

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

Sunday 27th August 2023

Vicar The Rev'd Grant Robertson
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Sentence - Jesus said to them, who do you say that I am? Simon Peter answered, you are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.
Matthew 16: 15-16

Collect - O God, fount of all wisdom, in the humble witness of the apostle Peter you have shown the foundation of our faith: give us the light of your Spirit, that recognising in Jesus of Nazareth the Son of the living God, we may be living stones for the building up of your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Introit	412 Love's redeeming work is done
Gradual	317 At the name of Jesus
Offertory	54 Now thank we all our God
Dismissal	93 Praise, my soul, the king of heaven

8am - Blue Book
9.30am - NZPB 404

Readings for today Sunday 27th August 2023

First Reading - Exodus 1-8, 2:10

Epistle - Romans 12: 1-8

Gospel - Matthew 16: 13-20

Readers 8am - To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Liz Powell and Gaylene

Exodus 1: 8, 2:10

Then Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron and said, "Pray to the LORD to take away the frogs from me and my people, and I will let the people go to sacrifice to the LORD." Moses said to Pharaoh, "Kindly tell me when I am to pray for you and for your officials and for your people, that the frogs may be removed from you and your houses and be left only in the Nile." And he said, "Tomorrow." Moses said, "As you say! So that you may know that there is no one like the LORD our God, the frogs shall leave you and your houses and your officials and your people; they shall be left only in the Nile." Then Moses and Aaron went out from Pharaoh, and Moses cried out to the LORD concerning the frogs that he had brought upon Pharaoh. And the LORD did as Moses requested: the frogs died in the houses, the courtyards, and the fields. And they gathered them together in heaps, and the land stank. But when Pharaoh saw that there was a respite, he hardened his heart and would not listen to them, just as the LORD had said. Then the LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the earth, so that it may become gnats throughout the whole land of Egypt.'" And they did so; Aaron stretched out his hand with his staff and struck the dust of the earth, and gnats came on humans and animals alike; all the dust of the earth turned into gnats throughout the whole land of Egypt. The magicians tried to produce gnats by their secret arts, but they could not. There were gnats on both humans and animals. And the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God!" But Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, just as the LORD had said. Then the LORD said to Moses, "Rise early in the morning and present yourself before Pharaoh, as he goes out to the water, and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD: Let my people go, so that they may serve me, because if you will not let my people go, I will send swarms of flies on you, your officials, and your people, and into your houses. The houses of the Egyptians shall be filled with swarms of flies, as will the land where they live. But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where my people live, so that no swarms of flies shall be there, that you may know that I the LORD am in this land. Thus I will make a distinction between my people and your people. This sign shall appear tomorrow.'" The LORD did so, and great swarms of flies came into the house of Pharaoh and into his officials' houses; in all of Egypt the land was ruined because of the flies. Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "Go, sacrifice to your God within the land." But Moses said, "It would not be right to do so, for the sacrifices that we offer to the LORD our God are offensive to the Egyptians. If we offer in the sight of the Egyptians sacrifices that are offensive to them, will they not stone us? We must go a three days' journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to the LORD our God as he commands us." So Pharaoh said, "I will let you go to sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness, provided you do not go very far away. Pray for me." Then Moses said, "As soon as I leave you, I will pray to the LORD that the swarms of flies may depart tomorrow from Pharaoh, from his officials, and from his people; only do not let Pharaoh again deal falsely by not letting the people go to sacrifice to the LORD." So Moses went out from Pharaoh and prayed to the LORD. And the LORD did as Moses asked: he removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, from his officials, and from his people; not one remained. But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also and would not let the people go. Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman

conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Romans 12: 1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Matthew 16: 13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

We remember in our prayers - Lorraine, John, Tomas, Donna, Julie, Megan, Dianne, Noeline, Gillian, Barrie, Lesley, Lorna, Shobha, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, Logan, Kelvin, Margaret, and Jeff. Residents and parishioners in Eastcliffe Road, Garmons Way, Heathcote Road, Katui Street.

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 29th	Selwyn Centre 9.30am. Join us for friendship, fun and morning tea. Cost \$5.00.
Wednesday 30th	10am Holy Communion. And morning tea.
Thursday 31st	Mainly Music 10am. Cost \$5.00.
Sunday 3 rd September	Holy Communion 8am and 9.30am.

Readings for next Sunday 3rd September 2023

First Reading - Exodus 3: 1-15

Epistle - Romans 12: 9-21

Gospel - Matthew 16: 21-28

Readers 8am - To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Ulo and Liz

Upcoming Events-

Vestry's fundraising dinner has been postponed slightly and will now be **Saturday 16th September**. We probably won't have a garage sale this year before Christmas so this is our "big" fundraiser for the year and we really hope you support it. We are planning a buffet style meal with nibbles beforehand followed by 3 courses and tea/ coffee (BYO wine/ drinks) and for catering purposes we will need numbers and payment by **Sunday 3rd September. Cost is \$55-00 per person.** Please put your name on the sheet at the back of the church. If you are paying online just add "dinner" as your reference so we know who has paid, or pay Mary or Karen at either of the services.