

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

**Sunday 30th July 2023**

**Vicar** The Rev'd Grant Robertson

**The Vicarage** 10 Otakau Road, Milford -**Telephone:** 486 1010

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**Sentence** - Neither death, nor life, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8: 38-39

**Collect** - O God, the fount of all wisdom, you have revealed to us Christ the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price: grant us your Spirit's gift of discernment, that, in the midst of the things of this world, we may learn to value the priceless worth of your kingdom and be ready to renounce all else for the sake of the precious gift you offer. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

<b>Introit</b>	184 The kingdom of God
<b>Gradual</b>	669 Lord, be my vision
<b>Offertory</b>	471 Jesus, the joy of loving hearts
<b>Dismissal</b>	298 For the beauty of the earth

**8am** - Blue Book

**9.30am** - NZPB 456

**Readings for today Sunday 30th July 2023**

**First Reading** - Genesis 29: 15-28

**Epistle** - Romans 8: 26-39

**Gospel** - Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

**Readers 8am** - To be advised

**Readers 9.30am** - Liz Powell and Marion

### **Genesis 29: 15-28**

When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Get up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or else you will be consumed in the punishment of the city.” But he lingered, so the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and left him outside the city. When they had brought them outside, they said, “Flee for your life; do not look back or stop anywhere in the plain; flee to the hills, or else you will be consumed.” And Lot said to them, “Oh, no, my lords; your servant has found favour with you, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life, but I cannot flee to the hills, for fear the disaster will overtake me and I die. Look, that city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!” He said to him, “Very well, I grant you this favour too and will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. Hurry, escape there, for I can do nothing until you arrive there.” Therefore the city was called Zoar. The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar. Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulphur and fire from the LORD out of heaven, and he overthrew those cities and all the plain and all the inhabitants of the cities and what grew on the ground. But Lot’s wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt. Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD, and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the plain and saw the smoke of the land going up like the smoke of a furnace.

### **Romans 8: 26-39**

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groaning’s too deep for words. And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against

God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52**

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.

We remember in our prayers - John, Tomas, Hunter, Donna, Julie, Megan, Dianne, Noeline, Gillian, Barrie, Lesley, Lorna, Shobha, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, Logan, Kelvin, Margaret, and Jeff. Residents and parishioners in Prestige Place, Prospect Terrace, Rangitoto Terrace, Richards Avenue, Saltburn Road, Selwyn Crescent.

## **NEXT WEEK**

Tuesday 1st	Selwyn Centre 9.30am. Join us for friendship, fun and morning tea. Cost \$5.00.
Wednesday 2nd	10am Holy Communion. And morning tea.
Thursday 3rd	Mainly Music 10am. Cost \$5.00.
Sunday 6th	Holy Communion 8am and 9.30am.

### **Readings for next Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

**First Reading** - Exodus 24:12-18

**Epistle** - 2 Peter 1:16-21

**Gospel** - Luke 9: 28-36

**Readers 8am** - To be advised

**Readers 9.30am** - Erika and Edward

### **Upcoming Events-**

Vestry's fundraising dinner has been postponed slightly and will now be Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September. We probably won't have a garage sale this year before Christmas so this is our "big" fundraiser for the year and we really hope you support it. We are planning a buffet style meal with nibbles beforehand followed by 3 courses and tea/ coffee (BYO wine/ drinks) and for catering purposes we will need numbers and payment by Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Cost is \$55-00 per person. Please put your name on the sheet at the back of the church. If you are paying online just add "dinner" as your reference so we know who has paid, or pay Mary or Karen at either of the services.

### **Cleaner for the Parish required-**

St Paul's is looking for a new cleaner to clean the church, foyer, toilets and hall area on a weekly basis (preferably Friday afternoons or Saturday). We are happy for this to be one person or a couple to share the work (and pay!) but it will be about 3 hours of light cleaning per week. Must be thorough and reliable. If you are interested or you may know someone please contact Mary Griffiths in the parish office. 486 0668 or 021 108 7973