



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

## The Pebble

30 August 2020

22nd Sunday, Year A

Significantly, then, Paul's fundamental principle of moral discernment...is that Christian obedience involves a constant quest for God's will in the confusing and difficult circumstances of the present, "overlap" time. He displays a remarkable confidence in the capacity of the "renewed mind" to determine God's will and so arrive at behaviour which is "good, pleasing (to God) and perfect"...Granted the vast cultural and historical gap between the ancient world and our own, scripture provides little concrete guidance for the ethical dilemmas of modern life. The abiding values of the gospel have to be discerned and lived out in totally different circumstances, with science and technology throwing up ethical challenges unimaginable in the biblical world. In these circumstances, Paul's stress upon the capacity of the "renewed mind" to discern, his sense of the need to test (allowing for some measure of trial and error), his readiness to speak in the language of the surrounding secular world ("good and acceptable and perfect") offer contemporary moral theology an important biblical charter as it confronts the issues of our time.

*Brendan Byrne*

*Romans, in the Sacred Pagina biblical commentary series*

## 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

149 Father we praise thee now the night is over  
*We sing the 3-fold Alleluia before and after the Gospel.*

439 Praise to the holiest in the height

471 We love the place, O God

247 O gladsome light, O grace

### READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

[Jeremiah 20: 7-9](#)

The response to [Psalm 63](#) is:

**My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God**

[Romans 12: 1-2](#)

[Matthew 16: 21-27](#)

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Ezekiel 33: 7-9](#)

[Romans 13: 8-10](#)

[Matthew 18: 15-20](#)

### PARISH NEWS

#### Level 2 procedures at Today's Services:

- Please complete the contact tracing form at the back of church as you enter.
- Use the hand sanitiser provided at the back of church.
- Please sit where the service books are placed in the pews.

- **At the Peace acknowledge those around you without making contact.**
- **Please line up to receive Communion which will be in one kind (bread) only**
- **In light of the Diocesan instructions, there will be no Morning Tea this morning.**

**Today's sermon** is entitled "The harvest of the Spirit leads to independent moral judgement in a fully developed personality" and focuses on this morning's reading from the 12th chapter of the epistle to the Romans.

**Rock** The new edition of the Rock is available at the back of the church.

**Student organ concert Friday September 4, 7.30 pm** This features the St Joseph Cathedral's pipe organ and gives student performers a chance to play a very fine instrument in concert with David Burchell, the cathedral organist. This event is organised by the Otago Southland Association of Organists. Suggested donation \$10.

**Dunedin Diocesan Synod to be virtual** The current Level 2 restrictions mean that the Dunedin Diocesan Synod cannot proceed as planned in the second weekend of September. It will be a virtual Synod on that Saturday that will be confined to essential business omitting the controversial possible sale measure for Selwyn College.

**Pray for the Sick and Infirm** Claire Christie, Paul Hill, John Steele, Rosemary Stott, Anne Bowker, Rita-May Brown, Sarah Rolfe, Richard and Carol Devine, Eileen Pratt, Max Stacey, Catherine Russel, Lorraine Mitchell, Michael Forrest, Jane Hill and Greta Barton.

**Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time** Dorothy White, Alfred Allan, Jessie Coxon and John Larkins.

**Cathedral finances** When news of the fire in the Cathedral's roof first broke optimistic noises were made about the damage being repairable and not as bad as first thought. However, a more soberly realistic account was given by the Dean the following Saturday in the ODT indicating that the repairs might take years to complete. A crucial issue will be the extent to which the insurers are prepared to fund all that must be done. In recent years the Cathedral Chapter considerably reduced the insurance cover since replacement cover would have been too expensive and it is yet to be reported how that affects fire damage claims. The Cathedral's finances have been in a parlous state for some time with its running expenses highly dependent on bequest income that pays out quarterly from the diocesan trust board's income fund. Until recently this was paying out at the handsome rate of 4.5% but this has now reduced to 3.5% and is expected to fall further after that. Even when things are going well for them Cathedrals are cash devouring entities and being something of a full time fund raiser is now an inescapable part of a Dean's role. There is an opportunity in the crisis to replace the Cathedral's ineffective heating system and to create a proper social gathering area. Cathedral regulars refer to the undercroft as "the dungeons" and point out how hard it is to attract first time worshippers to come below for a cup of tea. Fixing all of that would require finding a lot of money from external sources. The new Dean will have to become a highly persuasive fund raiser.

## **Parish Contacts.**

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