



Anglican Parish of  
Caversham Saint Peter,  
Dunedin, New Zealand.

# THE ROCK

September, 2012 - Trinity - Ordinary Time



## Synod Report

By The Vicar

**S**ynod has agreed with my request that it be reduced in size. The Bishop and the Diocesan Council will bring forward proposals as to how this shall be achieved in an equitable manner to **next year's Synod, as part of the overall restructure and reorganisation of the Diocese.**

The Bishop stated that in future the smaller Synod should confine itself to the strictly necessary official business of the Diocese, and no longer be a forum for instructing people or advocating controversial points of view. This was in response to vague, poorly presented and unfocused social justice motions, one of which I succeeded in having set aside. It was also a follow on from the way in which Synod tied itself up in knots trying to get the debate on gay marriage under way, without anything being achieved. The Bishop made the wise suggestion that this needed a different kind of forum in order for the debate to take place, without time constraints, or the kind of adversarial win/lose scenario created by the Westminster style of Synod proceedings. Accordingly a Synod hui on the subject will take place next year.

### Earthquake work

There was a presentation on the

earthquake strengthening of Church buildings. Surprisingly the Diocese has yet to choose an engineer(s) to assess our buildings, or to decide whether to use one firm for the entire Diocese, or different firms for different regions within the Diocese. The point was made that some building owners, who have rushed in with early building assessments, have failed to take into account all relevant factors, such as the soil composition on which their buildings stand.

### Diocesan reorganisation

The Synod broke up into small groups on Saturday morning to consider different Bible passages, and then the Diocesan reorganisation plan. Their responses will be factored in to a further redrafting of the plan, which will then be put into something like a final form by a November meeting of the Diocesan Council.

### Council and Synod changes

The elections to Diocesan Council saw considerable changes to that body, with the removal of the Vicar General Helen Wilderspin and Archdeacon Jan Clark, and the election of a variety of energetic evangelical clergy and some feisty

*(Continued on page 8)*

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## Letters

In New Zealand today, you can guarantee with 99.9% precision, that churches following the New Zealand Prayer Book will fail to pray for, or even mention, the Queen. Now the Queen, by statute and therefore by law, is our Head of State and so is Number One of our citizens. It is an absolute disgrace that our National Church fails to hold her before God when the N.Z.P.B. is used.

It was a great pleasure therefore to find, **whenever I attend Saint Peter's services, that the clause for the Queen is included in your revised version of the modern liturgy.** So far as I know, you are alone in New Zealand in keeping this observation and for that I congratulate you.

So far, all my endeavours to have the Queen returned to her rightful place in the intercessions of the N.Z.P.B. have fallen on deaf ears. So my enquiry is whether your parish members of Synod can start a movement which may ultimately succeed in persuading General Synod to put the Queen back into her rightful place in the intercessions of the New Zealand Prayer Book.

Adam Coxon, Lower Hutt.

[This letter was referred to the Vicar who responded:

"Realistically, with a diocese focused on survival and managed decline, and about to become pre-occupied with gay marriage, I **don't think this will fly.**

The way ahead would be encouraging individual clergy who might be sympathetic to this agenda to persuade their intercessors at **the main Sunday Service to do so.**"]

The Rock welcomes letters to the Editor. Letters should be no more than 150 words in length and are subject to selection and, if selected, to editing for length and house style. Letters may be :

Posted to : The Editor of The Rock,  
c/- The Vicarage, 57 Baker Street,  
Caversham,  
Dunedin, N.Z. 9012

Emailed to:

[TheRockEditor@stpeterscaversham.org.nz](mailto:TheRockEditor@stpeterscaversham.org.nz)

### Ask The Vicar

For answers to questions doctrinal, spiritual and liturgical.

Write to: Ask The Vicar,  
57 Baker Street,  
Caversham,  
Dunedin, N.Z. 9012

Or email:

[AskTheVicar@stpeterscaversham.org.nz](mailto:AskTheVicar@stpeterscaversham.org.nz)

# THE CAVERSHAM LECTURES

Father Hugh Bowron—**Saint Peter's Parish Centre**



Monday 15 October, 2pm and again at 7.30pm

## Karl Rahner and the Concept of the Anonymous Christian

*Can Atheists, Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims be Implicit Christians?*

**K**arl Rahner was perhaps the most powerful speculative mind of 20th century catholic thought. He believed that God has planted his grace at the heart of every human life that has ever been, so that his presence is there, even if people are not aware of it. He was acutely aware that billions of human beings had existed before the time of Moses and Jesus – were they eternally lost, even though they had never had a chance to hear the Christian message? And what of the many, many people who now conscientiously follow the path of the major world religions? And as unbelief spread through western culture where did that leave idealistic atheists who worked for the betterment of humankind, or the many people left adrift in the religiously indifferentist

Atlanticist world where the Church and its message never reached?

