



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

The Pebble

31 May 2020

Pentecost

Life in the Spirit

In Christ the life-giving law of the Spirit:
has set us free from the law of sin and death.
All who are led by the Spirit of God
are children of God:
it is the Spirit that enables us to cry, 'Abba' Father.
The Spirit confirms that we are God's children:
and if children then we are heirs.
We are heirs of God, and fellow-heirs with Christ:
if we share his sufferings now,
in order to share his splendour hereafter.
The sufferings we now endure:
bear no comparison with the splendour
To be shown to us.
The created universe itself waits with eager longing:
for the children of God to be revealed.

based on Romans 8: 2, 14-19

Welcome

to all who are sharing in worship with us today and those who read the Pebble on line. The Pebble assists those who are participants in our Services and also shares news and views of interest to parishioners.

THE LITURGY FOR TODAY

8.00 am Holy Eucharist (1662)

10.30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist

HYMNS FOR TODAY

137 Come down, O Love divine

We sing a threefold *Alleluya* before the gospel reading

139 Come, thou Holy Spirit, come

342 Breathe on me, Breath of God

138 Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

[Acts 2: 1-11](#)

[1 Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13](#)

[John 20: 19-23](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Exodus 34: 4-6, 8-9](#)

[2 Corinthians 13: 11-13](#)

[John 13: 16-18](#)

PARISH NEWS

Welcome back to St Peter's Given the good news from the government last Monday we are now able to hold our normal cycle of weekly Services. While we are at level 2 there are some common sense health and safety precautions we need to take, such as contact tracing and physical distancing, which I am sure you are accustomed to now at other places of public gathering. Now we can say with the psalmist, "I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of God."

St Kilda band to return! The St Kilda brass band have confirmed that they will return for a concert at St Peter's this year. They are booked in for Saturday 5 September. They have asked about requests and the Vicar has opened the bidding

with "Highland Cathedral," their encore item from last year, and with "Hine e Hine."

The Rock This month's edition of the Rock is available in printed form at the back of the church.

June liturgical highlights Next Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Holy, Blessed and Glorious Trinity followed by Corpus Christi on the following Sunday. Then on the last Sunday of June the 28th we celebrate our Patronal festival.

Fight to the finish in the courts at Fort Worth Texas The diocese of Fort Worth, Texas has always been one of the most Anglo-Catholic parts of the Episcopal Church. It was one of the first to secede to join the Anglican Church of North America over the Episcopal Church's endorsement of gay marriage. This has led to a decade of litigation as TEC tried to gain control of all its former church properties despite the fact that 80% of the diocese had left leaving only a rump core of 3,804 to form the reconstituted diocese of Fort Worth. Now the Texas Supreme Court has found in favour of the breakaway diocese thus overturning an appeal court decision. TEC could appeal to the Supreme Court of America but this would be very expensive and would only have a marginal chance of success as the Supreme Court is reluctant to become involved in such cases and is also now religiously conservative in its line-up of Justices given recent Republican Party appointments.

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Claire Christie, Paul Hill, John Steele, Rosemary Stott, Anne Bowker, Jane Hill and James Bunker.

Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time Kenneth Prail, Rhona Welsh, Wilfried Ebbinghaus and Betty Wyatt.

Reform of the Vatican's finances Essential to the existence of the Catholic Church as a united worldwide church is the Curia, its bureaucracy based in Rome. For some time there have been concerns as to how transparent and effective its operations have been with criticism of its secrecy, complexity and the occasional scandal. John Paul 2 was too busy with his worldwide missionary tours to sort this out and Benedict, who as a curial insider for many years should have known where to start in a reform process, seemed perplexed and uncertain about how to grapple with the institutional complexities and challenges. Frances has been openly critical of the clericalism of Vatican insiders but as a social justice and try a little kindness kind of Pope is temperamentally unsuited to the tough challenges of institutional reform. Now the issue is inescapable because of acute financial shortfalls that existed before covid 19 and that have been greatly increased by it. There simply isn't enough money to run the Curia and to pay the employees of the Vatican state such as its gardeners, cooks, the Swiss Guard and so forth. A reform process is under way with attempts to simplify and centralise its financial operations and to make accurate up to the minute financial information available to the key people at the top. But this is just the beginning and much will depend on the stamina, determination and financial sophistication of those charged by Frances with financial reform. Cardinal Pell got the process under way but was blocked by shrewd insiders who liked things the way they were.

Parish Contacts.

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