Worship Details

St. Peter's Church

8 am - Holy Communion 9.30 am - Holy Communion

St. Luke's Church

9.30 am Holy Communion

Readings:

Genesis 9.8-17; Psalm 130 1 Peter 3.18-22; Mark 1.9-15

Sentence:

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness. (Psalm 103.8)

Collect:

God of the desert, you lead us by day and by night: be with us when we are tested, that it may be your bread we eat, your world we serve, and you alone we worship; through Christ we ask it. Amen.

Next Week's Readings

Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16 Psalm 130 Romans 4.13-25 Mark 9.2-9

Prayer Focus - Please Pray....

* Give thanks for the refurbished hall.

* For the families that have recently lost a loved one -Barbara & Bill Fleming's son-in-law, Darren Faithful; Bob Shearing's father, Arthur Shearing. James Allison.

- * For those known to us who are sick, especially Craig.* For our Lenten Study Groups.
- * For Riccarton Primary and Middleton Grange
- * For the proposed Christian pre-school.
- * For the generous support of all towards our Restoration Fund.
- * For Diocesan Special Synod 3 March

Mission News

It was good to hear Simon Tipping's presentation about the Hornsby Pacific Education Trust. The students and teachers at St. Andrews are grateful for the fees donated for sponsorship of their students. The school is making wonderful progress

The total raised at our February stall is now \$1,105 which will enable our Mission Table to support four students for this year. Thank you for your wonderful support.Irene.

Sermons are on the web





To the Anglican Parish of Upper Riccarton-Yaldhurst

St. Peter's & St. Luke's Churches

18 February 2018 Lent I

From Our Vicar, Nick

This week we begin Lent. Lent began as the time of encouraging those about to be baptised at Easter. Like so much in our tradition what began as encouragement can



tradition what began as encouragement can easily slip into discouragement. Notice the word the tempter uses to try and derail Jesus in the desert. "If" you are the Son of God. Luke 4 1-9. To cast doubt as to Jesus' true identity this is the way of temptation. Whereas the words God says to Jesus are so very positive. Mark 1:11 "You are my beloved Son. With you I am well pleased."

As you approach Lent this year which voice are you going to listen to?

All of creation and each of us have received original blessing. Yet we have been conditioned to focus on the negative in ourselves and others. Think of a negative phrase you have said aloud or thought to yourself that stems from a sense of shame rather than your inherent dignity.

Turn it upside down and say, in first person, present tense, an affirmation of your God-given value. For example: I am unlovable. . . . I am infinitely loved.

I don't have enough. . . . I have everything I need. I am stupid. . . . I have the mind of Christ.

I am worthless. . . . I am precious in God's eyes, I am honoured, and God loves me.

Repeat the positive statement aloud, slowly, with intention and trust, several times. Then rest silently in the awareness that you are already and forever, without any effort or achievement on your part, a beloved and blessed child of God.

This is the Lenten journey in a nut shell, so listen to the voice of God. Let's fast from listening to the other voices.

I'm grateful to Richard Rohr for some of this.

....Nick

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News in the Parish

Thank you from Simon and Di Ballantyne: Simon writes, "Your support and good wishes expressed last Sunday at my retirement from active priestly ministry was totally unexpected and sincerely appreciated. As a family we felt deeply honoured and will always cherish the memory of the occasion. Thank you one and all. Special thanks too for Graeme Cox's Facebook coverage."

Garage Sale - 17 March, 9 am

Keep the goods coming in and please book this date in your diary. *Contacts Gwen 357.4202; Bobbity 348.8625.*

Race Day - Riccarton Park

A combined Race day with Rotary Club of Riccarton to be held Saturday 24 March. Private Box, entry, Race book and meal in Balmerino Room. \$35. Make up a party. *See Corin Murfitt if you are interested. Ph. 348.8625.*

Parish AGM - Sunday 29 April, 11 am.

