Mahlia and Sheree Napier, Paul Hill, Max Stacey and Jonathan Gillies.

Pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time John Dougherty, Marjorie Garth, Stanley Gurney (Priest), Roger Swain, David Norman, Norm Carson, David, John and Richard Tourelle.

At last a new Catholic Bishop for Christchurch After a two year interval the Vatican has announced that Fr Paul Martin is to be the next Bishop of Christchurch. Unusually he is a religious, a member of the Society of Mary, who has been involved in education for much of his ministry. He has been deputy Rector of St Bede's College, Christchurch and then Rector of St Patrick's, Wellington. At that period of his life he was also President of the Wellington Secondary School Principals' Association. His present position is General Bursar of the Marist Order in Rome. He is comparatively young having joined the order in 1985 and has a reputation of being a good administrator, a background that will stand him in good stead as the restoration of the Christchurch Catholic Basilica proceeds apace. His time in Rome will have done him no harm in bringing him to the attention of the Curia.

Seymour Euthanasia bill It is dismaying news that the Seymour euthanasia bill has passed its first reading in Parliament. 80% of the submissions on the bill opposed it, many from the medical fraternity who would be in the front line of those pressured to end the lives of patients in their care. It is worded in such a way as to make it one of the most permissive pieces of euthanasia legislation in the world. It is of course deeply opposed to the teachings of the Church. New Zealand First, usually the most morally conservative party, must bear considerable responsibility for what has happened by agreeing to support the first reading in return for a public referendum, thus absolving itself of responsibility for making a morally responsible decision and instead pushing that on to the public. When the referendum comes around, probably at the next general election, Christians will have a major responsibility to do all in their power to bring in a no vote.

Parish Contacts.

Parish Priest: Fr Hugh Bowron - 455- 3961

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People's Warden: Kate Paterson - 455-5384

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