



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

The Pebble

16 July 2017

15th Sunday

Winter Poem

Shall we praise you, hail-hurling God?
in winter's splendour,
in the grace of snow
that covers with brightness
and reshapes both your creation and ours?
Or shall we curse the fierce cold
that punishes homeless people
and shortens tempers?
Blessed are you
in the earth's tilt and course.
Blessed are you in the sleep of winter
and in the oncoming spring.
Now and then and always,
fill these lands with peace.

Martin Connell
A reflection on Psalm 147: 12-20
Liturgy Training Publications
Roman Catholic Diocese of Chicago

Welcome

to all who are sharing with us in worship today.
The Ministry of Healing and Wholeness is offered
in the Lady Chapel during Communion. Everyone
is warmly invited to Morning Tea after the Solemn
Sung Eucharist

THE LITURGY FOR TODAY

8.00 am Holy Eucharist (1662)

10.30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist

HYMNS:

234 Christ, whose glory fills the skies

407 Lord thy word abideth

472 When all thy mercies, O my God

250 Saviour, again to thy dear name we raise

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Isaiah 55: 10-11](#)

The response to [Psalm 65](#) is

Your word, O Lord, brings forth life.

[Romans 8: 18-23](#)

[Matthew 13: 1-23](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19](#)

[Romans 8: 26-27](#)

[Matthew 24-43](#)

PARISH NEWS

Episcopal ordination date Our Bishop elect Fr Steven Benford will be ordained at St Paul's Cathedral on Friday 22 September at 7.30 pm. We are strongly encouraged to attend this Service.

Synod The Diocesan Synod meets the following day Saturday 23 September in our hall. This will be a one day Synod only.

Welcoming the new Bishop Bishop Steven Benford will preach and preside at the St Peter's 10.30 Solemn Sung

Eucharist on Sunday 24 September. This will be his first worship leading engagement in the diocese.

Episcopal arrival plans The Benfords will make landfall in New Zealand on 6 September in Auckland where Lorraine's sister lives and will then motor down through the country meeting the New Zealand bishops as they go. They plan to live in rental accommodation in Dunedin for the first six months of their time here until they find a suitable house to purchase.

The return of Fr Chris Holmes Parishioners have been enquiring when Fr Chris Holmes will be taking the Sunday Services again here at St Peter's. Chris is booked in next for Sunday 1 October, the Sunday after the big Synod/Pontifical High Mass weekend.

Armistice day Service St Peter's 12 November Sunday Services will focus on the theme of Armistice day. Are any of your relatives/ancestors amongst the 50 or so names memorialised in our Church porch of the local war dead? If so please let the Vicar know as their biographical details could form part of the Service.

Fellowship group The Fellowship group will meet at Gwen Hudson's home, 1 Wycolla Avenue at 12.15 pm on Tuesday 25 July for a Pot Luck meal. Please bring a little keepsake to talk about. Please phone Raylene 455 2389 if you plan to be there. Keep warm!

Farewell Debbie Debbie Flintoff, for many years our Episcopal PA, and latterly also the Diocesan Manager, will step down from her job on 22 September.

The Hicks family on deputation The family of Jonathan and Tessa Hicks whom we support as a mission partner with the New Zealand Missionary Society, will be back in New Zealand in November and will be visiting us. Planning has begun to make the most of their time with us. Jonathan teaches at an Anglican Theological College in the Solomons.

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Claire Johnston, Cherry Gordon, Margaret Sterling, Mahlia and Sheree Napier and Jonathan Gillies

Pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time Evelyn Ward, Dorothy Dickie, and Arthur Hughes.

Motion 29 Working Group Parishioners may recall that the last General Synod deadlocked on the issue of same sex blessings, resolved to let the controversial Motion 30 lie on the table, and set up a working group to bring fresh proposals to the 2018 General Synod. These came out in the past week. Central to them is that the decision as to whether or not to authorise same sex blessings in a diocese would rest with the diocesan Bishop, who if he or she proposed to do so would then authorise certain clergy to be the approved celebrants of these Services. These could only take place if the couples had been duly married under civil law, if the Vestry had been consulted and their advice given in good faith, and if the Service was in a form authorised by the Bishop. This is significant in that the Province would not be producing an authorised liturgy for this purpose. The authors of the report insist that the Church's doctrine of marriage would not change. They also propose that clergy and office holders would no longer be required to declare a signed submission to the authority of the General Synod but would rather assent to the Constitution and Code of Canons and would agree to be bound by the decisions of the Church's decision making bodies. At first glance this appears to be a better outcome than many had expected but there are of course fish hooks in it. Presumably if the Bishop changes then potentially the decision to allow or disallow same sex blessings in a diocese could change with the new Bishop. Presumably gay civilly married couples in a non-authorising diocese would have to travel to an authorising diocese to get their union blessed. What if they returned and then one of them presented themselves to the examining chaplains as a potential ordinand? And of course can the Church truly say that its doctrine of marriage remains unchanged if it permits same sex blessings in some jurisdictions.

Parish Contacts

Parish Priest: Fr Hugh Bowron – 455- 3961

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