

St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford
Sunday 7th December – Second Sunday in Advent



Rev'd Grant Robertson
The Vicarage 10 Otakau Road, Milford
Telephone: 486 1010
Parish Office: 486 0668
Website: www.stpaulsmilford.co.nz

Sentence: The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news. Mark 1:15

Collect: Almighty God, you sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare the way for the coming of your Son; grant that those who proclaim your word may so guide our feet into the way of peace, that we may stand with confidence before him when he comes in his glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer. Amen.

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Introit | 339 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry |
| Gradual | 184 The kingdom of God |
| Offertory | 34 Come, you thankful people, come |
| Closing | 321 Crown him with many crowns |

9.30am - Advent Liturgy

Readings for today Sunday 7th - Advent Two

First Reading - Isaiah 11: 1-10

Epistle - Romans 15: 4-13

Gospel - Matthew 3: 1-12

Readers - Chris and Christine Maud

Isaiah 11: 1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Romans 15: 4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory

of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him", and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 3: 1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.' " Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his

hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

We remember in our prayers –Those people in our parish in need of prayer. We also remember residents and parishioners in Catalina Crescent, Currey Crescent, Forrest Hill Road, Grenada Avenue, Havelock Avenue, Keldale Place, Kennedy Avenue.

Thank you - To Robert Halliday for his time mending floor from the hall into the Op Shop. Thank you Robert we are very grateful.

Readings for next Sunday 14th - Advent Three

First Reading - Isaiah 35: 1-10

Epistle - James 5: 7-10

Gospel - Matthew 11: 2-11

Readers - Sarah and Edward

Next Week

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Tuesday 9th | Selwyn Centre at 9.30am. Join us for exercise, fellowship, fun, and morning tea. Cost \$5.00. |
| Wednesday 10th | Holy Communion at 10.00am. Followed by morning tea. |
| Thursday 11th | Mainly Music 10am \$5.00 per family. Final for the year. Resumes Thursday 12 th February 2026. |
| Sunday 14th | Holy Communion 9.30am. |