

# The Clarion

Holy Trinity Church, Invercargill.

Newsletter - Summer 2016/17



## Max Ordained



*Bishop Kelvin flanked by newly ordained Priest Rev'd Dr Max Whitaker and Rev'd Liz Cheyne, Priest in Charge at Holy Trinity.*

If you didn't make it to the Ordination Service on Friday 4 November you missed a great event.

Family, friends, parishioners and a number of Clergy from throughout the Diocese filled the church to support Max. The choice of hymns and chants including the 'Litany of Saints' gave this service a real Anglo-Catholic flavour. The Litany of Saints was lead by Rev'd Michael Wallace, Vicar of All Saints, Dunedin and his wife Julianne, while son Ewen sung the 'Gloria'.

We were all supported in our singing by our own organist, Gilbert Murphy and guest organist Johnny Mottersherad from Dunedin. Between Gilbert and Johnny our organ had one of the best workouts it has had in a long while.

## Summer Time Taizé



Traditionally Taizé is all about candle light, however a change in seasons and daylight saving has changed the look of our night service; now we begin in a Church bathed in sunlight, and gradually see the shadows grow as dusk falls.

The prayer, the chants, and the times of silent contemplation take on a different feel ... but one which is just magical.

Taizé services are held at 7.00pm on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. The last one for this year will be on 11 December. The first service in 2017 will be 12 February.

## Christmas and January Services

Celebrate Christmas with us on Christmas Eve with Carol Singing from **11.15pm**, the Christmas Eucharist at **11.30pm** and the Christmas Day Eucharist at **9.30am**.

There will be a Eucharist Service at 9.30am each Sunday during January, but there will be no Wednesday Services, apart from Wednesday, 11 January when we shall be car-pooling for a trip to Leah Boniface's home in Riverton for an Epiphany Eucharist. Further details to come.

## Warden's Report

The season of Advent, as we prepare for and celebrate the coming of Christ, is a good time to reflect on the life of the parish during this past quarter.

Synod was held in Invercargill in September, and the opening service on Friday evening, and the meal which preceded it were at Holy Trinity. A hospitable gathering to open any event helps ensure its success. The first service at Synod is both a welcoming celebration and a reflective start to the business of the weekend. The leadership and organisational skills of Jean and Liz for these events were appreciated. Jean received a bouquet of flowers to acknowledge the work she had done in assisting the organisation of Synod.

Rev'd Liz Cheyne leads our ministry team which continues to plan worship with a balance of regular and special services to mark significant events. There have been two special events for our curate Max. He graduated from the University of Otago with his doctorate – a culmination of several years study focussing on the new testament. On Friday 4 November Rev'd Dr Max Whitaker was ordained to the order of priest by the Bishop of Dunedin. We were delighted that this service was held at Holy Trinity, so that, as a parish, we could join Max, Audrey and their family and friends in sharing and celebrating this special occasion.

Max's contract with the parish as half time curate ends in February, with a consideration of renewal for another year. Vestry believes Max's contribution to the parish has been very valuable and is negotiating with the Diocese to continue the contract for a further year.

Our Bazaar on the first Saturday in October was a chance for parishioners to contribute their pre-loved books and goods, and the results of their baking, cooking and gardening talents to raise funds for the parish. It is always an opportunity to catch up with friends, and we have regular customers from across Invercargill who come to buy goods each year. Special thanks to Cheryl Casey who as Bazaar convenor is an inspiration to us all as she shares her enthusiasm, new ideas and makes a huge contribution to the garden stall.

Her plants provide vegetables for many families, and her flowers beauty in many gardens. A jar of one of the amazing variety of Trinity Treats makes a practical and delicious gift at any time of the year.

Each of our parishioners makes a valuable contribution to our parish life – thank you for continuing to share your time and talents. Our parish seeks to show Christian love in our community. We welcome visitors and encourage you to invite friends or neighbours to join us at our services, meetings and celebrations.

May the blessings of this Advent season touch your lives and the lives of those whom you love.

