

St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford

Sunday 25th August 2024

Vicar The Rev'd Grant Robertson
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Sentence - Jesus said, 'It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.' John 6: 63

Collect -

Everliving God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear the prayers we offer for all your faithful people, that in the ministry to which you have called them each may serve you in holiness and truth; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Introit	59 Praise to the Lord, the almighty
Gradual	644 Stand up stand up for Jesus
Offertory	466 For the bread which you have broken
Closing	638 Guide me, O my great redeemer

8.00am - Blue Book

9.30am - NZPB 476

Readings for today Sunday 25th August

First Reading -1 Kings 8: 22-30, 41-43

Epistle - Ephesians 6: 10-20

Gospel - John 6: 56-69

Readers - 8.00am - To be advised

Readers - 9.30am - Karen and Liz Powell

1 Kings 8: 22-30, 41-43

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love with your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed that you promised to your servant my father David. But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today, that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; hear and forgive. Likewise when foreigners, who are not of your people Israel, come from a distant land because of your name—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when foreigners come and pray toward this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling place and do whatever the foreigners ask of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built."

Ephesians 6: 10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and, having prevailed against everything, to stand firm. Stand, therefore, and belt your waist with truth and put on

the breastplate of righteousness and lace up your sandals in preparation for the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

John 6: 56-69

“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which the ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” He said these things while he was teaching in a synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who were the ones who did not believe and who was the one who would betray him. And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.” Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

We remember in our prayers - Patrick, Lorraine, Anne, Tomas, Donna, Julie, Megan, Dianne, Noeline, Gillian, Barrie, Lesley, Lorna, Shobha, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, Logan, Kelvin, Margaret, Jeff, and Bryce. Residents and parishioners in Merrifield Avenue, Newport Place, Nile Road, Pax Avenue, Quebec Road, Raines Avenue, Regal Place

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 27th	Selwyn Centre 9.30am. Join us for fun, friendship and morning tea. Cost \$5.00.
Wednesday 28th	10am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea.
Thursday 29th	10am Mainly Music. Cost \$5.00 per family.
Sunday 1 st September	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Holy Communion

Readings for next Sunday 1st September

First Reading - Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Epistle - James 1: 17-27

Gospel - Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Readers - 8.00am - To be advised

Readers - 9.30am - Sarah and Edward

Sanctuary Windows –

Great news! The builders started on Tuesday to remove the stained glass windows from the hall. The lead light windows require some repairs and need to be reframed before they are installed in the sanctuary behind the altar. It will be so great to finally see them removed from behind the doors in the hall. The windows in the hall will be replaced with plain glass.

These windows were originally given in memory of Francis Gee and her son, Sergeant A R Gee, killed in 1943. These were brought from the Muritai Road Church.

A date for your diary –

You are all invited to attend a catered Parish fundraising dinner on Saturday 5th October 2024 at 6.30pm. More details to come closer to the time!

Chairs -

A very big thank you to Kirsty for making such a great job cleaning all of the chairs from the hall, what a difference it has made to how the chairs now look!