

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

The Pebble

13 September 2020

24th Sunday, Year A

The quality of mercy is not strained;
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath. It is twice blest;
It blesseth him that gives and him that takes:
Tis mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes
The throned monarch better than his crown:
His sceptre shows the force of temporal power,
The attribute to awe and majesty,
Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings;
But mercy is above this sceptred sway;
It is enthroned in the hearts of kings,
It is an attribute of God himself;
And earthly power doth then show likest God's
When mercy seasons justice

William Shakespeare 1564-1616 The Merchant of Venice Act 4, Scene 3

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

397 Let us, with a gladsome mind

We sing the 3-fold Alleluia before and after the Gospel.

461 There's a wideness in God's mercies

472 When all thy mercies, O my God (2nd tune)

315 Word of the Father, source of all things living

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

Ecclesiasticus 27: 30 – 28: 7

The response to Psalm 102 is:

The Lord is kind and merciful;

slow to anger, and rich in compassion

Romans 14: 7-9

Matthew 18: 21-35

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

<u>Isaiah 55: 6-9</u>

Philippians 1: 20-24, 27

Matthew 20: 1-16

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 line up to receive Communion which will be in one kind (bread) only

<u>Fellowship group</u> will meet for lunch Tuesday 22 September 12.15 at Equinox Forbury Park. Please let Raylene or Gay know if you will be attending.

Progress report on parish history For some time now the focus of research and writing has been on *The World of the Laity*. At the request of the academic supervisor this large theme has been divided up into 5 topics handled under three chapters. They are entitled *Children and Young People*, *Lay Leadership and the Contribution of Women* and *Parish Organisations and Conviction Anglo-Catholicism*. These chapters have now been handed in to the academic supervisor for assessment and suggested changes and improvements. The next chapter will cover the period from 1945 to 2000.

<u>Curry evening</u> Our next curry evening will be on Thursday 24 September. Please sign the booking notice in the Link.

<u>South Dunedin Future Update</u> South Dunedin update is a joint programme of the DCC and ORC to respond effectively to climate change challenges facing South Dunedin. The next drop in sessions will be at the South Dunedin Community Pop-Up, 199 Hillside Rd from 12 noon to 3.30 pm. The topics will be "The St Clair-St Kilda Coastal Plan: What can be done," Thursday 17 September and "What Lies Beneath: South Dunedin's pipes and groundwater," Thursday 15 October.

<u>Pray for the Sick and Infirm</u> Claire Christie, Paul Hill, John Steele, Rosemary Stott, Anne Bowker, Sarah Rolfe, Richard and Carol Devine, Eileen Pratt, Max Stacey, Lorraine Mitchell, Michael Forrest, Fr Michael Moorhead and Greta Barton.

<u>Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time</u> William Petersen, Peter Palmer, Dorothy Leftwich, Una White, Lilian McGlyn and Elizabeth Bunker.

<u>Division emerges within the Secular Education Network</u> The Secular Education Network is an atheist lobby group that has

emerged in recent years with the objective of getting religious instruction banned from state schools. Bible in schools in primary and intermediate schools is its particular target but it has other targets of opportunity as well. In several instances it has picketed schools at pupil drop off time to give parents leaflets urging them to put pressure on school authorities to ban Bible in schools. Some Principals have given in to pressure and have restricted Bible in schools to a voluntary opt in class for those children keen to receive such instruction, which has lead of course to a major reduction in classes under instruction. SEC has been preparing a high court case for the last 6 years to oblige the government to ban religious instruction but then in a surprise move Chris Hipkins, the minister of education, gazumped them by announcing that an opt in clause would be added to the Education and Training Act 2020 so that parents would have to give their signed permission for their children to receive religious instruction. Tanya Jacobs who was spearheading the SEC legal move greeted the ministerial move as "a significant step forward" and agreed to drop the case with just weeks to go before it went to court. However, David Hines has spoken up on behalf of other disgruntled SEC members arguing that this was a mistake because they also want to ban religious observances such as hymns at school assemblies, school chaplains and Christianised karakia.

Parish Contacts.

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