Would the Convenors of all groups please have their reports into the office by Wednesday 28th March at the latest. Thank you.*Pamela*

Confirmation Classes

Please speak to the Vicar if you are interested in attending the confirmation classes to be held shortly on a Sunday, after church, in the Vicarage.

Restoration Fundraising

Work has continued over the holidays and into the new year with some specific outcomes:

1) The money we have raised so far allows us to proceed to detailed design building consent stage with the intention of commencing building later this year.

2) Lion Foundation has generously given \$7,500 towards the project.

3) The blocks and stones scheme continues to bring in donations of \$500, \$1000 and larger amounts.

4) Plans are being made to print an envelope specifically for regular giving to the project (a number of existing envelope givers already allocate part of their offering to this project each week).

5) Plans are being made for Archbishop Sir David Moxon, recently Anglican Representative to the Vatican, to speak at a fund-raising event.

6) The 160th anniversary of St. Peter's at Easter this year will be celebrated as a further step along the path to restoration.

7) Sincere thanks go to those whose generous support moves us ever closer to the goal.

and ...

Pens and cards still for sale - call at the office for these. If you wish to purchase a stone - \$1,000; or block - \$500, please see David Winfield, or Pamela at the office.

Lost ... A very large turned wooden bowl has been misplaced - it was a prize in the recent restoration raffle and was made of wood from the felled trees in the graveyard. Please phone the office if you have seen it around.

Easter Gateway Magazine closing date - 7 March.

Home Study Groups

There are three studies during Lent - Sunday and Tuesday evenings at 7.30 pm and Wednesdays after Holy Communion. Lists are on the table for you to state which study you wish to attend. For Sundays and Tuesdays the study is entitled "Hope" Through Lent with Romans - prepared by Kelvin Wright and Peter Carrell. The books are available from the office for \$8 each. The Study on a Wednesday at 11 am is on "The Eucharist".

Vestry snippets from meeting held on 24 January

Vestry to have a quiet afternoon at Yaldhurst school 11 March.

This year the 160th celebration of the Parish at Easter. Social Committee to help organise special lunch Ethan Wilson-Bruce was appointed youth worker, orchestra leader and verger.

Yaeko McLister appointed cleaner Recent major donations for restoration, Environment and Heritage Lotto \$800,000, CCC \$150,000, Rata Foundation \$100,000.

Contributions from parishioners year to date 132,765, budget \$132,000, for December 2017 giving \$12,347.

This Week's Diary

Monday 19 February

Walking Group - 1.30 pm, Fendalton Park. **Tuesday 20 February** Morning Prayer - 9 am, York Room. Staff Meeting - 9.30 am York Room. Exercise Class - 9.30 am, Parish Hall. Mainly Music - 11 am, Parish Hall. Maples Service - 11 am. Create With Fibre - 1 pm Parish Hall. Mayfair Service - 3 pm. Wednesday 21 February Morning Prayer - 9 am, York Room. Holy Communion - 10 am. **Thursday 22 February** Morning Prayer - 9 am, York Room. Walking Group - 9.30 am, St. James' Park. Coffee & Chat - 10 am, York Room. Care Bears - 7 pm, York Room. Choir - 7.30 pm, Parish Hall.

Friday 23 February

Morning Prayer - 9 am, York Room. English Conversation Class - 3.45 pm Bowden Hall. Youth Orchestra - 6 pm, Bowden Hall.

Youth Group - 7 pm, Bowden Hall.

Saturday 24 February Servers Training - 2 pm, Parish Hall. Sunday 25 February Family Service - 11 am.

Found in the hall a lady's cream trench coat, please collect it from the office.

The Great Stash Swap -Bring along unwanted fabric, haberdashery, craft supplies, buttons, wool, zips, lace, trim etc etcand choose what you want to take away. No Cash. Today, Sunday 18 March, 11 am - 3 pm, Upper Riccarton Library.