Rahner believed he had a pastoral response to this that was saying a great deal more than just the superficial **"all good people go to heaven."** So great was God's desire to give himself completely to every human being that his grace could justify a person, could play out the drama of salvation in what he called an unthematic way, as each person responded to the ethical choices before them, and tried to reach up to the horizon of possibilities of their life. In fact human beings have a pre-apprehensive grasp of what God is about, even if they **don't put it into words and ideas,** and an inbuilt momentum to try and live out what God wants of them. So it might well be that apparent

unbelievers, who had no contact with the Church, might have an underground faith in Christ, played out in their secular context.

But where did this leave the significance of Christian mission and evangelism, what was the point of being a Christian, and what did Divine revelation amount to? Did loving your neighbour replace the need to love God? These were just the start of the controversial **questions raised by Rahner's "Anonymous Christian"** concept.

The paper will also say **something about Rahner's** life, the major influences on his theology, and some of his major enduring contributions to contemporary theology, apart from this topic. He is one of the most fascinating and interesting theologians of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. ■

Tuesday 14 December, 2pm and again at 7.30pm

## The Strange, Wonderful and Bleak Theological World of Rowan Williams



### Ask The Vestry

Questions about the secular life and fabric of the parish may be:

Posted to : Ask The Vestry,  
c/- The Vicarage, 57 Baker Street,  
Caversham,  
Dunedin, N.Z. 9012

Emailed to:

[AskTheVestry@stpeterscaversham.org.nz](mailto:AskTheVestry@stpeterscaversham.org.nz)

# A Meditation Method

By Rosemary Brown

This is not critical Bible study, but reading in a way leading to prayer. We use this as a group because being together is helpful, although we might not necessarily all use the same parts of the reading.

Here is one method we use in our Thursday group. It can be used individually.

**We use the coming Sunday's lessons to be found listed in the prior Sunday's Pebble.** If there is a large amount of text, by agreement only some is selected. (This is done before we start).

We begin by sitting still but comfortably, and quietening our minds - perhaps by becoming aware of sounds around us, then our breathing or our heartbeat. We **remember that we are in God's presence.**

Then one person reads aloud, and silence follows for a previously agreed time during which each person silently repeats in his/her mind again and again, the word or phrase that has caught attention. Preferably the words are familiar to us. The purpose is not to reflect on the words, **but to allow them to 'sink into our hearts'.**

In our group another person then reads the same passage again; when by yourself you may not need to do this. It is followed by a second period of silence to allow for

One way to use Scripture through Reading, Meditation, and Prayer as used by **Saint Peter's** meditation group.

the meaning, or questions we have, (not aloud of course in a group because we may not be using the same words)

- listening, waiting, letting the Holy Spirit lead our understanding
- and/or just staying in loving silence in **God's presence.**

We finish with a short period of silent thanksgiving and prayer for ourselves and each other for the coming week, followed by The Grace or a similar prayer.

We find this makes a good preparation for **the coming Sunday's readings.**

One example of this kind of method can be read in **Anthony de Mello's book 'Sadhana – A Way to God',** which is in our parish library – **Exercise 33: The "Benedictine" Method.**

**Visitors and new members are always welcome.**

If you would like information, please contact Rosemary Brown, the co-ordinator, on 03 489 6386 (before 9 pm please). ☑

the next stage. In this we reflect on the words and begin the prayer, either

- speaking to the Lord—

perhaps about

# Jennifer Fraser RIP

The 8am congregation lost a stalwart member last month with the death of Jennifer Fraser.



Born in Christchurch, Jennifer was educated and trained as a nurse there. She later trained in London as a midwife, and worked as a domiciliary midwife in the poorer areas around Notting Hill.

Back in New Zealand, she joined the New Zealand Army Nursing Corp and met and married Ken.

Joining the parish in 1981 marked the start of a 30 year involvement. She joined the AAW and was on the Committee for some years. She was also appointed to the Board of the Home of St Barnabas and enjoyed contributing to the running of the home. In more recent years she assisted with the flowers at church, meeting the challenge of finding a variety of flowers in her garden all year round.

