

PARISH OF MILFORD
St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford
Sunday 11th December 2022 - Third Sunday in Advent



Vicar The Rev'd Grant Robertson
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Sentence - Truly I tell you, those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. Matthew 11.11

Collect - Sustain us, O God, with the power of your love on our journey to meet the One who is coming: strengthen our weak hands, make firm our feeble knees, and open blind eyes to the dawning of your kingdom, so that our hearts may rejoice as we behold the majesty of our God. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

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| Introit | 4 Here in this place |
| Gradual | 505 His eyes will guide my footsteps |
| Offertory | 384 My song is love unknown |
| Dismissal | 597 God, whose almighty word |

8.00am - Advent Liturgy

9.30am - Advent Liturgy

Readings today Sunday 11th December 2022
Third Sunday in Advent

First Reading - Isaiah 35: 1-10

Epistle - James 5: 7-10

Gospel - Matthew 11: 2-11

Readers 8am - To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Patrick and Erika

Isaiah 35: 1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

James 5: 7-10

Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Matthew 11: 2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

We remember in our prayers - Hunter, Donna, Julie, Rosemary, Megan, Dianne, Noeline, Gillian, Barrie, Lesley, Lorna, Shobha, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, Logan, Kelvin, Margaret, Geoff. Residents and parishioners in Nile Road, Pax Avenue, Quebec Road, Raines Avenue, Regal Place, Regent Street,

NEXT WEEK

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| Tuesday 13th | Selwyn Centre 9.30am. This will be our last gathering for the year. We will resume on Tuesday 7 th February 2023. |
| Wednesday 14th | 10.00am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea. This will be the final service for the year. |
| Thursday 15th | Mainly Music. Is in recess and will resume on Thursday 9 th February 2023. |
| Sunday 18th | Nine Lessons and Carols, one service only. |

January Services –

On New Year's Day the 1st of January and the following Sunday the 8th of January there will one service at 9.30am.

Fourth Sunday in Advent Sunday 18th December 2022

Nine Lessons & Carol Service

For this service there will be no communion. The readers will be given their lessons today.

St Paul's by the Sea Anglican Church Milford Christmas Services



Sunday 18th December

9.30am - Nine Lessons and Carols

Saturday 24th December Christmas Eve

5.00 pm - Family and Children Christingle Service

11.00 pm - Carols, Candles, and Communion

Sunday 25th December Christmas Day

9.30 am - Carols and Holy Communion

Presider and Preacher

The Right Reverend Ross Bay

BISHOP OF AUCKLAND