

PARISH OF MILFORD
St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford
Sunday 12th December -Third Sunday in Advent



Vicar The Rev'd Grant Robertson
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Sentence: Bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, proclaim the year of our Lord's favour, the day of vengeance of our God. Isaiah 61: 1-2

Collect: Eternal God, you sent us John the Baptist to prepare the way for the coming of your Son: grant us wisdom to see your purpose and openness to hear your will, that we too may prepare the way for Christ who is coming in power and glory to establish his rule of peace and justice; through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Introit 335 Come, O long expected Jesus
Gradual 38 God, we praise you! God, we bless you!
Offertory 436 Hark! A trumpet call is sounding
Dismissal 338 O come, O come, Emmanuel

8.00am and 9.30am - Advent Liturgy

Readings for today Sunday 12th December
Third Sunday in Advent

1st Reading - Zephaniah 3: 14-20
Epistle - Philippians 4: 4-7
Gospel - Luke 3: 7-18
Readers 8.00am - To be advised
Readers 9.30am - Marion and Liz

Zephaniah 3: 14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear
disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD,
your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will
rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.
I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and
renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time
when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all
the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,
says the LORD.

Philippians 4: 4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice let your gentleness be
known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in
everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests
be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all
understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3: 7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood
of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits
worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and
thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to
them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none;
and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be
baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to
them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also

asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

We remember in our prayers - Jane, Dianne, Noeline, Gillian, Barrie, Lesley, Lorna, Shobha, Jessica, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, Logan, Kelvin. And residents and parishioners in Eastcliffe Road, Garmons Way, Heathcote Road, Katui Street, Midway Avenue, Parr Terrace, Rae Road.

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 14th	Selwyn Centre we will meet next Tuesday 14 th December at 9.30am. For a Christmas morning tea. We will resume on Tuesday 8 th February 2022.
Wednesday 15th	10.00am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea.
Thursday 16th	There will be NO Mainly Music today. Mainly Music will resume on Thursday 10 th February 2022.
Sunday 19th	Nine lessons in Carols. There will be ONE service today at 9.30am

Anglican Trust for Women and Children

Over the 6 years that Grant has been our vicar, parishioners have donated gifts and toys to the Anglican Trust for Women and Children for them to disperse to needy families at Christmas time. Given that ATWC requires these gifts early in December so they can be wrapped and distributed in time for Christmas Day, lockdown has thwarted our collection this year. Instead, Vestry is suggesting that parishioners may like to make a cash donation to ATWC for them to spend on providing families, especially children, with gifts and special treats at Christmas time. This can be done by making an online donation directly to ATWC (see account details below) or by placing a monetary donation into the offering bag in one of the yellow envelopes available at the back of the church and on the foyer table. If you are part of our envelope offerings you can include any donation to ATWC as part of your regular giving. Just include your envelope number as a reference on the bank statement, or

on the yellow envelope, and we will make sure this donation is transferred to ATWC and also included in your annual parish giving for your tax rebate.

Details for online giving to ATWC are:

Account Name: Anglican Trust for Women and Children
Account Number: 02-0192-0130095-00
Reference: Christmas
Code: Milford Parish

CHRISTMAS SERVICES COME & JOIN US



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

CHRISTMAS EVE - FRIDAY 24TH DECEMBER

5.00pm Christingle Children & Family Service

11.00pm Candles, Carols & Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY - SATURDAY 25TH DECEMBER

8.00am Carols & Holy Communion

9.30am Carols & Holy Communion

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