



The Rock

SAINT FRANCIS

*Oct 4 is the day that we remember
St Francis of Assisi and Franciscans*

Francis of Assisi was a poor little man who astounded and inspired the Church by taking the gospel literally—not in a narrow fundamentalist sense, but by actually following all that Jesus said and did, joyfully, without limit and without a mite of self-importance.

Serious illness brought the young Francis to see the emptiness of his frolicking life as leader of Assisi's youth. Prayer—lengthy and difficult—led him to a self-emptying like that of Christ, climaxed by embracing a leper he met on the road. It symbolized his complete obedience to what he had heard in prayer.

From the cross in the neglected field-chapel of San Damiano, Christ told him, "Francis, go out and build up my house, for it is nearly falling down." Francis became the totally poor and humble workman.



He gave up every material thing he had, piling even his clothes before his earthly father (who was demanding restitution for Francis' "gifts" to the poor) so that he would be totally free to say, "Our Father in heaven." He was, for a time, considered to be a religious "nut," begging from door to door when he could not get money for

his work, bringing sadness or disgust to the hearts of his former friends, ridicule from the unthinking.

Francis' first rule for his followers was a collection of texts from the Gospels. He had no idea of founding an order, but once it began he protected it and accepted all the legal structures needed to support it.

He was torn between a life devoted entirely to prayer and a life of active preaching of the Good News. He decided in favor of the latter, but always returned to solitude when he could. He wanted to be a missionary in Syria or in Africa, but was prevented by shipwreck and illness in both cases.

During the last years of his relatively short life (he died at 44) he was half blind and seriously ill. Two years before his death, he received the stigmata, the real and painful wounds of Christ in his hands, feet and side.

On his deathbed, he said over and over again the last addition to his Canticle of the Sun, "Be praised, O Lord, for our Sister Death."

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“Be Praised O Lord”



The Vicar Writes

By the time you read this, we will just have elected (God willing) the ninth Bishop of Dunedin – of the Anglican persuasion, that is. I cannot say I envy the happy winner of this particular lottery. You will forgive me for putting it like that, I know, because sometimes it really does seem like a lottery. The electoral synod, which is made up of most of the members of the diocesan synod, has a day or two to choose someone few of them will ever have met, and most of them will know only through their references and their own written statements concerning themselves and the type of ministry they would envisage bringing to the diocese. With the best will in the world, it's not a lot to go on.

So why do it? Why have a bishop at all? Queen Victoria, who was really a closet Scotch (her word) Presbyterian was not in favour of the idea at all – even although she was the Supreme Governor of the Church of England by law established, and not at all averse to meddling in episcopal appointments herself. At a garden party for the bishops of the first Lambeth Conference, she remarked to Lady Lyttleton, “A very ugly party. I do not like bishops.”



Her somewhat scandalised lady in waiting expostulated, “But surely Your Majesty likes *some* bishops?” To which the Queen replied firmly, “I like the man, but *not* the bishop.”

This was a attitude very different from her predecessor James the First in the early seventeenth century, who had been a genuine and most unwilling Presbyterian north of the border. As soon as he inherited the English throne from Elizabeth the First, he proclaimed the maxim, “No bishop, no king” – and he was not advocating republicanism.

Despite the fact that we see around us many denominations which have dispensed with the episcopal office, Anglicans still maintain that without it, a Church is not as complete as it could or should be. Apart from some very small groups like the mediaeval Lollards and Waldensians, no Church was without bishops until the reformation in the sixteenth century, and even today the great majority of Christians belong to Churches presided over by bishops.

And this is not just a matter of convenience or habit. Assyrians, Armenians, Copts, Ethiopians, Syrians, Eastern Orthodox of all stripes, Roman Catholics, Old Catholics, Anglicans and even Swedish and Finnish Lutherans, all maintain an episcopal polity, and do so because they regard their present bishops as deriving their authority by sacramental ordination (which includes the laying on of hands) from one generation of bishops to the next, in an unbroken line which goes right back to the apostles themselves. Thus we talk about the ‘apostolic succession’ and the ‘apostolic ministry’ of bishop, priest and deacon. For protestants of the Calvinist type, this is just a delusion, but it should be remembered that the apostolic succession of the bishops was in place even before the New Testament was finally put into its present form. Thus, our new bishop will be our apostle – in a direct line right back to the time of Christ. For most Christians at most times and in most places, this sacramental descent has been a vital part of the Church's very being – and it remains so today.

