

The Messenger

May 2022



Monthly magazine of St Peter's Terrace End

Website: <http://www.stpeterspn.org.nz>

ST PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Messenger Editors

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Weekly Events for May

--NOTE--all depend on COVID status

Sundays

8am Holy Communion

10am Eucharist

10am Children's Church

Monday 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 May:

12.00pm: Silent prayer in the Lady Chapel.

Monday 2 May:

11.00am Seeking the Light.

Tuesday 3 May:

12.15pm Lunchtime Concert: SYLO choir with double bass & piano

Wednesday 4 May:

11.30am AAW

Saturday 7 May:

2.30pm Renaissance Singers Concert – Mozart's Requiem, Vaughan Williams songs and organ solos by Jonathan Berkahn

Wednesday 11 May:

11.30am Communion and Luscious Lunch

Saturday 14 May:

11.00am – 2pm Parish Fair

Wednesday 25 May:

7.15pm Vestry.

Saturday 28 May:

9.00am Diocese Training Day Palmerston North

Note from the Editors: any articles not attributed to anyone are written by the editors. Contributions from parishioners will be warmly welcomed – subject to possible editing!

“My friend Judas?”

The other day a friend sent me this item from John Inge, Bishop of Worcester: *Adult to group of children: “What do you think Jesus was doing while he was in hell for three days?” Child, after long pause: “I think he was looking everywhere for his friend Judas.”*

One could immediately leap into all manner of deep theological discussions about such things as what we understand about hell, where and how the spirit of Jesus spent the days his body was in the tomb, and whether Judas was capable of redemption or not, and so on. They are all good questions; but I don't think they go to the understanding of the child nor the intention of the bishop. And these kinds of questions don't lie behind my intention in sharing the piece.

For me the meaning and power of the child's view lies in the understanding that at the heart of the ministry and message of Jesus was the work of reconciliation: God wants people to be reconciled to him and to one another, and in the person and work of Jesus gave his all to that end. It is an expression of the extravagant love of God, way beyond our deserving. It is the love articulated, for example, in Jesus telling the Parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15:11-32 (which, as I observed in a recent sermon, might be better described as the Parable of the Running Father). In Jesus' suffering and death on the cross, God was at work restoring relationships. This is what the child's answer in Inge's piece conveys.

The account of the resurrection of Jesus makes it clear that this is our work too; restoring relationships is what the church is commissioned and equipped for.

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you!’ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, ‘Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.’ And with that he breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.’ (John 20:19-23).

We know from experience that the work of restoring relationships, of forgiving and being forgiven, can often be very hard. We do not know what, if anything, might ultimately have been transacted between Jesus and Judas. But the principle at work here – and which I hope might inspire our own continued striving in this – is illustrated in another of the narratives of the suffering and resurrection of Jesus. Recall that Peter was the bold disciple who, despite declaring that he would never fall away (Mark 14:27-31), had gone on to disown Jesus three times. In John 21 we read that the risen Lord appeared to Peter and his companions out fishing. In verses 15-19 we read of how the risen Jesus then engaged in an act of forgiving Peter this dreadful denial.

After his resurrection, Jesus stood among his disciples and said “Peace be with you”. In these times when thoughts and acts of hatred, ranging from international to personal in scope, seem to be growing in prevalence, may we be people of peace working for reconciliation. That, after all, is what Christ has done for us.

Stuart Goodin

From the Parish Register

No Baptisms or Marriages were recorded during April
Funeral: Ivan Bruce Carruthers 7th April 2022.



Easter Morning in a Photo

This photograph was taken at 6.30am on Easter morning. Our church (and the world) is dark with the death of Christ on the Cross. But as daylight dawns on Easter morning, there in the east window of the church is the figure of Christ risen from the dead with His Hand reaching up to bless us.

Deacon's Dismissal: Sharing God in the Workplace

By the time this edition of Messenger is published the Easter season will largely be over. As Holy Week approached this year I reflected on Easter in 2020. By March COVID 19 had definitely arrived and we were in Level Four lock-down. Holy Week and the Easter church services were on-line. Didn't it feel so strange?

I thought about how life has changed since early 2020. We do things differently now. We look at life differently too. How have our priorities changed? What was important to us may well have changed too. The city remains quiet. People are not out and about, except for the essentials. No idle window shopping or wandering around the Plaza. Cafes and restaurants are not being patronised.

Every week we are grateful that we can gather at church. We are grateful for our faith and our family that makes up our faith community. We are mindful of those who are not able to join with us. We even give thanks for the opportunity of connection by Zoom.

We keep connected with God and with each other. We read and reflect on the Bible readings and their impact on our lives and this pandemic situation. And we pray: we give thanks for the blessings bestowed on us and we pray for the safety of others. There are many areas of the country and indeed the world that need our prayers.

