



St Peter's Caversham

www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

The Pebble

15 July 2018

15th Sunday, Year B

Exorcism

Christian exorcism is the binding of evil powers by the triumph of Jesus Christ, through the application of the power demonstrated by that triumph, in and by his Church. The New Testament not only assumes the existence of non-human powers of evil, it asserts repeatedly the fact of the triumph of Jesus Christ over them. The prominence given in the gospels to the exorcisms done by our Lord is evidence of this, as is also the close association with them of the word *exousia* (authority).

It will be as well at the outset to note that in Christian usage the verb *to exorcise* applies strictly only to demons. It is possible to speak loosely about exorcising persons or places, but what is meant is the exorcising of the demonic forces of evil *in* those persons or places. Exorcism is an exercise of *exousia*: it commands and binds. This must never be applied to humans as such. And in dealing with places it is well to exorcise *over* the place, in order to release it from the domination of any evil powers that may be there. Such exorcism should always be associated with prayer and blessing.

Exorcism:

The Report of a Commission Convened by the Bishop of Exeter 1972

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

437 Praise the Lord! Ye heavens adore him

We sing a threefold *Alleluia* acclamation before the gospel

495 God is working his purpose out

248 O Strength and Stay upholding all creation (tune 2)

342 Breathe on me breath of God

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Amos 7: 12-15](#)

The response to [Psalm 85](#) is:

**Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation**

[Ephesians 1: 3-14](#)

[Mark 6: 7-13](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Jeremiah 23: 1-6](#)

[Ephesians 2: 13-18](#)

[Mark 6: 30-34](#)

PARISH NEWS

Brass band concert items The programme for the St Kilda brass band concert here at St Peter's on Saturday 8 September is taking shape. Items so far agreed are *Fanfare for the Common Man* by Aaron Copeland, *Clair de Lune* by Debussy, *James Bond Collection* arranged by Jerry Goldsmith, *Concerto de Aranjuez* by Rodrigo, *Liberty Bell March* by Sousa, *Nimrod and Finale* by Elgar, *Trumpet Concerto* by Henry James, *Stranger on the Shore*.

We might say a prayer for guest conductor Shane Foster and the band as they prepare for the national championships at the end of this month at which they compete to keep their pre-eminent position amongst New Zealand's brass bands. Can you take a poster advertising the concert from the altar at the back and find a public noticeboard or shop front window willing to exhibit it?

Parish telephone list The telephone list has had to be reissued because a person requested that their name and number be deleted from it. The new list is available on the altar at the back of the church by the Hillside Rd entrance. Please take a copy of this and destroy the earlier one you uplifted.

Fellowship group The Fellowship Group will meet at 2 pm on Tuesday 24 July at the Home of St Barnabas. It will be a chat and chew meeting – if you have a favourite book or movie please feel free to share it. The cost of the afternoon tea is \$6. Enquiries – Raylene 455 2389 or Gay 476 1613.

Applying in hope The Vestry has decided to obtain an engineering report on the church and a geotechnical report on the land surrounding the church at a cost of \$24,000. This week the Vicar filed an application with the DCC heritage fund to finance this. The fund makes quarterly distributions of \$130,000 with the close off date for the next distribution at the end of July and a decision expected in early August.

Open lecture Professor David Maxwell, the Dixie Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Cambridge University, will give a lecture on *The Rise and Spread of Global Pentecostalism* at Archway 3 lecture theatre on Monday at 5.15 pm.

Annual retreat The Vicar will be away in Wellington from 23 July to 3 August to make an 8 day Ignatian Retreat at the Compassion Sisters' retreat centre in Island Bay and to spend a few days with his grandsons Oscar and Leo. Oscar has now begun primary school at Khandallah primary school.

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

Pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time Len Burt, Margaret Fraser, Beatrice Beattie, Evelyn Ward, Dorothy Dickie and Arthur Hodges.

American marriage rites The General Convention of the American Episcopal Church is meeting in Austin, Texas. It is more than just the General Synod of TEC as interest groups and lobby groups also converge on the event to peddle their wares and to conduct teach ins, which makes it more of a national representative event than other Anglican Provinces manage. The battle ground issue this year is the 1979 Episcopal Prayer book, in the opinion of not a few the finest of the contemporary Anglican Prayer books, particularly in its Eucharistic and Baptismal liturgies. The revisionists want to substantially change it in two directions, to make its marriage rites truly marriage equality rites, and to change all references to God to gender neutral names. Doing this would ensure a very hot reception for TEC bishops when they attend the Lambeth Conference in 2020. In an effort to avert major trouble both within and without the Episcopal Church the remaining orthodox conservatives at the General Convention have proposed that the Prayer Book be left alone and that instead experimental marriage rites for same sex couples approved in 2015 be used to accommodate gay marriage situations. After considerable clause modification this has been approved but at a cost to conservatives – their bishops can no longer forbid gay marriages within their dioceses as parish rectors now have discretion to use these rites if they so choose. The revisionists can be expected to return to the fray of potential prayer book revision at future General Conventions. Parishioners will notice that we never refer to God as Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life at St Peter's since this is the heresy of modalism, referring to God in functional terms rather than using his personal names.

Parish Contacts.

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