**Jennifer was "a regular" in every sense.** The parish will miss her and extends condolences to her family. ☑

More online at



[www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz/In\\_Memorium/Jennifer\\_Fraser.html](http://www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz/In_Memorium/Jennifer_Fraser.html)

## Meetings . . . . .



1. In businesses around the world, it's fairly common to toss ideas around at a meeting to help stimulate creative and productive activity. But a Virginia Tech study revealed that "group settings can diminish expressions of intelligence, especially among women." Social feedback in settings ranging from jury deliberations to cocktail parties "had a significant effect" on the subjects' problem-solving abilities

Seen at [theage.com.au](http://theage.com.au) 12/9/12

2. Where minutes are saved and hours are wasted

Source unknown



# Art in the church

## 1: Earliest Impressions

By Pamela Welch



One of Saint Peter's stained glass windows—art in our church.

I have been doing free, ephemeral art with congregations, or groups from congregations, for almost forty years. In this account I am going to attempt to describe this work and to isolate and identify the people and influences which have shaped and inspired it.

Perhaps the most important of these lies in my Anglican heritage, and specifically in that of the Anglican High Church tradition, but I have only one memory of entering a church as a very small child. Though my parents were deeply devout, in the early years of my life they held aloof from the mainline church. My memory, however, is of an experience of sheer enchantment: - a little tin church under some trees in a dusty corner of Africa one evening and inside the church, shining, wonderful objects and joyful music. We must have attended a Christmas carol service when I was two or three and there must have been Christmas decorations there and perhaps a tree.

We began to attend church regularly when I was about nine or ten and had moved



The Reverend Dr Pamela Welch considers the interplay of art, worship and life.

elsewhere. The services were held, initially, in another small building but a new church was soon built, higher up the hill and it was large, with soaring ceilings and a spacious sanctuary and plenty of room for the drama of the liturgy to be expressed. A new Rector arrived too, an unlikely, shy Englishman but he was, like my parents, deeply devout. Celebrations in Central Africa are Eastward-facing, the priest with his back to the congregation, and after the consecration this man would step back and prostrate himself before the altar, his

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brilliant vestments spreading in a pool of sunlight on the floor. An extraordinary, heart-stopping, world-stopping moment and something I can see in my mind's eye even now.

We had wonderful liturgies for Holy Week and Easter but it is the Lighting of the New Fire on Holy Saturday I best remember, for I saw that ceremony for the first time there when I was perhaps thirteen or fourteen. The low brazier, a half forty-gallon drum, blazing and the Paschal Candle cradled in the priest's arms as the words were said and the nails, one for each of Christ's wounds, inserted: 'Alpha and Omega ... all time belongs to Him and all eternity'. Then the procession into the darkened church, led by the Paschal Candle lifted high, and a triumphant proclamation of light shed into the dark places of the world and the human heart. Additional excitement was always added to this ceremony by the fear that the priest's vestments would catch fire: but they never did. ■

Next: 60's Britain: from Chaucer to Godspell I

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# The Culinary Cleric

## Pastry as promised

By Father Geoff Hughes

**H**ello Everyone,  
In last month's inaugural offering I promised to offer you a couple of pastry recipes this month, so here we go.

Mind you, this seems pretty mundane to me as I'm sure just about every recipe book will contain exactly the same as what I am offering you, but a few people seem to think that I produce rather special pastry; if this is so I don't know why—so far as I know there is no particular mystique about it. I do use a food processor which is a help. Mike bought me my last one for my 75<sup>th</sup> birthday, and after twelve years of hard work it gave up the ghost just before my recent 87<sup>th</sup> celebration, so with a sigh of relief (it's difficult to know what to get old blokes for presents!) he has bought me another really swish model that I'm still learning to drive. Anyway, enough of my nonsense and let's get on with it.

### SHORT CRUST PASTRY

Sufficient for a good sized plate pie, top and bottom crust

#### Ingredients

- 375gms plain flour
- 180gms fat (90gms butter + 90gms lard; if you can't get lard use all butter)
- 75mls very cold water (Straight from the fridge)

#### Method

The main point seems to be to keep the ingredients as cold as possible. The butter and lard should be used straight from the fridge; don't let them warm up. Handle the ingredients as little as possible so body-heat doesn't warm them.

If using a processor put the flour in (if for savoury use a tsp of salt is a good idea, if for sweet things use a tsp of caster sugar instead).

Cut the fats into 5cm cubes...roughly, you don't need to use a ruler! Add to the flour. Activate the processor for a few seconds so the mixture resembles fine-ish breadcrumbs. While the processor is still turning add the iced water until the dough comes together in the bowl. Turn out onto lightly floured surface and knead briefly (keep it cold!). Wrap the pastry in clingfilm or greaseproof paper and put in the fridge for 30 minutes (it can stay longer, it won't matter). Then use as required.