**Janice Burton**

*People's Warden*

**Jean McEwan**

*Priest in Charge's Warden*

## Green Scene

It has been a year of monthly meets with numbers from 12 to 20 attending. We have visited various city cafés for coffee and nibbles and all have enjoyed the get-togethers. During the year we welcomed Max to the group. To top off a successful year, 18 of us went to Ocean Seafood Restaurant for lunch on Wednesday, 4 November which was well received, and we were joined by Guus, Bob, Audrey and Max. Great to have you all. This was a pleasant way to end a very happy year.

We will resume in February next year and I look forward to this. If you wish to join us, please contact me, 217 8429. Have a very happy and blessed Festive Season.

**Bev Barton, Green Scene Organiser**

## South Centre Christmas

South Centre children's Christmas party is on 20 December, for preschool and primary age children. If you would like to donate a gift (\$15 max) it can be put into the South Centre basket until Sunday 11 December. Please do not wrap them up, as smaller gifts can be grouped together to the approximate value. Monetary donations are also welcome.



## Holy Baptism: A refresher course

Within the Anglican Church, it is acknowledged that there are two Sacraments given by the Lord Jesus Christ. These are Holy Baptism and the Holy Eucharist.

Whereas we gather together regularly to share communion with one another in the Holy Eucharist, Baptism is a once in a life time event. It is through Baptism that we become members of Christ's body, the Church, and heirs of the Kingdom of God.

Although Baptism ceremonies can be involved and very moving, the essential elements of Baptism are very simple. A person is Baptised using the visible sign of water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.



The Bible talks about Baptism in a number of ways. Those who are Baptised are described as being clothed with Christ, buried in Baptism and raised into new life, and essentially being Baptised by one Spirit to form one body. Baptism is at its heart about new life, and new relationships.

In Baptism we are given the gift of union with Christ in his death and resurrection, a new birth into God's family the Church, forgiveness of sins, and a new life in the Holy Spirit.

People can be Baptised as adults or as children, and while it was traditional in the Anglican church for people to be Baptised as infants, in the 21st Century increasing number of people are Baptised much later in life and well into adulthood.

While adults who are Baptised will understand the new relationship they are entering into with God and the Church, the Baptism of children acknowledges that children can also share in the community of faith and fully experience the action of the Holy Spirit in their own lives. It is also a sign that the parents or guardians have decided to raise that child in the Christian faith.

Some people who are Baptised as children choose to receive the laying on of hands in Confirmation, where they can confess their faith for themselves, and show that they still wish to be part of the Church. People Baptised as adults may also receive the laying on of hands in

Confirmation, as they acknowledge the change in their life they received through Baptism, and commit themselves to continue living as part of the body of Christ.

Baptism can be a very personal decision about a person's personal faith, as well as a communal event where we celebrate our lives together as the body of Christ.

Some people ask: why get Baptised, if I already have a relationship with God?

One answer is that Baptism is a public announcement that a person is entering into a new relationship, and a new way of living their lives. Another answer is that at Baptism God's Holy Spirit acts on a person in a unique way. Finally, Baptism is commanded by God for all people. Many people find Baptism deeply moving, and find that it transforms their lives and their understanding of their relationship with God and other people in unexpected ways.

One might ask: I was Baptised when I was a lot younger and did not really understand it at the time ... can I get Baptised again?

The Church teaches that even if a person does not recall their Baptism, they have still entered into a new relationship with God and the Church, and that Baptism is a one-time event (like being born!). This is because Baptism is an action of God, rather than the particular Church one belongs to.

However, it is possible to renew ones Baptismal vows, and reaffirm ones faith. For people who have been away from the Church for some time and are returning to the Church this can be a moving ceremony. It is also an opportunity for the whole community to reassess what it means to us to be Baptised members of the body of Christ.

If you would like to know more about Baptism, Confirmation, or the renewal of Baptismal vows, one of the clergy at Holy Trinity would be very happy to talk to you about it.

**Rev'd Max Whitaker**



## Advent Study

Every Wednesday (at 7pm) in Advent, Holy Trinity will run a Bible study. The theme throughout this month will be one of waiting expectantly ... for something exciting to happen.