People are struggling. Some of them are people who have not known struggle before. Many who have difficulty meeting their own, their family's basic daily needs. There are those who have physical, mental, social health, housing, and financial challenges. Some are fearful, anxious, lonely, feel unwanted or judged.

I try to do the sensible things: wear a mask, wash hands, avoid tightly packed crowd situations and the like. I tell people that I control the things that I have control of and I don't worry about the aspects I cannot control. Overall, I leave it all up to God, it is in his hands. Where there is faith in God, there is trust, hope and love.

When life does return to a 'more normal' one, it will still be different to what we once knew. How has our faith in God changed or our relationship deepened, what have we learned about ourselves and how does that make us different now?

Faye

Lunchtime Concert – 5 April

What a treat this month's Tuesday concert was. We were entertained by the Richwood Reiss Jazz Duo. Fabulous music - the sort that makes you just want to shut your eyes and soak it all in! But you can't do that, because then you would miss seeing the concentration, and the absolute pure delight that showed on their faces, in their body language! Their obvious enjoyment was shared by the small but appreciative audience. We hope that we will see more of them in the future.

Finnzarby Richwood is a jazz pianist hailing from Christchurch, and a regular in the music scene there since completing his Bachelor in Music Arts. He has recently moved to the 06 and is keen to get into some playing.

Berndt Reiss (pronounced Rice) is a retired engineer from Germany. He moved to Palmerston North in 2020 and spends a lot of his time playing double bass and electric bass in various jazz bands here.

The programme was:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Stella by Starlight</i> | – Victor Young |
| <i>My Funny Valentine</i> | – Richard Rodgers |
| <i>I'll Be Seeing You</i> | – Sammy Fain |
| <i>Days of Wine and Roses</i> | – Henry Mancini |
| <i>Billie's Bounce</i> | – Charlie Parker |

Christine Archer-Lockwood spoke to the audience about the SYLO choir which she directs. We plan for this choir to entertain us on Tuesday May 3rd.

Bev Proctor



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May 12 is International Nurses Day

This date marks the birth date of Florence Nightingale, and you will have heard me speak of the date and of Florence often over the years. I wondered what I might write about this year by way of a celebration. I have chosen something that is very local, about someone you may even know. She became *a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to Oncology nursing* in the New Years honours this year. I worked with this person in the Oncology unit in the 1990s prior to her gaining her present role. Cheryl MacDonald is the Clinical Nurse Specialist for Breast Care at MidCentral Health. She has supported hundreds of women through their diagnosis and treatment for breast cancer.

MacDonald described herself as “the gel” that helped a team of health professionals work together to design the best care for each individual patient, and kept the woman, or sometimes the man, informed and at the centre. Originally training as an enrolled nurse, MacDonald graduated as a registered nurse from Manawatū Polytechnic in 1990, adding a master’s degree in 2016. As soon as she started work in oncology, she knew she had found her place. Both of her parents had cancer, and she said she wanted to treat all of her patients as if they were family.

One of the challenges she saw was how unprepared patients were for the raft of decisions they had to make based on advice about the best treatment regime for them. “For a lot of women, surgery is the easy part. People would be quite devastated, realising there are so many more decisions”. Depending on the type and stage of cancer, the options for treatment included surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy and hormone therapy, not necessarily in that order.

Cheryl walks alongside patients from diagnosis, around the hospital, through wards and theatre, and in a minority of cases, through palliative care. “They are never discharged from my care. They can call me ten years later if they have a question. I remember them all.” She said follow-up surveillance was also an important aspect, and she was proud to have been part of ensuring care for lymphodema, a frequent complication if armpit nodes were removed, now received funding.

(From an article published in the Manawatu Standard on 31/12/2021).

Rev Faye Davenport RN

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The Easter Journey – From Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday





The countdown is on!

Autumn Fair

"Food for Lunch"

14th May 11 am to 2 pm

The theme this year is "Food for Lunch" including lasagne, chicken and mushroom vol au vents and our legendary sausage sizzle.

Stalls

Raffles

(no Grocery Raffle this time)

Cakes & Cookies

Pete's Pantry

(jams, jellies and pickles)

Books

Trash & Treasures

(White Elephant)

Collectibles

Accessories

(scarves, belts, bags, jewellery)

Craft

What can I contribute?

The cake stall is always sold out! Cakes sell best but cookies and slices are most welcome. Otherwise, whatever fits under the stall headings above.

Where to bring your contributions?

General: please bring these to the Parish Office. If items are too big, please contact Yvonne on 358 3962.

Cake and cookies: please bring these to the hall on Friday 13th May.

