

PARISH OF MILFORD
St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford

Sunday 8th October 2023

Vicar The Rev'd Grant Robertson
The Vicarage 10 Otakau Road, Milford
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Sentence - The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.
Matthew 21: 42

Collect - Almighty God, your Son Jesus was the stone rejected by the builders, and, by your doing, he has made the chief cornerstone: grant that, by the power of his Spirit working in us, we may become living stones built up into a dwelling place, a temple holy and acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

Introit	469 I come with joy, a child of God
Gradual	294 All things bright and beautiful
Offertory	207 The Lord's my shepherd: I'll not want
Closing	572 Christ is made the sure foundation

8am - Blue Book

9.30am - NZPB 404

Readings for today Sunday 8th October 2023

First Reading - Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9,12-20

Epistle - Philippians 3: 4b-14

Gospel - Matthew: 21: 33-46

Readers 8am - To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Erika and Edward

Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9,12-20

Then God spoke all these words, “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. “You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. “You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. “Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work. “Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. “You shall not murder. “You shall not commit adultery. “You shall not steal. “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. “You shall not covet your neighbour’s house; you shall not covet your neighbour’s wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.” When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen, but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.” Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.”

Philippians 3: 4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based

on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Matthew: 21: 33-46

Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?" "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

We remember in our prayers - Lorraine, John, Tomas, Donna, Julie, Megan, Dianne, Noeline, Gillian, Barrie, Lesley, Lorna, Shobha, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, Logan, Kelvin, Margaret, and Jeff. Residents and parishioners in Regal Place, Regent Street, Seine Road, Trevone Place, Alma Road, Argyle Road, Brian Avenue, Cecil Road.

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 10th	Selwyn Centre 9.30am. Join us for friendship, fun and morning tea. Cost \$5.00.
Wednesday 11th	10am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea.
Thursday 12th	Mainly Music 10.00am. Cost \$5.00.
Sunday 15th	Holy Communion 8am and 9.30am.

Readings for next Sunday 15th October 2023

First Reading - Exodus 32: 1-14

Epistle - Philippians 4: 1-9

Gospel - Matthew 22: 1-14

Readers 8am - To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Karen and Gaylene

Crochet bedspread - We have been given a beautiful handmade crochet double bedspread. It would make a lovely Christmas gift. We are going to sell raffle tickets at \$5.00 a ticket or three tickets for \$10.00. It will be on show at our morning services and the other groups that meet at the church. See Megan for tickets it will be drawn on November 30th 2023.