Incidentally this quantity gives me enough pastry for 16 sweet mince pies.

If you don't own a food processor grate the cold fats into the flour in a bowl, then work together with your fingers. Try and keep your hands as cold as possible!

### ROUGH PUFF PASTRY

Suitable for good sized plate pie

#### Ingredients

- 2 cups plain flour
- 1 and a half tsp baking powder
- 187gms cold butter
- 3 eighths of a cup of milk
- 1 and a half tsp wine vinegar

#### Method

Mix flour and baking powder. Process diced butter very briefly in mixer, just enough to cut it into the flour. It is important that pieces of butter are discernible in the pastry when you roll it out. Tip flour/butter mixture into a mixing bowl. Mix liquids and add slowly to the flour mixture (use a wooden spoon or spatula to mix rather than your warm hands). Mix to make a stiff dough then roll out and use as required. A good idea is to put the pie in the fridge for half an hour before baking.

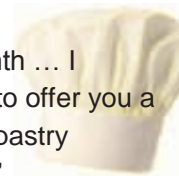
Temperature for baking should be 200 degrees Celsius for about 30 minutes -

use your discretion. It will depend a bit upon how your oven behaves.

Incidentally tops of pies should be brushed with beaten egg if you want a glazed finish. Pastry leaves etc.: should adorn only meat or savoury pies. Sweet pies can have a scattering of caster sugar instead. Don't forget to cut a vent in the middle of your pie to let the steam out.

I feel I've been telling my granny how to suck eggs! But if you've got something out of this....good-oh! 📧

"..last month ... I promised to offer you a couple of pastry recipes ..."



## Website extended

The parish website has been extended recently with the addition of a *Friends of Saint*

*Peter's* page and a search facility.



### Friends of Saint Peter's

This new page recognises organisations which are especially helpful to the parish. At present there is a link on the Home Page and the webmaster is keen to hear from parishioners of any other organisations they think should be included.

### Search tool

This facility—found on the Home Page menu—allows you to perform a "Google-like" search of the Saint Peter's website. As the volume of material on the site grows, it is becoming more difficult to find something you know is there—somewhere! The search tool eases that problem.

The search is restricted to public areas of the site, so will not find material in the Parishioners' or Vestrymembers' secure pages. 📧



# Fellowship hosts nurse

By Gwen Hudson

## Last month

The August meeting took the form of a Potluck dinner followed by a guest speaker.

As usual the meal was delicious, with much conversation as members shared their life happenings.



Members enjoy Barbara Turnbull's presentation .

The guest speaker, Barbara Turnbull, an International Red Cross Nurse, is home after a year's service in Kandahar in Afghanistan, her third assignment there. Barbara told us not only the sad stories, but many of the good stories which still happen in war-torn Afghanistan. Conditions at the hospital she worked in were not good, with insufficient equipment or space. However with ongoing training the work and treatment at the hospital is improving.

Nursing staff education has been Barbara's main role.

Along with all the other International Red Cross workers, she lived in a compound where full board and keep were provided. One of the draw-backs was that they could not go outside the boundaries unless in a vehicle and under armed escort, and only to the hospital. The noise of gunshots, helicopters overhead and bombs going off was part of daily life.

Barbara showed us the many gifts of exuberantly coloured clothing she had been given as gifts.

Generous donations by those present plus a top-up from funds was greatly appreciated by Barbara and we have received a lovely note telling us that the money has gone to further the good works of the International Red Cross in places of need.

## This month

The next meeting is at Pier 24 for coffee and cake on the 25th of September at 7pm. ☑



Red Cross nurse Barbara Turnbull displays one of her leaving gifts, an Afghani wedding dress, while speaking with Saint Peter's Fellowship last month.

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"Buildings are only brick and mortar;  
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service to families"

Alan Gillion

GFS Gillions  
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See more photo's online at

[www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz/Photo Gallery/  
Fellowship\\_21\\_August\\_2012.html](http://www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz/Photo Gallery/Fellowship_21_August_2012.html)

## Lunch for Friendship Group

By Gay Webb

The Friendship Group had a pleasant informal meeting in September - we meet for lunch at 12:15pm at the Home of St Barnabas on Tuesday, 9 October. The 11am Eucharist will be held for those who wish to attend.

Contact: Gay Webb on 476 1613.