Women's Retreat

On Saturday 26th March, nine women got together to have some quiet time with God. Our theme was on Hope. After arriving at Barbara Cole's place, we spent some time looking at 1 Peter 1:3-7:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. By whose great mercy we have been born anew. Born to a living hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, born to an inheritance which will never perish or wither away one that is kept in heaven for us. By God's power we are guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed at the end of time. We rejoice in this, though now we suffer various trials so that the genuineness of our faith, more precious than gold that is tested by fire, may result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ".

What was it about this piece that could give us hope, what was God trying to tell us? We took these words and our paper and pen and went for a wander through Barbara's beautiful garden. Some of us sat and prayed; others wandered around looking at nature. The afternoon's piece was a poem called Vision by Joy Cowley:

*"Two people watched the same sunset,
One said "at times like this I am afraid.
The sky is so vast, the sea so immense.
In comparison, I'm a speck of dust,
here today gone tomorrow.
When I look at the hugeness of creation,
I feel my insignificance
and wonder what my life is all about".
The second person said:
"What a glorious sunset!
Just think!
I am the reason that this exists,
I am the only proof I have
of all the beauty in this world,
Without the gift of my life,
the gift of my senses,
all this would be as nothing.
I praise God that the universe is held
in the wonder of my being".*

Also, we were given the chance to decorate a jar so that others could write something encouraging to us on a slip of paper and drop it in our jar. The day finished with Communion at 3pm. I should say that at this point no-one wanted to go home.

I would like to thank Barbara for her generous hospitality.

Christine

And during the Retreat day, Joyanne Hughes penned the following during one of the garden walks:

*God's creations are built on HOPE
We listen, we breathe, we strive with hunger,
To speak, to act, to learn how to cope.
But we read, we teach, we respond with anger,
Instead of feeling God's calm: & quoting by rote.
Time to open our eyes and be aware of the danger
Shake off the cobwebs and stop seeing life as a joke.
Everything around us is full of wonder!
God is Our Maker, Our Teacher, Our HOPE.*

Reminiscences of ANZAC

Our house was very close to the town clock which was also the war memorial and my girlfriend and I would go every ANZAC day to watch proceedings, enjoy the band and the marching. One year, we saw the council men coming to take away the old dead wreaths some weeks later and dashed over to get the padded circles under the flowers. The following year, we made our own wreaths using flowers from our gardens and put them on the memorial after the other people had left. They were quite good really and made with feeling.

But ANZAC day was closer than that to me. My uncle was killed at Gallipoli and my Dad (who was nearly 50 when I was born) left his reserved occupation in Public Works and joined up. It took nearly a year before he was sent overseas. But there was a reminder of his war service. All his life he had a dent in the top of his head where he was blown sky high and presumably landed back on a rock. I was always intrigued by this and would trace the outline through his bald spot. This injury got him a spell in England in hospital, Bournemouth I remember him telling me. However, he went back to the front and his official discharge is dated 21st July 1919 having served 3 years 5 months.

Of course I never knew my uncle Cecil. But I have his obituary, his war record and most importantly his Bible which I gather was about all that was eventually sent home. Dad gave it to me so I would remember his older brother.

Remembrance Day, the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month was very special to Dad. He would stop what he was doing as soon as he heard the clock strike when he was home. I still have a mental picture of him in the vegetable garden with his gardening hat at his feet where he had dropped it, both hands on the handle of his spade and his head bowed in remembrance. Hearing the Last Post from the war memorial down the road on ANZAC would also cause him to pause. As Dad used to say, ANZAC day was always in his heart as it is in mine.

Vestry Vibes

The March meeting of vestry took place on 30th of the month by Zoom. The reflection and prayer were centred on John 10: 11-21. The teaching moment was Drama and Empowerment Triangles with slides to be circulated by the vicar.

- A letter was received from the Bishops re vaccine mandates being removed, but masks and sanitising hands remains. Also communion in one kind and non-physical sharing of the peace remain

- Parish site safety plans have been completed with the Diocese Risk Manager.

- Health and safety issues need to be included in forms for hirers of our premises

- Application for a grant has been made to the Olive Tree Trust to dismantle the chimney which causes strange angles in the vicarage kitchen

- Increases have been made in facility hire rates without objections

- A quote has been received for the replacement heat pump in the office

- The Treasurer reported that the accounts for 2021 are ready for the AGM and have been through the Diocese audit process

- It was agreed that the AGM be delayed until 29th May

- AAW has accepted the contract for producing lunch for the Diocesan Leadership Day in May

- It was agreed that the listed names of deceased parishioners or those who have permanently left the parish should be removed from the parish roll.

The next meeting will be on 27th April 2022 by Zoom

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AAW

The next AAW meeting is on 4th May. This is an important meeting as it is also the AGM.

