



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

The Pebble

Sunday, December 22, 2024.
Fourth Sunday in Advent



Collect.

God faithful and true,
make us eager with expectation,
as we look for the fulfilment of your promise
in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

WELCOME

to all who are sharing in worship with us today and all
those who read the Pebble on-line.

The Liturgy for Today.

8.00 am Holy Eucharist (1662)

10.30 am Lessons and Carols and Communion.

HYMNS AND CAROLS FOR TODAY

In the service booklet

READINGS FOR TODAY

In the service booklet.

READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Isaiah 52: 7-10

Psalm 98 *Response:* All the ends of the earth have seen the
saving power of God

Hebrews 1: 1-6

John 1: 1-18

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

1 Samuel 1: 11, 20-22, 24-28

Psalm 84 *Response:* Blessed are they who dwell in your
house, O Lord.

1 John 3: 1-2, 21-24

Luke 2: 41-52



Please remember the St Vincent de Paul Food Bank, which
we support, when you are shopping. Why not buy an
extra grocery item to place in the basket at the back of
church. The need is very real.

Parish News



Healing Ministry During communion at the 10.30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist Fr Kit will be available in the Lady Chapel to pray with you on any issue concerning you.

Morning Prayer will resume on the first Wednesday of February at 9 am in the Lady Chapel.

The Holy Eucharist is celebrated in the Lady Chapel on Thursdays at 10 am throughout January.

Carols and Lessons at the 10.30 am service today. It is followed by a bring and share lunch in the hall. Everyone welcome!

Christmas at St Peter's.

December 24 (Christmas Eve)

7.30 pm Shared Meal in Lounge with St Martha's followed at **9 pm** by Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Day

9 am Holy Communion with Carols (1662)

Pray for the Sick and Infirm in the Parish and Beyond

Claire Christie, Paul Hill, Kristian, Faye-Noel Brown and Jill Hodges.

Pray for those whose memorials occur at this time David, John and Richard Tourelle, Noel McQuarrie, Francis Hore, William Littler, Doreen Fraser and Lena Holmes.

From the Vicar

Some people find Christmas time very stressful. It's not always about the presents, or travelling, the meals or the decorations. Sometimes it's about relationships and tragedy. The concept that Christmas is all about family creates a false narrative. Yes, there was a family involved but where were the grandparents, the aunts, uncles and cousins.

If Bethlehem was Joseph's family town, why was there no room for this couple who needed love and support?

When Joseph and Mary said yes to God they stepped outside the expectations of their family and community. They risked alienation and hardship when they committed themselves to the unexpected, and let God lead the way.

Mary and Joseph weren't the first people to do such a thing. The Old Testament is full of people who risked everything for God.

We can speculate why God chose them to be the Christ's parents but I believe it was simply because they were faithful. Faith in God is manifest in acts of humility and love, grace and forgiveness.

As we light the last Advent candle I pray each one of us meditates on the hope, love, joy and peace that is experienced through faith in God through Christ.

May you and yours have a blessed time this Christmas.

Parish Directory

Vicar: Reverend Natalie Milliken 455-3961

Priest Assistant: Reverend Joel Stutter 0210 227 2318

Vicar's Warden: Dr Alex Chisholm 022 134 5233

People's Warden: Raylene Ralston 021 0276 1124

Director of Music: David Hoskins 021 208 3922