

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

# The Pebble

Sunday November 19, 2023

Ordinary 33



The Collect. Eternal God, light of the minds that know you, joy of the hearts that love you, strength of the wills that serve you; grant us so to know you that we may truly love you, and so love you that we may gladly serve you, now and always. Amen. (A New Zealand Prayer Book) WELCOME to all who are sharing in worship with us today and all those who read the Pebble on-line.

#### The Liturgy for Today.

8am Holy Eucharist (1662)10.30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist5.00pm Evensong and Benediction

### HYMNS FOR TODAY

420 O Jesus, I have promised
We sing the three-fold Alleluia at the Gospel
461 There's a wideness in God's mercy
457 The King of love (1<sup>st</sup> Tune)
466 Thou, whose almighty word

### **READINGS FOR TODAY**

<u>Proverbs 31</u> <u>Psalm 128</u> *Response:* Happy are they that fear the Lord. <u>1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6</u> <u>Matthew 24: 36, 25: 14-15, 19-21</u>

#### **READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK (Christ the King)**

Exercise the King Ezekial 34: 11-12, 15-17 Psalm 23 Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28 Matthew 25: 31-46

After the Intercessions:

O Lord, hear my prayer, (x2) When I call answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, (x2) Come and listen to me.

#### Parish News

**Healing Ministry** Prayer for Healing is offered to all in the Lady Chapel during communion at the 10.30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist.

<u>The Holy Eucharist</u> is celebrated in the Lady Chapel, Thursday's at 10 am.

<u>The St Peter's Fellowship</u> meet for afternoon tea at Glenfalloch, THIS Wednesday November 22 at 2.15pm. On Thursday December 7, we meet at the Spirit House, St Clair for a meal at 6.15pm. Please let Raylene (455-2389) know if you intend coming along to these events.

## 2023 Caversham Lectures

Tuesdays, 7.30pm in the Parish Lounge.

- Nov 21: Brian Miller 'Stained Glass Windows: Dunedin and beyond. The work of Roy Miller, NZ's leading Stained-Glass artist in the 1950's, 60's and 70's.
- *Nov* 28: Dr. Alex Chisholm PhD (Nutrition) 'Nuts: Surprising facts and health benefits.

Diocesan Family Christingle Service and Christmas Party. On Sunday November 26, at 2pm, St Peter's is hosting this traditional service leading up to Christmas where Jesus Christ is celebrated as the Light of the World using sweets, fruit and candles, carols are sung and is a great event for children and adults of all ages. Everyone is welcome.

#### **Pray for the Sick and Infirm in the Parish and Beyond** Claire Christie, Paul Hill, Joy Henderson, Kristian, Glenda Stephenson, Victoria Douglas, and Harry Brown.

**Pray for those whose memorials occur at this time** Eileen Owen, Gary Holden, Jasmine Holden, Donald Praill, Ruby Trim, Colin Trim and Keith Littler.

## From the Vicar

On the surface the parable of the talents seems quite straight forward. Use what you have been given because the consequences are dire. However, if we read carefully and take the parable personally, it is a loving instruction to practice gratitude.

Each one of us has God given talents and abilities. Some we may not even be aware of. These gifts are not for ourselves but for the betterment of the kingdom of God, and to bury them robs all of us the possibilities that can be enjoyed.

St Peter's has been blessed with people and resources to extend the kingdom of God. We are hosting the Christingle service next Sunday, we share our space with the Friday Light group and, a Christmas Eve service with the St Martha's congregation is being organised.

God doesn't punish us if we don't use our talents but we miss out on the joy and delight of God's grace and abundance. The darkness and gnashing of teeth refers to the lives we chose to live outside of God's kingdom, and sadly we can see it everyday in the misery that comes from chosing not to trust in God.

The servant who feared God was only concerned for himself and wasn't prepared to risk anything for his Lord. While we wont always get it right, ultimately everything we have is God's and we are to share our talents.

#### **Parish Directory**

Vicar: Reverend Natalie Milliken 455-3961 Deacon: Reverend Joel Stutter 0210 227 2318 Vicar's Warden: Jenny Maffey 027 636 7331 People's Warden: Dr Alex Chisholm 022 134 5233 Director of Music: David Hoskins 021 208 3922