



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

The Pebble

3 January 2021

Epiphany

O God, by the leading of a star
you revealed your Son Jesus Christ
to the gentiles;
Grant that your church may be a light
to the nations,
so that the whole world may come to see
the splendour of your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1989 New Zealand Prayer book

Immortal Lord God, you inhabit eternity,
and have brought us your unworthy servants
to the close of another year:
Pardon, we beseech you,
our transgressions of the past,
and graciously abide with us all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Welcome

to all who are sharing in worship with us today and those who read the Pebble on-line. The Pebble assists those who are participants in our Services and also shares news and views of interest to parishioners.

THE LITURGY FOR TODAY

8.00 am Holy Eucharist (1662)

10.30 am Epiphany Carol Service and Sung Eucharist

5.00 pm Evensong and Benediction

HYMNS FOR TODAY

See Service booklet

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

See Service booklet

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

[Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7](#)

[Acts 10: 34-38](#)

[Mark 1: 7-11](#)

PARISH NEWS

Frances Hodgkins Service The Anglican Eucharist will be celebrated at Frances Hodgkins on Thursday at 11 am.

Hospital bed pushers requested Sunday 10 January is St Peter's annual duty of providing bed pushers for the Sunday morning Service at the hospital, a duty we carry out in conjunction with Knox church. Please let the Vicar know if you can help in this way.

Wardens' meeting The Vicar will meet with the Wardens on Monday. Please let Deirdre Harris or Di Bunker know of any matters you want raised at that meeting.

Reflections of the past year We made four visits to churches in the vicinity of Dunedin at St Barnabas, Warrington, St John's, Waikouaiti, Hui te Rangiora, Karitane and Our Lady Queen of Peace, the Polish Catholic church. That latter visit heralded the start of the covid lockdown, which began after the Sunday Services on Lent 4, 22 March. Each week there was a filmed St Peter's Service posted on YouTube together with a message from the Vicar. The filmed Service drew appreciative comments from as far away as London and Australia. Production of the Pebble and the Rock continued with a weekly mail run to those who could not access our publications on the parish website. For the first time in the parish's history there were no Holy Week or Easter Services. We emerged from lockdown on the weekend of 16/17 May when we had a week of daily Masses on an invitation only basis to restrict numbers. These Services were well attended. Normal Sunday Services resumed on the weekend of 30/31 May as we celebrated the Pentecost Vigil Service and Pentecost Sunday. Our distance Timaru parishioners Wendy and David Stocks died respectively at the beginning and the end of the year. Brent McDowell, Marjorie Finnie and Joan Dutton moved to new locations. The Christmas Festival of Brass and Carols moved from being an experiment to a parish tradition and was again well attended. The covid lockdown delayed the Vicar's retirement plans from early September when he turned 68 to Easter 2021.

Pray for the Sick and Infirm Claire Christie, Paul Hill, John Steele, Rosemary Stott, Sarah Rolfe, Richard and Carol Devine, Lorraine Mitchell, Greta Barton, Faye-Noel Brown and Joy Henderson.

Pray for those whose memorial occurs at this time Arthur Hill, Mary Wood, Marjorie Welch, William Bloxham (Priest) and Francis Mumford.

Australian Anglican church about to go down the New Zealand path The decision by the Newcastle and Wangaratta dioceses to permit some bishops to perform same sex blessings has sparked off the crisis over human sexuality issues for our trans-Tasman brethren that New Zealand has recently passed through. An appellate tribunal court has upheld the right of Wangaratta and Newcastle to proceed in this way and now the issue is heading for a showdown when the General Synod meets later this year. The conservative evangelical dioceses of Sydney and Tasmania are threatening to break away and join the GAFCON (Global Anglican Future Conference) alignment with further provision for the setting up of an Extra Provincial Diocese such as New Zealand now has under Bishop Jay Behan. This would incorporate parishes outside the Sydney and Tasmania jurisdictions. Of particular interest is how many Melbourne parishes would join the EPD as there have been many conservative clergy entering the Melbourne diocese recently. Indeed its Synod passed a resolution in support of the formation of the New Zealand EPD just before the consecration of Jay Behan as its bishop, much to the chagrin of Christchurch's bishop Peter Carrell. Perth, Adelaide and Brisbane are pretty much in the liberal camp, indeed Archbishop Phillip Aspinall has recently come out in support of a St Paul's Ipswich parish priest who has made the transgender cross over from male to female. Parishioners must now get used to Fr Steve McMahon being called Selina McMahon and being attired in flamboyant female dress.

Parish Contacts.

Parish Priest: Fr Hugh Bowron - 455- 3961

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