



St Peter's Caversham

www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

The Pebble

31 December 2017

Holy Family

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
For young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
Loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
Past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley Smith b 1926

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

10 Long ago, prophets knew

42 While shepherds watched their flocks by night

28 In the bleak Midwinter

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided
(see front cover of the Pebble)

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Genesis 15: 1-6, 17: 3-5, 15-16; 21: 1-7](#)

The response to [Psalm 105](#) is:

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever

[Hebrews 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19](#)

[Luke 2: 22-40](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

As per Epiphany Carol Service booklet

PARISH NEWS

Watchnight Service We celebrate New Year's Eve tonight.
As is our custom we see in the New Year with a 10.30 pm
candlelit Vigil Service and Eucharist followed by a social
gathering in the lounge.

Midweek Eucharist The Holy Eucharist is celebrated each
Thursday in the Lady Chapel at 10am.

Epiphany Carol Service A new Service we are introducing next week is the Epiphany Carol Service next Sunday 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. We are looking for some readers to take part in this Service. Please let the Vicar know or sign the notice on the Link noticeboard if you can help in this way.

Leslie and Buster Sinclair Leslie and Buster Sinclair have been parishioners at St Peter's for many years since their marriage here when Fr John Teal was the Vicar. They worshipped mostly at the 8 am Service and then recently at the 10.30 am Service. They will soon be shifting to Alexandra to be close to family and to access a higher level of care. We will farewell them at the end of today's 10.30 am Service with a conversation about their long years of belonging here and with prayer and a blessing for their new life in Alexandra.

Frances Hodgkins Service The Vicar will celebrate the Eucharist at Frances Hodgkins on Thursday at 11 am.

Rock Copies of the latest edition of the Rock can be uplifted from the back of the Church or in the Link.

Christian World Service Christmas Appeal Please give generously to the CWS Christmas appeal that brings hope and relief to many in the third world.

Please pray for Olivia, Tom and Lucy Williams who are to be baptised at St Peter's mid-January.

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

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

Praying in the name of Jesus The Revd Graham Redding is Master of Knox College and a former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church. His recent article in the Faith and Reason section of the ODT on the issue of the removing of the name of Jesus from the parliamentary prayer had some teaching on what authentic Christian prayer is all about that is exemplary. The core of it is reproduced here. "For the earliest Christians the act of praying in Jesus' name was a mark of their religious identity and an expression of their belief that Jesus was a unique mediating figure between God and humanity. If we're honest we will admit that we do not know how to pray as we ought, but when we pray in the name of Jesus there is a sense in which we submit our faltering prayers, born of an imperfect faith, to the One the New Testament declares to be the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, The One who graciously binds our prayers to his own, conforming them to His will, completing them and presenting them to God in our place and on our behalf. That's how it has always been for followers of Jesus, past and present. There is an implied commitment here to actively seek the will of the One in whose name we pray, to look at the world through His eyes, to follow His example, and even to pray in the manner that He taught His disciples. Hence the importance of the Lord's Prayer, which stands at the centre of the Christian prayer life. Prayer, thus understood, is a disciplined, humbling activity. It is less about words than it is about disposition. It is less about asking God's blessing on our many noble endeavours and esteemed institutions than it is about humbly seeking the will of Christ."

Parish Contacts.

Parish Priest: Fr Hugh Bowron - 455- 3961

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