

St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford
Sunday 30th November – First Sunday in Advent



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Sentence: Come, let us go up to the mountains of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk his paths. Isaiah 2:3a.

Collect: Praise and honour to you living God; your coming will be like a thief in the night, like lightning flashing across the sky. Grant that we may be ready, and our hearts answer, Come, Lord Jesus. Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen.

Introit	335 Come, O long-expected Jesus
Gradual	338 Come, O come, Emmanuel
Offertory	676 O Jesus, I have promised
Closing	438 Jesus comes with clouds descending

9.30am - NZPB 476

Readings for today Sunday 30th November - Advent One

First Reading - Isaiah 2: 1-5

Epistle - Romans 13: 11-14

Gospel - Matthew 24: 36-44

Readers - Patrick and Marion

Isaiah 2: 1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths. For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war anymore. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!"

Romans 13: 11-14

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Matthew 24: 36-44

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect".

We remember in our prayers – Those people in our parish in need of prayer. We also remember residents and parishioners in Rahopara Street, Seaview Road, Taumata Road, Becroft Drive, Belmont Terrace, Blakeborough Drive, Bond Crescent.

A Date for your diary

High Tea -



Saturday 6th December – 2.30pm. \$40.00 per person. Please sign sheet at back of church. Bring family and friends and have a happy afternoon. With very special food.

Thank you - To Robert Halliday for his time mending the floor from the hall into the Op Shop. Thank you, Robert. We are very grateful.

Readings for next Sunday 7th - Advent Two

First Reading - Isaiah 11: 1-10

Epistle - Romans 15: 4-13

Gospel - Matthew 3: 1-12

Readers - Chris and Christine Maud

Next Week

Tuesday 2nd	Selwyn Centre at 9.30am. Join us for exercise, fellowship, fun, and morning tea. Cost \$5.00.
Wednesday 3rd	Holy Communion at 10.00am. Followed by morning tea.
Thursday 4th	Mainly Music 10am \$5.00 per family.
Sunday 7th	Holy Communion 9.30am.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**Nine Lessons and Carols
Sunday 21st December - 9.30am**

CHRISTMAS EVE - Wednesday 24th December

5.00pm - Christingle Children &

Family Service (with Holy Communion).

11pm - Candles, Carols & Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY – Thursday 25th December

9.30am Carols & Holy Communion

Vicar Rev'd Grant Robertson

COME & JOIN US

INFORMATION FOR YOUR DIARIES

Wednesday Mid-week Communion service - our last service for the year will be on Wednesday 17th December. First service for 2026 will be Wednesday 4th February 2026

Selwyn Centre - will meet for the last time for this year on Tuesday 16th December. We will resume on Tuesday 3rd February 2026.

Mainly Music - final for the year will be on Thursday 11th December. Mainly Music will resume on Thursday 12th February 2026