The Crucified and Risen God bless you!

Fr CARL



Ladies Guild

At the September meeting we had a light hearted quiz - with everyone winning.

Our next meeting will be at 2.00pm in the lounge on Tuesday October 13th when Kat McBeath will entertain us at the piano.

Mary Barton,
Secretary



HENRI J. M. NOUWEN:

All the great spiritual leaders in history were people of hope. Abraham, Moses, Ruth, Mary, Jesus, Rumi, Gandhi, and Dorothy Day all lived with a promise in their hearts that guided them toward the future without the need to know exactly what it would look like. Let's live with hope.



Pray for the work of the Missions Board and our Mission Partners

Partners in Prayer is presented in diary form for use through the month, each day focusing on an initiative, a partner church or an activity in which workers from our Church are engaged.

Join your parish's Mission Group

Most parishes have a Missions Group that meets regularly to pray for and promote the work of AMB and our partners. If your parish *doesn't* have one, why not start one!

Become your parish's Mission Motivator

Mission Motivators play a key part in helping us promote our partners and work in the parishes to build support of AMB. To find out more about Mission Motivators contact [Hamish Thomson](#) at AMB.

Support a project

Choose one of our many projects to support and receive project information, prayers and updates. To select a project to support check out our [program information](#).

Stay informed

Read our magazine **Mission Action** for up-to-date news of mission in action with our Partner Churches overseas. This is delivered three times a year to your parish.

Go and see!

Several times a year there is the opportunity to join with one of the AMB staff and experience first hand the ministry of our Partners overseas.

Give financially

The work of AMB is wholly funded by the support of parishes and individuals.



DIOCESAN NEWS

Bishop George to Retire

At the Diocesan Synod in May 2009, Bishop George Connor announced his intention of retiring on the 30th of November, which is St Andrew's Day and also the 44th anniversary of his ordination.

Bishop George came to this decision, he says, at the 20/20 Vision Conference held in the Diocese in March. "That was an excellent occasion, with real spirit and energy, and it laid down a vision of where the diocese might be in 10 years. It seemed to me that a new bishop should harness that energy and take the diocese forward in unity and purpose."

Bishop George says he hopes he will be remembered as a bishop who tried to bring "a caring consistency" to his role. He and his wife Nonie will retire to Waiheke Island, in the Hauraki Gulf, and in his retirement he is considering the prospect of returning to non-theological study.

The Diocese is now involved in the process of finding a new Bishop, with an Electoral Synod due to take place from the 9th to the 11th of October.

The Electoral College to elect a successor to Bishop George is to be held 9-11th October.

Please pray for the College and its deliberations



VESTRY IN BRIEF

At the September meeting of Vestry, the following items were of note:

- As the swine influenza epidemic is waning, the ban on intinction will not be applied.
- A new tenant is moving into the cottage. Preparation for painting the cottage is underway.
- A letter of thanks from Anglican Care was received for our donation of \$40.
- The hall storeroom will be cleaned out.
- The plans for the vicarage kitchen renovations are out to tender.
- Marjory Palmer has organized a raffle at the Warehouse on the 26th of October.
- A sale to clear out leftover goods from previous market days will be held.

Heather Brooks
(Vestry Secretary)



BEQUESTS "I GIVE TO THE DUNEDIN DIOCESAN TRUST BOARD, 1A HOWDEN STREET, GREEN ISLAND, DUNEDIN, PO BOX 13 170, GREEN ISLAND, DUNEDIN 9052. (% OF MY ESTATE, OR THE RESIDUE OF MY ESTATE, OR A SUM OF MONEY, OR DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY AND/OR ASSETS) FOR THE GENERAL PURPOSE (OR FOR A SPECIFIC PURPOSE) OF ST PETERS PARISH, CAVERSHAM, FOR WHICH THE RECEIPT OF THE SECRETARY OR OTHER PROPER OFFICER SHALL BE FULL AND SUFFICIENT DISCHARGE TO MY TRUSTEES/EXECUTORS.