I can still remember the feeling I had as a child on Christmas Eve ... knowing that presents would magically appear the next day. One of my most vivid memories is waking up to feel the weight of a now full stocking on the end of my bed.

Now it seems that we are encouraged to look forward to Christmas for months beforehand ... usually to encourage us to buy things, but despite this, the feeling of expectation is very real.

Even as adults, when some of the magic of childhood is gone, people still look forward to Christmas.

It is not only people who have a Christian understanding of Christmas who look forward to this festive season. People who have a very secular understanding of Christmas look forward to this time for other reasons. What is it they are waiting for? What is the promise they hope for?

How is this different from ... or the same as the traditional Christian understanding?

At Christmas, something powerful is going to break into the world and radically transform the whole of creation. The way the prophet Isaiah describes it, the whole landscape will be shifted and changed. Mountains descend into the earth, and valleys flatten out. This is awesome power. But alongside this we have the imagery of the shepherd gently carrying a lamb in his arms. Awesome power, and homely and familiar love, mixed together.

There are two aspects to expectation. First: the idea that there is something which is not right with the world. There are impassible hostile mountains, and there are dangerous and foreboding chasms. Second: there is a promise that the world can be put right. The chasms become sun dappled valleys, and the mountains gentle hills. And the sheep roam protected by a loving shepherd.

I think that even a secular understanding of Christmas falls into this pattern ... there are problems in our lives ... and a holiday, or more time with the family, or more stuff will fix these problems, so we think. Perhaps it does to an extent – but Christmas offers a much greater gift, according to our faith: the gift of God coming into the world, in person!

**Advent Bible Study, Wednesdays: 30 November, 7, 14 and 21 December at 7.00pm.**

## Pastoral Care

Greetings from our Pastoral Visitors as we approach the Festive Season.

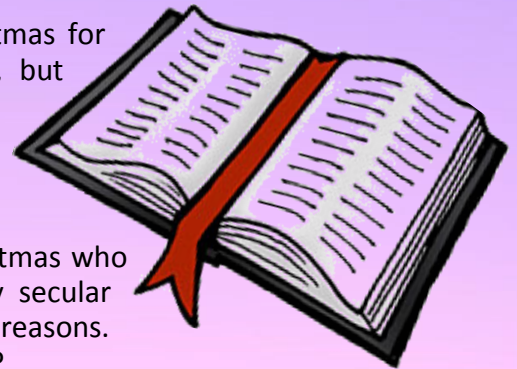
It has been a busy year maintaining regular visits, Home Communion, helping with transport and meals where needed. Many of our parishioners have suffered illness, chills and other health issues which required a time in hospital. Several of those we visit have moved into care facilities for their safety and quality of life. We welcomed Rev'd Max Whitaker to our Pastoral Team, also Ann Robinson and Pauline Gibson.

A reminder that if you know of someone or a family member who would like a visit, especially if they are in hospital, a rest home or there has been a bereavement, please do not hesitate to make the call.

As Christmas approaches may we take time during Advent to Hope for Peace between people, bring Joy to those around us and share God's Love with one another. On behalf of our Pastoral Visitors I wish you all a Holy and Happy Christmas and good health for the New Year.

If you require assistance during the Festive Season please phone the Parish Office, 217 7729 and leave a message. From 16 January 2017, phone 217 5483. If unattended please leave your name and phone number and I will reply as soon as possible.

***Erin McCallum, Co-ordinator of Pastoral Care***





## AAW

We have enjoyed a variety of programmes over the past few months. In October Kathleen Sutton enthralled us with her adventures in Europe in the 1960s, and in November we had our annual meeting, then puzzled our way through the Books of the Bible Quiz that Erin had found.

Our Christmas parish function is on Monday, 5 December when we shall be entertained by our talented parishioners in a Parish Concert, at 7.30pm in the hall. This will be followed by supper—please bring a plate. Everyone is invited to this concert, not just AAW members.

