

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

Sunday 15th February

Rev'd Grant Robertson

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Sentence: Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord. Psalm 119:1

Collect: God of Israel old and new, write in our hearts the lesson of your law; prepare our minds to receive the gospel made visible in your Son Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Introit 372 Blessed are the pure in heart
Gradual 691 Make me a channel of your peace
Offertory 678 Take my life and let it be
Closing 591 Christ is the world's light, he and none other

9.30am - NZPB 476

Readings for today Sunday 15th February

First Reading - Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Epistle - 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Gospel - Matthew 5:21-37

Readers - Patrick and Gaylene

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people but rather as fleshly, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still fleshly. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not fleshly and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, “I belong to Paul,” and another, “I belong to Apollos,” are you not all too human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labour. For we are God’s coworkers, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building.

Matthew 5:21-37

“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder,’ and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment, and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council, and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ But I say to you: Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one”.

We remember in our prayers –Those people in our parish in need of prayer. We also remember residents and parishioners in Waterloo Road, Wolsey Avenue, Shakespeare Road, Aberdeen Road, Beach Road, Bevyn Street, Braemar Road.

Readings for next Sunday 22nd February

First Reading – Genesis 2: 15-17, 3:1-7

Epistle - Romans 5:12-19

Gospel - Matthew 4: 1-11

Readers - Mary and Karen

Next Week

Tuesday 17th	Selwyn Centre 9.30am. Join us for fellowship, fun and conversation. \$5.00.
Wednesday 18th	Mid - week 10.00am Holy Communion. Ash Wednesday - Imposition of Ashes.
Thursday 19th	Mainly Music 10am today. \$5.00 per family.
Sunday 22nd	9.30am Holy Communion. First Sunday in Lent.

City Mission News – The latest newsletter is on the table. There are some interesting statistics and information for you to read.