

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

Sunday 29th September 2024

Vicar The Rev'd Grant Robertson
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Sentence – Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can it be seasoned? Have salt in yourselves and be at peace with one another.
Mark 9:50

Collect - O God, your Son has taught us that those who give a cup of water in his name will not lose their reward: open our eyes to see those who are in need, and teach us to set no store by riches and earthly rewards, so that, in surrendering ourselves to serve you in your children, we may labour for the treasure that endures; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Introit 201 Jesus, lover of my soul
Gradual 7 Be still, for the presence of the Lord
Offertory 469 I come with joy, a child of God
Closing 54 Now thank we all our God

8.00am - NZPB 456

9.30am - NZPB 456

Readings for today Sunday 29th September

First Reading - Esther 7:1-6,9-10;9:20-22

Epistle - James 5:13-20

Gospel - Mark 9: 38-50

Readers - 8.00am - To be advised

Readers - 9.30am - Ulo and Liz

Esther 7:1-6,9-10;9:20-22

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace, but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and an enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very pole that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hung Haman on the pole that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things in a book and sent it to the Jews in the kingdom of Artaxerxes both near and far, to institute these days as holidays and to keep the fourteenth and fifteenth days of Adar, for on these days the Jews got relief from their enemies. The whole month (namely, Adar) in which their condition had been changed from sorrow into gladness and from a time of distress to a holiday was to be celebrated as a time for feasting and gladness and for sending presents of food to their friend's and to the poor.

James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise

them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Mark 9: 38-50

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

Temptations to Sin "If any of you cause one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good, but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

We remember in our prayers - Patrick, Lorraine, Anne, Tomas, Donna, Julie, Megan, Dianne, Noeline, Gillian, Barrie, Lesley, Lorna, Shobha, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, Logan, Kelvin, Margaret, Jeff, and Bryce. Residents and parishioners in Pierce Road, Prestige Place, Prospect Terrace, Rangitoto Terrace, Richards Avenue, Saltburn Road.

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 1st	Selwyn Centre 9.30am. Join us for fun, friendship and morning tea. Cost \$5.00.
Wednesday 2nd	10am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea.
Thursday 3rd	10am Mainly Music. School holidays. Will resume Thursday 17 th October.
Saturday 5th	Parish Fund Raising Dinner
Sunday 6th	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Holy Communion

Readings for next Sunday 6th October

First Reading - Job 1:1, 2: 1-10

Epistle - Hebrews 1: 1-4, 2: 5-12

Gospel - Mark 10: 2-16

Readers - 8.00am - To be advised

Readers - 9.30am - Karen and Gaylene

Parish fund raising dinner -

You are all invited to attend a catered Parish fundraising dinner on Saturday 5th October 2024 at 6.30pm. The cost is \$60.00 per person. There is now a sheet to sign at the back of the church. When pre-paying on line please use "dinner" and your name. Close off date will be Tuesday 1st of October.