## Regular Services

*please consult the calendar or our website for variations*

*All services are held at Saint Peter's unless noted otherwise*

SUNDAY:	8am	Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer
	10.30am	Solemn Eucharist
TUESDAY:	11am	<b>Eucharist in the Chapel of St Barnabas' Home,</b> Ings Avenue
THURSDAY:	10am	Eucharist
FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH:	11am	Eucharist in the lounge of Frances Hodgkins Retirement Village, Fenton Crescent

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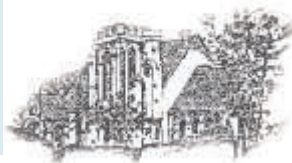
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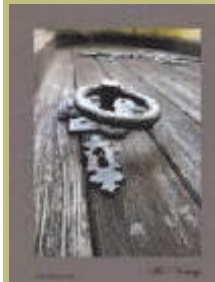
## Special Services



Contact The Vicar to arrange baptisms, weddings, house blessings, burials, confessions and other special services.



## Vestry In Brief



At the August meeting of Vestry, the following items were of note:

- ⇒ We have received the expected letter from the DCC regarding earthquake vulnerability and are arranging for an engineer to inspect the church
- ⇒ The potluck dinner for St. Kilda parishioners, held at Tubby's house, was enjoyed by all
- ⇒ Father Hugh will be on retreat at a Cistercian monastery following synod
- ⇒ The transition of our financial affairs from the diocesan office to Danielle is well under way
- ⇒ The diocesan levy for this year is quite small compared to previous years
- ⇒ David Hoskins has taken over hall bookings and is visiting groups to assess their needs
- ⇒ Probus will be allowed to install a public address system in the hall, which will be available to other hall users
- ⇒ A Book of the Gospels is to be purchased for use at the 10.30 am service
- ⇒ The raffle was drawn: winner of first prize was Joan Graham; second prize, Nancy Scurr; third prize, Karen Merillees.

Heather Brooks (Vestry Secretary)

## For your diary

- Tuesday, 25 September: Fellowship Coffee and Cake at Pier 24 at 7pm. See pg. 6.
- Tuesday, 9 October: Friendship Group lunch at St Barnabas at 12:15pm. See pg 6.
- Weekend, 13-14 October: 150th anniversary of Anglicanism in North Otago. See The Pebble of 16 September.
- Monday, 15 October: Caversham Lecture—"Karl Rahner"—see pg. 2.
- Tuesday, 14 December: Caversham Lecture—"Rowan Williams"—see pg. 2.
- Monday, 31 December: **Watchnight Service at 10:30pm followed by New Year's Eve social gathering.** See The Pebble of 9 September.



# Refurbishment for Parish Centre

**S**aint Peter's Parish Centre is agreed by many to be showing its age and the first stage of a refurbishment project is under way,

Vestry member Kate Paterson, who is co-ordinating the project, says the plan is to redecorate ceilings and walls in the lounge, hall, foyer and rest rooms. Total cost is expected to be \$5,500.00 which is to be raised specifically for the project, so there is no call upon parish operating funds.

A total of \$2,001.00 has been raised so far as a result of the Winter Warmers concert (\$1,315) and a recent raffle(\$686).

Ideas suggested for further fund raising include a Bus Trip, a Quiz



Part of Saint Peter's Parish Centre, which is to be redecorated.

Night, and contacting various 'artists' within the parish to see if we can get some artwork to auction.

Kate says she would welcome any more ideas though, and also some action. Anyone with an idea for helping to raise the remaining **\$3,500 "should know that they are able to organise their own fundraisers and not just rely on me"** she says. There is some urgency, as it is not reasonable to expect the price we have been given to be held

indefinitely.

## You can help

So, if you have a pleasure launch on the harbour, why not take a group for a watery picnic; if you have horses, perhaps people would like to spend an afternoon with you—and the horses; if you enjoy sports or indoor games, why not get together a group for competition.

Helping to raise funds need not be only a chore, it can also be an excuse to do more of the things you like doing. 📺

## Synod

*(Continued from page 1)*

liberals from All Saints Dunedin. There is the hopeful prospect now of a more effective and energised group to drive through the Diocesan reorganisation.

Dr Tony Fitchett, doyen of the Dunedin Synod, was farewelled. His intimate knowledge of meeting procedure and canon law will be missed.

## Refreshing contrast

As a first time participant in the Dunedin Synod I noticed its more leisurely approach than others, taking the more old fashioned all weekend 15 hours of business model, with speakers allowed the luxury of 10 minutes to present motions, and all other speakers 5 minutes. This was a refreshing contrast to the pressured, scrunched up one-day affairs that other Diocesan Synods have become. However, the Bishop believes the new streamlined, smaller, strictly business **Synod shouldn't require such a generous time allocation.** 📺



Parishioners enjoying themselves at Father Hugh's 60th Birthday party