



St Peter's Caversham

www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

The Pebble

4 March 2018

Lent 3

The Old Testament

God chose the people of Israel to form a sacred nation united by the covenant of love. God revealed himself so that the people of Israel could experience Divine love and be a beacon of light to other nations. As we have already said, God's revelation began among the Hebrew people when Abraham and Sarah were called forth. God's Word was also made known through others, especially the prophets. The books of the Old Testament preserve this memory of God's loving goodness to a people in slavery. These books of the Old Testament remain permanently valuable because they show how God prepared the world to receive Christ. They contain a store of marvellous teachings about God, wholesome wisdom about human life, and a wonderful treasury of prayers. In all of this, the mystery of our salvation is present in a hidden way. Christians should receive these books with reverence. The two testaments are intimately linked, the new hidden in the old, and the old made manifest in the new.

*The Constitution on Divine Revelation
The documents of Vatican 2 in plain English
Bill Huebsch*

Welcome

to all who are sharing with us in worship today.
The Ministry of Healing and Wholeness is offered
at the communion rail 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

5.00 pm Evensong and Benediction

HYMNS

507 The Lent litany

407 Lord, thy word abideth

70 Lord Jesus, think on me

337 As pants the hart for cooling streams

414 O for a closer walk with God

READINGS FOR TODAY

[Exodus 20: 1-17](#)

The response to [Psalm 19](#) is:

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life

[1 Corinthians 1: 22-25](#)

[John 2: 13-25](#)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[2 Chronicles 36: 14-17, 19-23](#)

[Ephesians 2: 4-10](#)

[John 3: 14-21](#)

PARISH NEWS

Three events and a promise is the title of this morning's sermon. It picks up the follow on issues of last Sunday's sermon – the trustworthiness of the Old Testament, its underlying historical reliability or otherwise and the way in which it is genuinely Divine revelation.

Merbecke from this Sunday This morning, and then throughout the Sundays of Lent, we will be singing the Merbecke settings of the congregational responses at the 10.30 am Service. A new Service booklet has been provided for this purpose.

Evensong and Benediction this evening at 5 pm followed by a social gathering and refreshments in the parish lounge.

Rock The first edition of the Rock for 2018 is available at the back of the Church and in the Link.

Mothering Sunday Next Sunday will be Mothering Sunday. The preacher will be Brian Kilkelly.

Midweek Eucharist Each Thursday in the Lady Chapel, 10am.

Our Friday Lenten extra Throughout Lent we are celebrating the Eucharist at 5.30 pm each Friday together with teaching appropriate to the season followed by a fish and chip supper. Please bring some change to make your purchase. Contributions of salads are always welcome.

Vestry news It was decided to memorialise recently deceased parishioner Josephine Weipers with the purchase of a table for use in the lounge together with a plaque naming her as our benefactor in this way. A training day is to be set for key parish personnel and hall users in how to use the about to be installed defibrillator, which will be located in the Link. It was concluded that the decision to have one Christmas Day Service at 9 am was the appropriate one though the ODT advertisement for this Service at an incorrect time was noted and regretted.

Brass cleaning There will be brass cleaning on Holy Saturday 31 March at 10.30 am. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Christian World Service Tonga appeal Christian World service has launched an appeal to support those affected by Cyclone Gita in Tonga. Donations can be mailed to CWS at P O Box 22652, Christchurch Central 8140 or by going to their website and clicking on "Donate Now."

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Claire Johnston, Cherry Gordon, Margaret Sterling, Mahlia Napier, Paul Hill and John Steele.

Pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time Margery Scott, Kaye Fowler, George Hopkins, and John Hamer.

NZ Anglican bishops speak out against moves to legalise euthanasia Eight Anglican bishops have called for a halt to the End of Life Choice Bill, which proposes legalising medically-assisted suicide and euthanasia in New Zealand. In their submission to the Justice Select Committee on the End of Life Choice Bill this week, the bishops recommended no change to existing laws, and called for more funding of palliative care and counselling support for patients and their family. Rather than introducing assisted dying as proposed in the Bill, the bishops believe that their government should ensure New Zealanders have access to the best quality palliative and psycho-social care when faced with terminal illness. They cite Australian doctor Karen Hitchcock who in her 12 years' work in large public hospitals has often heard patients express a wish to die, but says the cause of that desire is seldom physical pain, "It is often because of despair, loneliness, grief, the feeling of worthlessness, meaningless or being a burden. I have never seen a patient whose physical suffering was untreatable," she said. The bishops also point out that many legal care options enable medical staff to assist dying people: such as pain relieving drugs, sedation, and for those in a coma, withdrawal of artificial life support. Bishop Steven Benford has administered pain medication to the dying on many occasions while serving in his medical vocation as anaesthetics specialist. "As doctors we often administer pain medication for a terminally ill patient - in the pretty sure expectation it could shorten their life," he says. "But the matter of intention makes a big difference. When I administered pain medication to a person near death, even though I knew my action may risk hastening death, my intention was not to cause death, but to ease the person's suffering.

Parish Contacts.

Parish Priest: Fr Hugh Bowron - 455- 3961

Vicar's Warden: Tubby Hopkins - 454-2399

People's Warden: Kate Paterson - 455-5384

Director of Music: David Hoskins 453-4621

Stewardship Recorder: Averil Hopkins - 454-2399