

PARISH OF MILFORD
St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford
Sunday 23rd May – Pentecost



Vicar The Rev'd Grant Robertson
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Sentence - 'A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you', says the Lord; 'I will put my spirit within you and you shall live'.

Collect - Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love, joy, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

Introit 555 Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire
Gradual 331 We have a gospel to proclaim
Offertory 554 Breathe on me, breath of God
Dismissal 681 Wind of God, dynamic Spirit

8.00am – 9.30am Pentecost Liturgy

Readings for today Sunday 23rd May

1st Reading - Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Epistle - Romans 8: 22-27

Gospel - John 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-14

Readers 8.00am -To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Patrick and Gaylene

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

Romans 8: 22-27

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. 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 sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

John 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-14

“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. “I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

We remember in our prayers - Noeline, Bob, Gillian, Barrie, Lesley, Lorna, Shobha, Jessica, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, Logan, Kelvin, Bob, and Debbie. And residents and parishioners Aberdeen Road, Beach Road, Bevyn Street, Braemar Road.

Readings for next Sunday 30th May

1st Reading - Isaiah 6: 1-8

Epistle - Romans 8: 12-17

Gospel - John 3:1-17

Readers 8.00am -To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Denis and Priscilla

Garage Sale - If you are able to help set up on Friday 28th from 2pm or help on Saturday 29th from 8.00am we would be most grateful.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday 25th	9.30am Selwyn Centre. Join us for friendship and fun. Cost \$4.00
Wednesday 26th	10.00am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea.
Thursday 27th	10.00am Mainly Music.
Saturday 29th	Garage Sale 8.00am – 11.00am
Sunday 30th	Holy Communion. 8.00am and 9.30am.

Healthy Church Consultation

The healthy church consultation - began last Sunday 16th May with Archdeacon Carole Hughes visiting to introduce the process.

The healthy church consultation is offered to every ministry unit across the Diocese of Auckland. It is a gift to each ministry unit and is done to encourage and equip parishioners to work on mission and ministry priorities based on a healthy church model.

All parishioners are strongly encouraged to participate by completing the questionnaire which is due by 31 May and by attending a workshop on Saturday 10th of July from 10.00am until 2pm. Archdeacon Carole Hughes has requested that those who are able please complete the questionnaire online. Please include your email address on the form at the back of the church, thank you.

Alongside this process the Vicar will be having his 360 degree review.