

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

Sunday 2nd May

Vicar The Rev'd Grant Robertson
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Sentence - This is love: not that we loved God, but that God loved us. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 14: 10,11

Collect - O God, form the minds of your faithful people, that we may love what you command and desire what you promise, so that, amid the many changes of this world, our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Introit	6 I rejoiced to hear them say
Gradual	531 I do not know tomorrow's way
Offertory	299 For the fruits of his creation
Dismissal	417 Thine be the glory! risen conquering Son

8.00am - Blue Book

9.30am - NZPB 476

Readings for today Sunday 2nd May

1st Reading - Acts 8: 26-40

Epistle - 1 John 4: 7-21

Gospel - John 15: 1-8

Readers 8.00am - To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Priscilla and Gaylene

Acts 8: 26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

1 John 4: 7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

John 15: 1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

We remember in our prayers - Derek, Noeline, Bob, Gillian, Barrie, Lesley, Lorna, Shobha, Jessica, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, Logan, Kelvin, Bob, and Debbie. And residents and parishioners in Selwyn Crescent, Shakespeare Road, Stanley Avenue, Stratford Avenue.

Readings for next Sunday 9th May

1st Reading - Acts 10: 44-48

Epistle - 1 John 5: 1-6

Gospel - John 15: 9-17

Readers 8.00am -To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Megan and Marion

THIS WEEK

Tuesday 4th	9.30am Selwyn Centre. Join us for friendship and fun. Cost \$4.00
Wednesday 5th	10.00am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea.
Thursday 6th	10.00am Mainly Music.
Sunday 9th	Holy Communion. 8.00am and 9.30am.

Thanks - To Ollie for cleaning out the fridge in the kitchen. It's been a long time since the fridge has looked so clean and tidy. We are very grateful.

Dates for your diaries

Parish Dinner - Thursday 6th May 7pm. Please note there is a change of venue. We will now go to the **Lankawi Malaysian Restaurant** 122 Kitchener Road, Milford.

Seasons for Growth - North Shore & Hibiscus Coast Annual General Meeting Tuesday 11th May at 7.30pm. To be held here at St Paul's. All welcome light supper provided.

High Tea - Saturday 15th May at 2pm. Tickets on sale now, please see Mary.

Knitting Wool - We have a parishioner who is knitting hats and blankets for the Anglican Trust for Women and Children. If you have any spare wool she would be grateful to take it off your hands.