



St Peter's Caversham  
www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

## The Pebble

7 July 2019

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Year C

### Commentary on today's Gospel Reading

The difficulty of the mission accounts for the detailed instructions about travelling light. When one enters an environment likely to be hostile, one does not want to be encumbered with extra baggage or to risk too much with strangers met on the road. In so many ways "things" become a hindrance and not a help. Furthermore, one is not to make unnecessary trouble: Declare a "peace" on every house you enter; don't move from house to house as if searching for a more comfortable spot; eat what is put before you, whether kosher or not. In a word, keep yourself focussed on what is really important, and don't be distracted by issues of little consequence.

The warning about the difficulty of the task is in no way meant to detract from *the absolutely critical importance of the mission*. Both to the towns that welcome the Seventy and to the towns that reject them, they are to announce, "The kingdom of God has come near." To one it comes as a hope of salvation: the inbreaking of God's rule means deliverance and hope. To the other it comes as a word of judgement, a destiny compared to Sodom. The stakes are high for those who receive or don't receive the labourers sent into the harvest.

*Texts for Preaching: C. Cousar, B. Gaventa, J. McCann, J. Newsome*

## 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  
5.00 pm Evensong and Benediction

### HYMNS FOR TODAY

149 Father, we praise thee, now the night is over  
We sing a threefold *Alleluia* before the gospel reading  
486 We have a gospel to proclaim  
306 Strengthen for service Lord  
252 The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended

### READINGS FOR TODAY

[Isaiah 66: 10-14](#)

The response to [Psalm 66](#) is:

**Let all the earth cry out to God with joy**

[Galatians 6: 14-18](#)

[Luke 10: 1-12, 17-20](#)

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Deuteronomy 30: 10-14](#)

[Colossians 1: 15-20](#)

[Luke 10: 25-37](#)

ORGAN POSTLUDE Bercuse by Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

### PARISH NEWS

**Today's preachers** Fr Brian will preach at this morning's Services. This evening at Evensong and Benediction Fr Hugh will be talking about Vladimir Lossky and his remarkable book *The Mystical Theology of the Eastern Church* that burst like a

bombshell on the post war world awakening a widespread interest in Eastern Orthodoxy.

**Retimetabling of Pukehiki church visit** We have had to move the date forward for our proposed Church Service at Pukehiki to 10 August instead of 24 August because of the chef's availability at the Portobello hotel. Many of you have signed up for this popular event. Please check your diaries to ensure that you can make this revised date.

**The next church visit** The formula of visiting a local church of unusual type for a Service followed by lunch seems to have struck a chord. Another such event is in the planning stage. It will be a visit to the Port Chalmers Catholic Church with its unusual maritime themed interior. This will probably be a Saturday in October with a date soon to be announced.

**Selwyn College Hui** The Selwyn review panel that is looking into the issue of whether the diocese should retain ownership of Selwyn College has decided to conclude its consultation process by calling together the diocesan Synod in hui mode on Saturday 2 November to look at all the options as to the College's future.

**Parish history progress** Fr Hugh has now completed three chapters of the parish history entitled *Origins, The Oxford Movement Revolution, The Rise and the Fall of the Mission Churches*. Three more remain to be written plus a conclusion.

**Pray for the Sick and Infirm** Claire Christie, Cherry Gordon, Paul Hill, John Steele, Jennifer Parmenter, Rosemary Stott, Gillian Gordon and Fr Craig Moody.

**Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time** Doris Littler and Beatrice Allen.

#### **Parish Contacts.**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Hugh Bowron - 455- 3961

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Brian Kilkelly - 027 229 3450

**Vicar's Warden:** Deirdre Harris - 455-0071

**People's Warden:** Di Bunker - 477-2474

**Director of Music:** David Hoskins - 453-4621

**Envelope Recorder:** Averil Hopkins - 454-2399

**Diocesan ministry conference** The annual diocesan ministry conference occurs this month from 23-25 July at the Burns Centre in Mosgiel. In most dioceses this is a clergy only conference but in this one it is open to any lay people who care to attend. This is a mistake in the opinion of this observer because it fails to address the major training issue in the diocese of Dunedin, the fact that many of its clergy have not attended a theological college, do not have a theology degree and have received only the sketchiest of priestly formation processes. What should be a crash course focussing on key theological themes such as Christology and Trinitarian theology to resource a teaching and preaching ministry becomes a kind of religious holiday for all comers offering a smorgasbord of often eccentric topics which are thought to be trendy and practical. It also limits the opportunity for the bishop to confer with his clergy in a confidential manner about sensitive issues arising in the life of the diocese and in the conduct of the priestly life. Over a lifetime's ministry in the New Zealand Anglican church this writer has observed two concerning and contradictory trends, an emergent anti-clericalism and many ordinations of untrained but willing lay people designed to hastily plug gaps in the line. This writer does not decry opportunities for lay training and diocesan fellowship gatherings. We could learn from the German Lutheran Church with its inspiring annual *Kirchentag* gatherings that pick a theme, invite the best of guest speakers, and have fun events and that move from locality to locality each year. Such gatherings, if replicated here, would address another gap in diocesan life. Diocesan Synods have now become hurried one day events with few opportunities for socialising or networking. Many miss the chance to be together as a diocesan family not under the pressure of urgent (and sometimes dull) diocesan business.