

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

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023 -**

**Vicar** The Rev'd Grant Robertson

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Saint Barnabas Day

**Sentence** - When Barnabas came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose. Acts 11:23

**Collect** - Almighty God we remember today your servant Barnabas, whose great joy was to proclaim your love; grant us also the gift of your Holy Spirit, to bring others to know your goodness, to encourage the faint hearted and to minister to those in need; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Introit** 174 Here is love vast as the ocean  
**Gradual** 404 Good Christians all, rejoice and sing  
**Offertory** 384 My song is love unknown  
**Dismissal** 180 Love is his word love is his way

**8am** - Blue Book

**9.30am** - NZPB 476

**Readings for today Sunday 11th June 2023**

**First Reading** - Job 29: 11-16

**Epistle** - Acts 11: 19-26

**Gospel** - John 15: 12-17

**Readers 8am** -To be advised

**Job 29: 11-16**

When the ear heard, it commended me, and when the eye saw, it approved, because I delivered the poor who cried and the orphan who had no helper. The blessing of the wretched came upon me, and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy. I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my justice was like a robe and a turban. I was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame. I was a father to the needy, and I championed the cause of the stranger.

**Acts 11: 19-26**

Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that took place over Stephen travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and they spoke the word to no one except Jews. But among them were some men of Cyprus and Cyrene who, on coming to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists also, proclaiming the Lord Jesus. The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number became believers and turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast devotion, for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were brought to the Lord. Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for an entire year they met with the church and taught a great many people, and it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called "Christians."

**John 15: 12-17**

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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, Geoff. Residents and parishioners in Havelock Avenue, Keldale Place, Kennedy Avenue, Knightsbridge Drive, Linwood Avenue, Lyttleton Avenue.

## **NEXT WEEK**

Tuesday 13th	Selwyn Centre 9.30am. Join us for friendship, fun and morning tea. Cost \$5.00.
Wednesday 14th	10am Holy Communion. And morning tea.
Thursday 15th	Mainly Music 10am. Cost \$5.00.
Sunday 18th	Holy Communion 8am and 9.30am.

## **Readings for next Sunday 18th June 2023**

**First Reading** - Genesis 18:1-15

**Epistle** - Romans 5:1-8

**Gospel** - Matthew 9:35 -10:8

**Readers 8am** -To be advised

**Readers 9.30am** - Denis and Gaylene

## **Upcoming Events -**

Vestry is organising a Quiz night on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July. A fundraising dinner Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Watch this space for further details.

## **Seasons AGM -**

Seasons North Shore & Hibiscus Coast AGM will be held this Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June @ St Paul's Anglican Church Milford. You are welcome to join this meeting from 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. A light supper will be provided.

**Who was Barnabas in the Bible?**

In the book of Acts, we find a Levite from [Cyprus](#) named Joseph, whom the apostles called Barnabas. That nickname, translated “Son of Encouragement” was probably given to him because of his inclination to serve others and his willingness to do whatever church leaders needed. He is referred to as a “good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith.” Through his ministry, “a great number of people were brought to the Lord”.

As the early church began to grow, in spite of Herod’s persecution, Barnabas was called by the Holy Spirit to go with Paul on a missionary journey. Barnabas’ cousin, [John Mark](#), served him and Paul as their assistant. During that first missions trip, for an unspecified reason, John Mark left them and did not complete the journey. However, Barnabas continued with Paul and was with him when Paul’s ministry was redirected to reaching the Gentiles with the gospel.

After that first trip, [Paul and Barnabas](#) began planning their next journey. Barnabas wanted to take his cousin, but Paul refused, and a rift grew between them to the point that they parted company. Barnabas, true to his nickname, took John Mark and spent time disciplining him. That ministry was so effective that, years later, Paul specifically asked for John Mark to come to him, as Mark had matured to the point of becoming helpful to Paul in his ministry.

Like Barnabas, as Christians we are called to be encouragers, particularly of those who are weak in the faith or struggling. [Acts 11:23](#) depicts Barnabas as a man who was delighted to see others exhibiting the grace of God in their lives, exhorting and encouraging them to remain faithful. In the same way, we should look for opportunities to praise those who bring glory and honour to God through lives that reflect their faith.

Blessings  
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