THE ANGLICAN WORLD



[Archbishop of Canterbury's sermon celebrating 150th Anniversary of the Anglican Church in Japan](#) The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, has today preached at a service attended by over 2000 people, celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Anglican Church in Japan (Nippon Sei Ko Kai). The Eucharist took place at the Roman Catholic Cathedral of St Mary in Tokyo. Presiding at the Eucharist was the Most Revd Nathaniel Makoto Uematsu, Primate of NSKK and Bishop of Hokkaido, along with other bishops from NSKK.

[Archbishop of Canterbury's Eid message for 2009](#) The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, has sent his greetings to Muslim communities for the festival of Eid ul Fitr, marking the end of Ramadhan. The Archbishop's greeting celebrates the many positive examples of Christian Muslim encounter and engagement with the wider common good in the past year.

[Archbishop of Canterbury sends greetings for the start of the Jewish New Year](#) The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, has sent his greetings to the Jewish Communities at the start of the festival of Rosh Hashanah. In his message Dr Wil-

liams recalls his visit to Auschwitz and Birkenau with the Chief Rabbi and Rabbi Tony Bayfield, and looks ahead to the presence of the Chief Rabbi in the House of Lords, as well as his meeting with the Chief Rabbinate of Israel.

[Archbishop of Canterbury to visit Japan](#) As part the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Anglican Church in Japan, the Archbishop of Canterbury will be making a week-long visit to Japan during which he will visit Anglican churches, universities and schools, as well as the city of Nagasaki.

Dr Williams will preach at the service to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Anglican Church in Japan (known as Nippon Sei Ko Kai) and will be joined by other bishops and Primates from around the Anglican Communion.

[International Anglican Liturgical Consultation 2009](#) The International Anglican Liturgical Consultation met August 3-8 at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, Auckland, in the Anglican Church of Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia. We are grateful to the Local Arrangements Committee, the Right Reverend Winston Halapua and the Right Reverend Kito Pikaahu, the Right Reverend George Connor, Mrs. Heather Skilling and the Very Reverend Ross Bay who shaped the conference and tended to our travel and practical needs with care.

Editorial

I grew up in the days when 'nice' women would not be seen dead in 'slacks'. Married women stayed at home. Roles of men and women were clearly and rigidly enforced. Over the intervening years many battles have been fought for womens' rights. Equal pay, ordination, recognition, equal rights etc. etc. Some very controversial at the time. It became important for all committees and boards to have women represented on them.

Given my background and experience it came as shock to me to witness 170 university students elect a committee that is 100% male. This in the last fortnight by a group that was 60% women and 40% men.

I protested "What about the representation of women, who will advocate for your female members?". The reply "What on earth are you talking about? We elect the best people for the job. If the result is 100% men that is OK, If the result is 100% women that is OK as is every thing in between".

"But what about womens' rights that have been fought for over recent decades" I protested.

The reply "Oh you old people, always dwelling on the past. What matters is that the best available people are put into all positions, always. It doesn't matter whether they are male or female".

If this represents the view of the young, our community is in for some interesting times. Does it represent a paradigm shift. What will be the issues that engage the coming generation? How will those that spent their lives battling for womens' rights feel; is this the goal that they were striving for? How will our Church respond?

Ray Sisley



WARDENS' WARBLE



Whatever our plight.....

After a short spell of warm spring weather we have been thrust back into another winter season. It may be October but it is still snowing! However whatever our plight it is nothing compared to the devastation and destruction resulting from the severe earthquake and tsunami suffered by the people of Samoa, many of whom have also lost much loved family members. The survivors now face the difficult task of rebuilding their lives, their livelihoods and their homes by salvaging what they can from the debris all around them. This all as they contend with very basic living conditions.

Tragedy has also occurred in Indonesia following another earthquake there.

Money to assist with aid and reconstruction can be placed in an envelope marked SAMOA APPEAL and then put into the collection bag on Sunday.

Alternatively donations may be sent directly to:

The Anglican Missions Board

PO Box 1212

Thorndon

Wellington 6144

Joy Henderson, People's Warden

AAW

The September meeting of AAW welcomed 20 members together with Gwen Hudsons's sister Shirley and her Grand Niece Alice, who was to be our guest speaker. Alice gave us a lively account of her sojourn in India where she worked as a nurse, with children and young people who were suffering from the effects of HIV. She is finishing her

nursing degree at Otago University shortly.

