

St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford
Sunday 8th December 2024



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Sentence - By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. Luke 1: 78-79

Collect - God of our salvation, you straighten the winding ways of our hearts and smooth the paths made rough by sin: keep our hearts watchful in holiness, and bring to perfection the good you have begun in us. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Introit 339 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Gradual 505 His eyes will guide my footsteps
Offertory 384 My song is love unknown
Closing 437 I cannot tell why he whom angels worship

8.00am - Advent Liturgy

9.30am - Advent Liturgy

Readings for today Sunday 8th December

First Reading - Malachi 3:1-4

Epistle - Philippians 1:3-11

Gospel - Luke 3:1-6

Readers - 8.00am - To be advised

Readers - 9.30am - Ulo and Liz

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

We remember in our prayers - Patrick, Lorraine, Anne, Tomas, Donna, Julie, Megan, Dianne, Noeline, Gillian, Barrie, Lesley, Shobha, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, Logan, Kelvin, Margaret, Jeff, and Bryce. Residents and parishioners in Craig Road, Dallinghoe Crescent, Dodson Avenue, Fenwick Avenue, Frater Avenue, Frieston Road, Gordon Avenue.

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 10th	Selwyn Centre 9.30am. Join us for fun, friendship and morning tea. Cost \$5.00. Final for the year
Wednesday 11th	10am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea. Final for the year.
Thursday 12th	Mainly Music at 10.00am. Cost \$5.00. Final for the year.
Sunday 15th December	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Holy Communion

Readings for next Sunday 15th December

First Reading - Zephaniah 3: 14-20

Epistle - Philippians 4: 4-7

Gospel - Luke 3: 7-18

Readers - 8.00am - To be advised

Readers - 9.30am - Sarah and Edward



The meaning of the Advent wreath.

An Advent wreath is circular and symbolizes everlasting life and unending love. The arrangement is used to put our attention on the meaning of Christmas. The candles, in particular, put our focus on hope, peace, joy and love.

Thank You – to Michael and Patsy Hill who once again put up our Christmas tree and for decorating it so beautifully. Michael and Patsy have decorated our tree for many years and we are really grateful.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES - COME & JOIN US



NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS - Sunday 22nd DECEMBER
9.30am (NO 8am service this day)

CHRISTMAS EVE - Tuesday 24th DECEMBER
5.00pm Christingle Children &
Family Service (with communion).
11.00pm
Candles, Carols & Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY – Wednesday 25th DECEMBER
8.00am - 9.30am Carols & Holy Communion

Vicar Rev'd Grant Robertson

INFORMATION FOR YOUR DIARIES

Sunday 8am Service - there will be no 8am service during January 2025. Services will resume Sunday 2nd of February 2025.

Wednesday Mid-week Communion service - our last service for the year will be on Wednesday 11th December. First service for 2025 will be Wednesday 5th February 2025.

Selwyn Centre - will meet for the last time for this year on Tuesday 10th December. We will resume on Tuesday 4th February 2025

Mainly Music - final for the year will be on Thursday 12th December. Mainly Music will resume on Thursday 13th February 2025.