



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

The Pebble

12 January 2020

Baptism of the Lord

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me:
because the Lord has anointed me
to bring good news to the afflicted.
The Lord has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted:
to proclaim liberty for the captives,
and release for those in prison,
to comfort all who mourn
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning:
a garment of splendour for the heavy heart.
They shall be called trees of righteousness:
planted for the glory of the Lord.
Therefore I will greatly rejoice in the Lord:
my soul shall exult in my God,
for God has robed me with salvation as a garment:
and clothed me with integrity as a cloak
For as the earth brings forth its shoots:
and as a garden causes the seeds to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise:
to spring forth before all the nations.

Isaiah 61: 1-3, 10-11

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 FOR TODAY

323 Father of mercy, God of consolation
We sing a threefold *Alleluya* before the gospel reading
483 The Church of God a kingdom is
472 When all thy mercies, O my God (T.2)
10 Long ago, prophets knew

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7](#)

The response to [Psalm 29](#) is:

The Lord will bless his people with peace

[Acts 10: 34-38](#)

[Matthew 3: 13-17](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6](#)

[1 Corinthians 1: 1-3](#)

[John 1: 29-34](#)

PARISH NEWS

This morning Fr Hugh is the preacher this morning. His theme, "The Infusion of his Miracle Working Powers."

New Year and January Services Our normal cycle of Services will continue uninterrupted throughout January including Evensong and Benediction on the 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Wendy Stocks Wendy Stocks died on Thursday evening in the Timaru Hospice. Her funeral will be on Tuesday at 2 pm at the Timaru crematorium with Fr Hugh and David Hoskins travelling up to take the Service. Wendy's ashes will then be brought to St Peter's for a Requiem Mass.

Hospital Chapel Service bed pushing Some of our regulars, including Fr Brian, are helping out this morning with getting hospital patients to the Sunday morning hospital chapel Service.

Warrington church visit Please sign the booking notice for lunch at Port Chalmers that will follow our Saturday 25 January visit to St Barnabas Warrington.

Visit to Church of Mary, Queen of Peace Our 22 February visit to St John's Waikouaiti will be followed on Saturday 21 March by a visit to the Polish Catholic Church in Broad Bay, which is dedicated under the title of the Church of Mary, Queen of Peace.

Tagging the neighbourhood Until now Caversham has been mercifully spared the disfiguring blight of taggers spray painting buildings with their idiot slogans and symbols but that ended with this summer holidays. Now the local dairy, the Theosophical headquarters and a bus shelter or two have received taggers' attention. Tagging occurs with greatest intensity during school holidays as unsupervised youngsters roam the streets at night.

Please pray for Asher Katene and Kasanita Tavake who are to be married at St Peter's on Saturday 18 January.

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Claire Christie, Cherry Gordon, Paul Hill, John Steele, Rosemary Stott, Gillian Gordon, Christine Flegg, Mavis Lighton, Anne Bowker, Jane Hill and Lorraine Mitchell.

Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time Francis Mumford, Robin Heaps, Janet Younie and Bill Tansley.

American Methodist church to split We think of the Methodist church here in New Zealand as a small church. The recent

demolition of the Wesleyan church in Hillside Rd was a symbol of its rapidly dwindling numbers. However, in America the Methodist church is a large denomination of considerable numbers. Called the United Methodist Church it won't be that for much longer. Like many protestant denominations it has been engaged in a bitter internal debate over the LGBTI issue for over a decade, a debate that goes deeper into fundamental theological issues such as the authority of the Bible to order the life of the church. Its national leadership has decided upon a process that it hopes will be accepted by this year's national conference and that will lead to an amicable divorce. Conservative Methodists will leave to form a new traditional Methodist denomination. They will be allowed to keep their church properties and will be given a \$25 million dollar grant from central church funds to get established. The traditionalist Methodist group are not wildly enthusiastic about the proposal feeling that the progressive Methodists should be the ones to leave having contravened the church's essential teachings but this does appear to be a way forward that would avoid the appalling behaviour that has characterised recent splits in the Episcopal church in which millions of dollars have been spent in litigation over ownership of church property with the empty churches having to be sold off in some cases to pay the legal bills of the Episcopal church. The alternative was unpalatable to the national Methodist leadership with proposals to Conference to disbar clergy who have been openly conducting gay marriages in their churches. The UMC will now be a denomination of progressives and somewhat bewildered centrists.

Parish Contacts.

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