

PARISH OF MILFORD
St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford
Sunday 10th December 2023



Vicar The Rev'd Grant Robertson
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Sentence - Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.
Luke 3:4, Isaiah 40:5a

Collect - Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Introit	339 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Gradual	331 We have a gospel to proclaim
Offertory	469 I come with joy, a child of God
Closing	324 Name of all majesty

8am - Advent Liturgy

9.30am - Advent Liturgy

Readings for today Sunday 10th December 2023

First Reading - Isaiah 40: 1-11

Epistle - 2 Peter 3: 8-15a

Gospel - Mark 1: 1-8

Readers 8am - To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Erika and Edward

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass; their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers; the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers; the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them in his bosom and gently lead the mother sheep.

2 Peter 3: 8-15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be destroyed with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and destroyed and the elements

will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish, and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Mark 1: 1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight,' " so John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

We remember in our prayers - 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 Otakau Road, Penning Road, Pierce Road, Prestige Place, Prospect Terrace, Rangitoto Terrace.

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 12th	Selwyn Centre 9.30am. Our final for the year. We will resume on Tuesday 13th of February 2024.
Wednesday 13th	10am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea.
Thursday 14th	Mainly Music. Has finished for the year. We will resume Thursday February 8th 2024.
Sunday 17th	Holy Communion 8am and 9.30am.

Readings for next Sunday 17th December 2023

First Reading - Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

Epistle -1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

Gospel - John 1; 6-8, 19-28

Readers 8am - To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Chris and Christine Maud

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**St Paul's Anglican Church
10 Otakau Road Milford**

CHRISTMAS EVE - Sunday 24th DECEMBER

9.30am Nine Lessons and Carols

5.00pm Christingle Children &
Family Service (with communion).

11.00pm

Candles, Carols & Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY - Monday 25th DECEMBER

8.00am - 9.30am Carols & Holy Communion

**Vicar Rev'd Grant Robertson
COME & JOIN US**

Please note in your diaries.

During January there will be **ONE Sunday** service at St Paul's
at **9.30am**.

Wednesday 20th December will be the final mid - week service of the
year. This service will resume on Wednesday 7th February 2024.