The meeting will commence with Eucharist at 10.30 followed by morning tea and the AGM.

For further information please contact Githa at 357 3859.

Parish AGM 2022

The AGM was to have been held on 24 April. The rise in the Omicron variant and uncertainty as to what that would do in terms of our ability to gather and level of attendance led to the Diocesan Council making provision for parishes to delay their AGMs beyond the canonical 31 April cut-off. After discussion, Vestry resolved to delay our AGM to 29 May.

Notice is thereby given that the AGM will be held on **Sunday 29 May** following the 10am Service

Nominations are required for People's Warden, Synod representatives, and Vestry members.

Nomination papers are available at the church and from the office. Nominations must be received at the office by noon on Thursday 19 May, so that they can be published that weekend.

Written notice of any items of general business (with a brief description of the issue) must also be received at the office by noon on Thursday 19 May.



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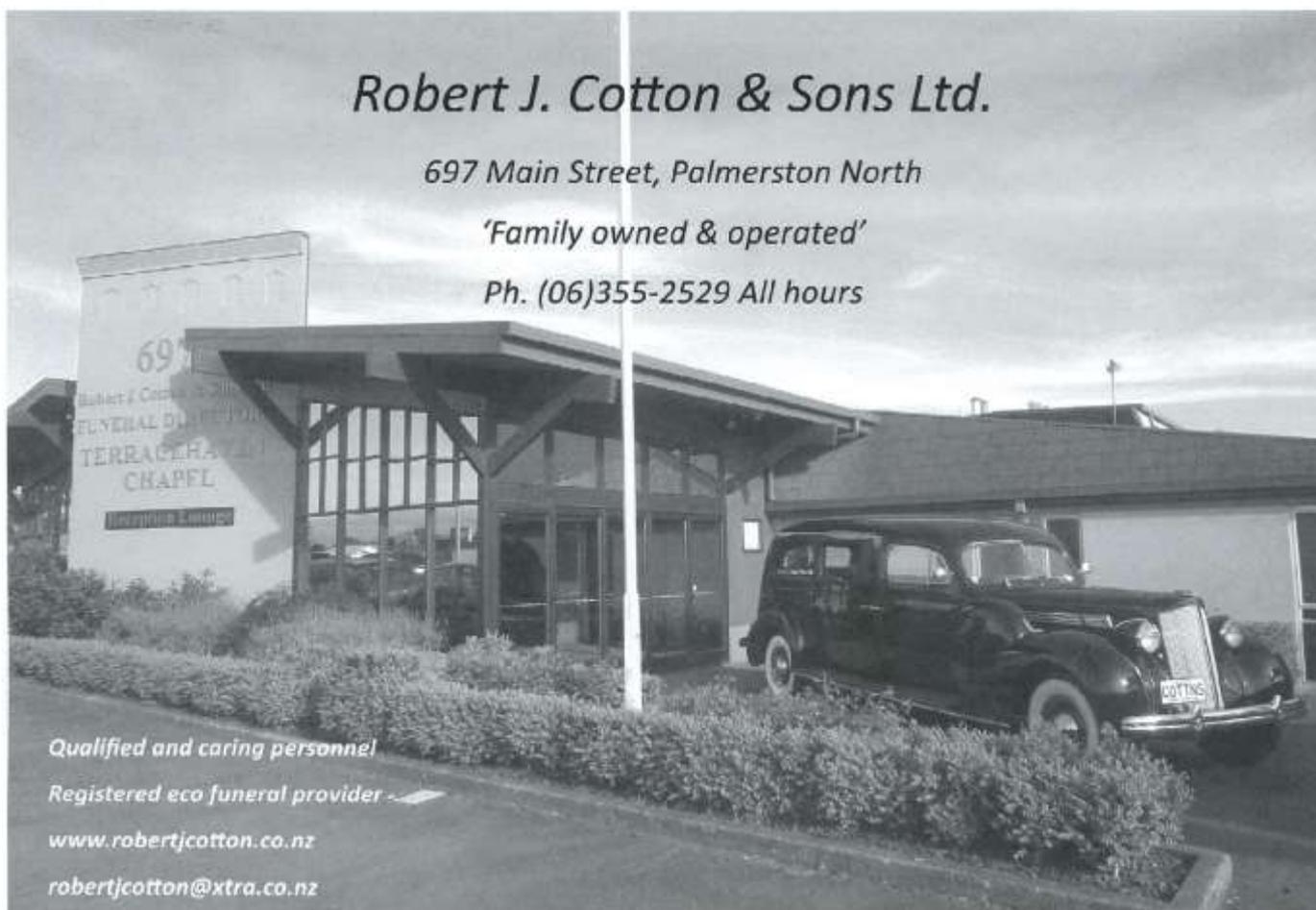
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