Next meeting will be our AGM when election of the new committee for next year will take place

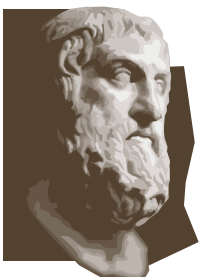
**Regards and best wishes
Ronda**

*Ronda Tatnell
Coordinator.*



Farewell Dawn. Best wishes for life in Christchurch. We will always be ready to welcome you back....even if it is just for a visit

BLAST FROM THE PAST.



“State religion is a compromise of which all parties should be ashamed. “The experiment of training the people in established forms of religion has been tried twice in England on a large scale, once by Charles and Laud, once by the Puritans. The training of the High Church ended in the reign of the Puritans and the training of the Puritans ended in the reign of the harlots.” (Lord Macaulay). A third instance, had he known it, could have been added, “State training in the ‘Simple Bible Teaching Religion’ ended in the reign of the atheists.” (H B Young in ‘A Handbook on the Christian Religion’ published in 1916)



SAMOA Earthquake and Tsunami

TONGA Earthquake and Tsunami

INDONESIA Earthquake



TAIWAN Cyclone and Flooding

PHILIPINES Cyclone and Flooding

VIETNAM Cyclone and Flooding

CAMBODIA Cyclone and Flooding

LAOS Cyclone and Flooding

INDIA Flooding



Please:

- Pray for the victims and the aid workers
- Give money through:
 - Christian World Service
 - The Anglican Missions Board
 - The Red Cross

Our Church in Polynesia is desperately poor, small and yet doing great things with very little. Let us give them hope.

THANK YOU: To all of the helpers and contributors that made the Ladies Guild raffle such a success.



CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- Sun 11 †TRINITY 18 *Ordinary 28*
7pm Compline and Exposition
Pot Luck Lunch
- Mon 12 Monday Club 10.15am in the Hall
- Tue 13 Ladies' Guild 2pm in the Lounge
7.30pm *Later Learning*
- Thu 15 Meditation Group after the Eucharist
Games Night 7pm in the Hall
- Sun 18 †LUKE
7pm Sung Evensong and Benediction
- Mon 19 Monday Club
- Tue 20 7.30pm *Later Learning*
- Wed 21 7.30pm Vestry in the Lounge
- Thu 22 Meditation Group
Games Night
- Sun 23 JAMES THE LESS
- Sun 25 †TRINITY 20 *Ordinary 30*
7pm Compline by Candlelight
- Mon 26 Monday Club
- Tue 27 7.30pm *Later Learning*
- Wed 28 SIMON AND JUDE
- Thu 29 Meditation Group
Games Night

†ALL SOULS
7pm Compline by
Candlelight



We're on the Web!
See us at:

www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

Baptisms, Weddings, House Blessings, Burials and Confessions by arrangement with the Vicar

Parish Directory

Parish Priest:

Father Carl Somers-Edgar
The Vicarage, 57 Baker Street
Caversham, Dunedin
Telephone: (03) 455 3961
Email: paratus@xtra.co.nz
Internet: www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

WORSHIP SERVICES

All Sundays:

8am Eucharist.
10.30am Solemn Eucharist.

Sundays of the calendar month at 7.00 pm:

2nd, 4th and 5th Compline and Exposition

1st and 3rd Sung Evensong and Benediction.

First and third Tuesdays of the month: 11am Eucharist at St Barnabas' Home.

All Wednesdays and Fridays (except when the Vicar is away): 8am Eucharist.

All Thursdays: 10am Eucharist.



NOVEMBER

- Sun 2 †ALL SAINTS
7pm Sung Even song and Benediction

Material for the November Magazine is due today

- Mon 3 Monday Club
- Tue 4 7.30pm *Later Learning*
- Thu 6 Meditation Group
Games Night

Director of Music:

David Hoskins

Churchwardens:

Vicar's Warden:

Tubby Hopkins

People's Warden:

Joy Henderson

Vestry secretary:

Heather Brooks