



**Parish working bee** There will be an autumn tidy up of the Church grounds on Saturday 29 April beginning at 9.30 am. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

**Go Margo** The fifth of this year's Caversham lectures will be given by Dr Margo Barton, who teaches fashion at the Otago Polytech, on Tuesday 5 December. She will be speaking about her Citizen Stylist project that was initiated as a response to comments from the public such as "love emerging fashion, but could never wear it" and furthermore to comments from emerging designers like "my collection is too conceptual to be worn by anyone except models." She may bring a few items so that the audience can have a dress up.

**Vestry news** Fr Hugh spoke of his plans to take a 30 day guided Ignatian retreat in June. He will live in the Port Chalmers Presbytery during this time. The celebrants and preachers during the three Sundays he will be away will be Fr Alec Clark, Fr James Harding and Fr Bernard Wilkinson. Stewart Construction will start work on repairing the collapsed middle bedroom ceiling in the Vicarage in early May. It is anticipated that the work could take up to a month. The insurance situation to do with this repair is still unclear. The bell tower roof is leaking and is unsafe to climb out on to change the flag. A quote is being sought for its replacement from Dunedin roofing system.

**Paving stones for the wilderness garden** Donations are beginning to be received for the purchase of paving stones for the wilderness garden and are much appreciated. Friederike Schmaltz, the garden's creator, will have an article about it in the upcoming edition of the Rock.

**Pray for the Sick and Infirm** Claire Johnston, Cherry Gordon, Margaret Sterling, Mahlia and Sheree Napier, Jonathan Gillies, Katie Bowron, Heather Robertson and Bruce Moore.

**Pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time** Ian McAllan, Alexander Brown, John Johnston, Mavis Monteith, Eunice Teal, and Stacy Carruthers.

**Mid-week Service** Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel, Thursday at 10 am.

**Cathedral's too important to be left to fail** The world news section of Monday's ODT had an article about an investigation launched by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York into the management and governance of Cathedrals caused by a recent cash flow crisis at Peterborough Cathedral (where the Vicar was ordained). The Cathedrals working group will report back in December and is likely to recommend the curtailing to some extent of the independence of Cathedral Chapters and Deans who by and large are free to run their own show with little outside accountability. Cathedrals are increasingly complex and expensive entities to run and often their governing bodies lack the expertise to do so. They are also, in Britain at least, increasingly successful in growing their church attendances, particularly with mid-week Services for busy urban workers. Given their high profile both on the urban landscape and as guardians of a sense of the numinous in an increasingly secular society they are too important to be left to fail, or to have well publicised difficulties that damage the reputation of the Church. Thus the working group is likely to recommend increased diocesan and Episcopal control for the mother church of each diocese. In the opinion of this writer a similar approach would be most helpful in addressing the beleaguered, isolated and sparsely attended situation of the Cathedral of St Paul's Dunedin.

**Sudden death** The Vicar of St Michaels Christchurch, Fr Andrew Starkey, died of a heart attack while out jogging on Holy Saturday. He was 61. The Dean of Christchurch, Fr Lawrence Kimberley, was called in at short notice to lead the St Michaels Easter Vigil at 7pm and then returned to the Transitional Cathedral to take their Vigil at 9pm.

#### **Parish Contacts**

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