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Colin and Paul (tel nos. See below)

Synod Representatives

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Pew Sheet Editor: Please send all information
for the Pew Sheet by Monday to
fsrichs@xtra.co.nz Tel: 846 6043 or 021 1175566

St Chad's Regular Worship with Holy Communion every Sunday at St Patrick's

**Except for the 3rd Sunday in the month which will be
Less formal non communion service**

**Our next service: Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday 29th April at 10.00 am at St Patrick's**

SUE SAYS: Life is only travelled once.

Today's moments become tomorrow's memories.

Enjoy every moment, good or bad, because the gift of life is life itself.



**ST CHAD'S
ANGLICAN-METHODIST CHURCH
A WARM WELCOME
TO OUR 10.00am SERVICE
22nd APRIL 2018
WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION**

The 14th Chapter of John's Gospel has been familiar -- and a favourite of mine -- throughout most of my life.

During my years overseas on Active Service in WW2, 1943/4/5, my family at home in Invercargill, and I, had a pact that on the first day of each month we would each read John 14. What that meant to me during those years! I was late by a day-or-so -- through circumstances beyond my control -- only a couple of times.

Then, when I began my ministry I tackled the task of studying verses 1 - 6, and 27, in the original Greek. It was what is technically termed *exegesis*: a delving right to the bottom of the text with all its possible variations. (And that has come-in very handy on the odd occasion when I've been caught, for some reason, without a sermon! Knowing that passage so well, I could preach *off the cuff*. I assure you though: I didn't make a habit of it.) Now that I'm so close to *shuffling off this mortal coil* (as Shakespeare has Hamlet contemplate with foreboding), our Lord's promise in those verses is most reassuring for me. Jesus says not to be afraid of what awaits, and He is warmly personal, adding that He himself is preparing a place for me, and will be there to welcome me. And seeing that I haven't a clue what *life beyond* will be like, that's the best news I could possibly hear.

The Apostle Paul is confident that I will be me, you will be you, recognisably so, on the other side. (1Corinth 15/38) And he has no doubt about life continuing in eternity. But he cannot describe that life.

Medieval and renaissance painters would sit me nude on a cloud plucking a harp. Oh no, please. No!

But just as the caterpillar on our swan plant, can conceive nothing of the liberation of flight that awaits him as a monarch butterfly -- and would be aghast at the thought of no longer being able, nor even wanting, to go on chewing green plant -- life bound neither by space nor time, I simply cannot glimpse.

But I don't need to! I'm content to leave what awaits, in the hands I can trust, Jesus Christ, who, after all, has never failed me in this life.

Peter Stead

TOUCH

I found the first part of Peter's jotting very moving. I could imagine him away in a War zone doing and seeing things that were alien to him. But once a month he was in touch with his family in Invercargill through the Bible.

Peter mentions John 14 and in particular verses 1– 6 and verse 27. 'Set your troubled hearts at rest. Trust in God always; trust also in me. There are many dwelling-places in my Father's house; if it were not so I should have told you; for I am going there on purpose to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you I shall come again and receive you to myself, so that where I am you may be also; and my way is known to you.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus replied, 'I am the way; I am the truth and I am life; no one comes to the Father except by me. Peace is my parting gift to you, my own peace, such as the world cannot give.'



Perhaps the first thing we feel as we enter the world is our mother's touch and what comfort it is to curl up with her. Even my little dog swipes her tongue in my direction as she goes on her way. During the storm recently she climbed up beside me, trembling with fear, and cuddled into my side so I could comfort her.

We hear how someone is suffering and our heart is touched. We touch when we greet each other in Church, when we meet in the street or visit another's home. Being on my own now, I miss Frank's touch. Just a little 'pat' as he passed by.

In so many ways we touch. Our minds touch when we have discussions with people we meet. This is the way we get to know people, maybe grow to like them and we become important in each other's lives.

Such a little word, but just like LOVE, so important.

SR

ANZAC DAY 25th APRIL. We, in New Zealand, have the freedom to worship, to travel (at our own risk). We have freedom to vote, to say prayers in school, to mention but a few. Good men and women fought for us (and some didn't come back) to have that freedom. But men and women are still fighting today.

Only our Lord knows how it will end.

Pax et Bonum

PRAYER MINISTRY

We ask for your prayers – that God who knows each person or situation, may bless each one according to their needs.

Bishop Ross Bay: Bishop Jim White: Rev. Marilyn Welch: Rev. Chris Harris: Marston would welcome your prayers, but no visitors.

Dear Lord, we also bring to you others who we know in our hearts and we pray that you will look with mercy and grace upon our needs.

We would appreciate it if you would let Maureen— Pastoral Care Co-ordinator of anyone needing prayer. (tel: 021 1150598)

THE OP SHOP WILL BE CLOSED	FROM THE WEEKEND 18th February 2018
SERVICES AT ST PATRICK'S	1st—3rd—and 5th Sundays will be 10.00 am 2nd and 4th Sundays will be 11.30 am

SERVICES AT ST PATRICK'S

1st—3rd—and 5th Sundays will be 10.00 am

5th Sunday 29th April

Wednesday 2nd May

1st Sunday 6th May

2nd Sunday 13th May

3rd Sunday 20th May

4th Sunday 27th May

Worship with Holy Communion 10.00 am

Women's Fellowship

Worship with Holy Communion 10.00 am

Worship with Holy Communion 11.30 am

Non communion service.

Baptism—Kristie Lean 10.00 am

Worship with Holy Communion 11.30 am



READINGS THIS WEEK:

Acts 4: 5-12 or

Psalm 23: or

1 John 3: 16-24

**PLEASE JOIN TOGETHER
FOR MORNING TEA
AND FELLOWSHIP**