## JubilanzVOV

You are warmly invited to our Christmas play and 2016 break up on 15 December, 3.30pm, Holy Trinity Hall, King Street.

## Christian World Service Christmas Appeal

For 70 years the Christmas Appeal has kept hope shining like the light in the darkness. Each gift shared has contributed to a mountain of hope that is providing food for the hungry, shelter for the homeless, medicine for the sick, school for the children and opportunities for a future.

Seeing a child in need of shelter, medicine and education, who would not help if they could? Our gift at Christmas will give hope to people in need of the dignity that comes with food, water, medicine and education. With your gift and prayers, we can help many more families. Please give generously to the 2016 Christmas Appeal. Thank you.

Envelopes will be available from the back of church and may be left in the offertory plate at any service until the end of January.



## Local Missions

### Knitting for our Wider Community

Rose is a "behind the scenes charity worker." She helps sew up blankets that other people from our parish knit and then crochets around the blankets and in between the squares. Sometimes she knits the squares if they are a bit short of squares.

These blankets go to Anglican Social Services, 'South Centre' in Jenkin Street, Invercargill. Rose is one of many in our Parish who each month produce a large amount of knitted wears for South Centre. for example; blankets, hats, jerseys of all sizes, lap covers and so on. Rose and a few other ladies also knit for the maternity ward at Southland Hospital, little bonnets and matching booties for premature babies. These are always appreciated by the people at the hospital.



### Emergency Toiletries Bags

The emergency Toiletries Bags are still in demand by the other wards at the hospital. We continue to supply the Medical, Surgical and Children's ward with these. We do appreciate your donations of toothpaste, toothbrushes, tissues, combs, pens and writing pads.

We've had good feed back from patients who have been of need for these. Thanks for your support for this. This is an ongoing need.



If you are interested in helping in any of these projects please contact the parish office or ring me on 2166913.

**Susan Slaughter - Mission Facilitator**

### Meals on Wheels

Thank you to those who drove for Meals on Wheels this year, your support is appreciated.



## What's on and When — Advent to Christmas

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>27 November</b>	<b>First Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>Eucharist Service</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
Sunday	27 November		Taizé Service	7.00pm
Wednesday	30 November	Weekday Eucharist	Eucharist Service	9.30am
Wednesday	30 November	Bible Study in Church		7.00pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4 December</b>	<b>Second Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>Eucharist Service</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
Monday	5 December	AAW end of year Concert and Supper in Hall		7.30pm
Wednesday	7 December	Weekday Eucharist	Eucharist Service	9.30am
Wednesday	7 December	Bible Study in Church		7.00pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11 December</b>	<b>Third Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>Eucharist Service</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
Sunday	11 December		Taizé Service	7.00pm
Wednesday	14 December	Weekday Eucharist	Eucharist Service	9.30am
Wednesday	14 December	Bible Study in Church		7.00pm
Thursday	15 December	Jubilanz Christmas Play and Break-up in Hall		3.30pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18 December</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>Eucharist Service</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
Tuesday	20 December	South Centre Children's Christmas Party		
Wednesday	21 December	Weekday Eucharist	Eucharist Service	9.30am
Wednesday	21 December	Bible Study in Church		7.00pm
Saturday	24 December	Carols and Midnight Christmas Eucharist Service		11.15pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25 December</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>Eucharist Service</b>	<b>9.30am</b>

### Parish of North Invercargill

#### Holy Trinity Church, cnr King & Antrim Streets

<b>Priest in Charge</b>	Liz Cheyne	217 0225
<b>Priest</b>	Max Whitaker	021 297 2488
<b>Wardens</b>	Jean McEwan	218 9453
	Janice Burton	218 2681
<b>Administration Office</b>	at Holy Trinity	217 7729
	PO Box 6033	
	Invercargill, 9841	
<b>Email</b>	anglican@in2net.co.nz	
<b>Web Site</b>	holytrinity.org.nz	
<b>Facebook</b>	/groups/HolyTrinityInvercargill	
<b>Normal Office Hours</b>	Tuesday & Wednesday 9am to 12 noon	
	Friday 9am to 10.30am	