



St Peter's Caversham

www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

The Pebble

25 November 2018

Christ the King

Reflections on Revelation 1: 4-8 today's second lesson

John's greeting to the 7 churches in Asia concludes with a vision of Christ returning in judgement: "Look he is coming with the clouds.." This is consistent with Revelation as a whole: A vision of what will be, what is coming. Notably absent is an analysis of the current situation, projections, financial forecasts and strategic plans. This is a language that evokes rather than describes, picture language. It is good to be reminded of this when we, who are faced with a myriad of institutional problems, seek institutional answers. What will the church look like in 10 or 15 years? What will ministry look like? How do we reposition ourselves? Those might be the pressing questions, but they are not the important questions from a biblical perspective.

The future orientation of church and ministry is inextricably linked to the future orientation of the Kingdom, a future that has come among us in Jesus Christ, but the fullness of which still awaits us. Think of the beatitudes, the logic of Jesus' parables, and the absurdity of the resurrection. These are counter intuitive, counter to prevailing wisdom and all available evidence but compelling. This is because the prevailing ways of thinking and acting in our world not only perpetuate violence, oppression and injustice; they have brought our world to the brink of the abyss. And the human spirit, far from reaching a state of enlightenment, is revealed to be impoverished and fragile, held captive to false ideologies and world-views.

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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

443 Rejoice, the Lord is King

We sing a threefold *Alleluia* acclamation before the gospel

352 Crown him with many crowns

295 Let all mortal flesh keep silence

10 Long ago, prophets knew

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Daniel 7: 13-14](#)

The response to [Psalm 93](#) is:

The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty

[Revelation 1: 5-8](#)

[John 18: 33-37](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Jeremiah 33: 14-16](#)

[1 Thessalonians 3: 12-4: 2](#)

[Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36](#)

PARISH NEWS

This morning's Services Fr Brian will preach at both Services and celebrate at 8 am. Fr Hugh will be the celebrant at 10.30 am.

Tuesday's Caversham lecture is: The faith of a Bishop On Tuesday at 7.30 pm in the lounge Bishop Steven Benford will give some personal background to how he became a Christian, the way in which his faith has led him along his vocational path and the perspectives it gives him on his priorities as a diocesan Bishop.

Next Caversham lecture On Tuesday 4 December Dr Margo Barton, Professor of Fashion at Otago Polytechnic and ID Chair and Creative Director, reviews the considerable success of this year's ID International Emerging Designer Awards and looks forward to what the 2019 event might bring us.

Vestry news Vestry was disappointed to hear that the engineering/geo-technical reports on the church had not been completed. This means that the vestry will have to meet in December when these are expected. Fr Hugh reported that he had thankfully come to the end of his term on the Selwyn College board, one of the most difficult and stressful bodies he had ever served on. Fr Brian is now a board member. It was reported that the Rhododendron Society's flat screen TV will be installed in the lounge in the coming week. Last Saturday some hall storage space had been cleared and reorganised to give access to the fire alarm control panel and power switchboard. This had also permitted the hall cleaner basin to come in to use. Fr Hugh reported on the ecumenical Service he had participated in at Caversham Baptist church last Sunday, which was attended in the main by Brethren and Baptist congregants. He had been thanked for his "powerful message." The St Kilda brass band concert at St Peter's was reckoned to have been a considerable success and it was thought that they should be invited back next year.

New location for Thursday Service The Thursday morning Eucharist is now celebrated in the Lady Chapel.

Fellowship group The St Peter's Fellowship Group will meet for a Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 27 November at the Rope and Twine (formerly Robbie's) at 12.15 pm. Please let Raylene 455 2389 or Gay 476 1613 know by Friday 23 November if you intend coming.

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

Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time Dulcie Sutherland, Brent Henderson, Vera McLeod and Dorrie Molloy.

Continuation of front page Revelation reflection

So when a minister of the Gospel:

Proclaims the promise of resurrection

Pronounces the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name

Declares God's blessing upon the outcast

And when the people of God:

Sing Hallelujah when all around are signs of death

Welcome the stranger

Pray for those who threaten their existence

Stand alongside the downtrodden

...there is a sense in which the energies of the Kingdom are being released and the future reign of God is being ushered into the present.

What then is required of us?

Faith...Hope...Imagination...Courage...Stamina...Resilience...

Revd Graham Reading

Master Knox College

Sermon notes for the feast of Christ the King

Season of dance films The promised season of dance films begins in January on successive Saturday afternoons in the Vicarage at 2 pm beginning with *Mao's Last Dancer* on 12 January about Li Cunxin's remarkable journey from Mao's cultural revolution to becoming an acclaimed dancer in the west. Then on 19 January *Balanchine* about George Balanchine, trained at Russia's Maryinsky theatre who became the "father of American ballet." Then on 26 January *Suzanne Farrell: Elusive Muse*, a candid account of her complex relationship with Balanchine.

Parish Contacts.

Parish Priest: Fr Hugh Bowron – 455- 3961

Assistant Priest: Fr Brian Kilkelly – 027 229 3450

Vicar's Warden: Tubby Hopkins – 454-2399

People's Warden: Di Bunker – 477 2474

Director of Music: David Hoskins – 453-4621

Stewardship Recorder: Averil Hopkins - 454-2399