



St Peter's Caversham

www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

The Pebble

18 March 2018

Lent 5

That Enrapturing Vision

On the cross beauty, truth and goodness come together with an expressive power that radiates out to locate us and attract us. The sight of Christ on the cross has an enrapturing quality about it – it draws us out of ourselves to respond with glad surrender. In that sense there is a parallel with what happens when we see a picture, or a work of art that deeply entrances us. As we gaze on it with wonder and fascination we forget about ourselves, and are drawn through into a dimension of consciousness and a quality of being alive that we scarcely knew existed.

The events of Holy Week have inspired some of the greatest works of art in western culture from Bach's St Matthew Passion to the paintings of El Greco. But in the actual events of Calvary there were some very unlovely things, as there must be in any painful and humiliating death. But this is the medium through which God most powerfully communicates with a world that majors in suffering, injustice and torment, and that has often lost a sense of what is genuinely beautiful, true and good. Even in the ugliness of a supposed troublemaker receiving summary justice on a hillside in a remote province of the Roman Empire beauty was redefined, and became an enrapturing vision that has one way or another reached out to every one of us.

An excerpt from this morning's sermon

Welcome

to all who are sharing with us in worship today.
The Ministry of Healing and Wholeness is offered
at the communion rail 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

92 There is a green hill far away

95 When I survey the wondrous cross

439 Praise to the holiest in the height

84 It is a thing most wonderful

242 As now the sun's declining rays

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Jeremiah 31: 31-34](#)

The response to [Psalm 51](#) is:

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

[Hebrews 5: 7-9](#)

[John 12: 20-33](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Isaiah 50: 4-7](#)

[Philippians 2: 6-11](#)

The Markan Passion narrative

PARISH NEWS

Merbecke in Lent Throughout the Sundays of Lent, we will be singing the Merbecke settings of the congregational responses at the 10.30 am Service.

Our Friday Lenten extra Throughout Lent we are celebrating the Eucharist at 5.30 pm each Friday together with teaching appropriate to the season followed by a fish and chip supper.

Palm Sunday Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week, the most significant Christian celebration of the year. Please plan to be with us as we celebrate the Paschal Triduum. Details of the Holy Week Services are overleaf.

Screening of St Mark's Gospel A reminder that Alec McCowen's solo performance of *St Mark's Gospel* will be screened in two parts in the Vicarage after the 7 pm celebrations of the Eucharist on the Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week.

Confession Lent and Holy Week are a good time to make your confession by prior arrangement with the priest of your choice.

Readers sought for the Easter Vigil Service Would you like to read a lesson at the Easter Vigil Service at 8 pm on Holy Saturday evening, the most wonderful liturgy of the year? Please sign the notice on the Link noticeboard if you can help in this way.

Brass cleaning There will be brass cleaning on Holy Saturday 31 March at 10.30 am. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Parish ordination in June Bishop Steven has confirmed this week that our own Brian Kilkelly will be ordained a Deacon on Sunday 10 June at the 10.30 am Service here at St Peter's. It is anticipated that his ordination to the priesthood will take place later this year.

April parish bus outing to Owaka and the Catlins There will be a St Peter's bus trip to Owaka and on down the highway on Saturday 14 April leaving Baker St at 9 am and returning at 5 pm. The journey itinerary includes Kaka Point, Owaka, and Pounaweia, Purakaunui Falls, Florence Hills and Lake Wilkie. Lunch will be at Papatowai camping ground - please bring your own lunch. The cost is \$30. Please sign the booking form on the Link noticeboard. The bus is a 21 seater so it would pay to book in early.

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Claire Johnston, Cherry Gordon, Margaret Sterling, Mahlia Napier, Paul Hill and John Steele.

Pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time James Clements, Ruth Mumford, Fr Ilyan Eades, Ben Holden, Denise Walker, Frederick Buxton, Doreen Price and Norma Moorhead.

Trimming of the Church hedges Grateful thanks to Warwick Harris for trimming the Church hedges around Hillside Rd and Baker St, a big job that needs doing twice a year. Warwick's care and attention to our gardens is a valued and appreciated way of presenting our Church grounds in the most attractive light to the local community. A working bee will be required in the post Easter period.

Services for Holy Week and Easter

Monday 26, Tuesday 27 & Wednesday 28 March

5.30 pm Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday

7 pm Commemoration of the Institution of the Lord's Supper, Stripping of the Altar and Vigil.

Good Friday

12 noon Celebration of the Lord's Passion and Veneration of the Cross.

Holy Saturday

8 pm Easter Vigil, Service of Light and the First Mass of the Resurrection.

A social gathering to celebrate Easter follows in the lounge. It would be very helpful if you can bring a torch and a bell to this Service. Traditionally bells are rung during the singing of the Gloria during this Service.

Easter Day

8 am Holy Eucharist (1662)

10.30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist and Procession

5 pm Evensong and Benediction

Followed by a social gathering in the parish lounge

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