

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

Sunday 6th July 2025

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Sentence - The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; ask therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.
Luke 10-2

Collect - God of the covenant, in our baptism you called us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom: give us courage, as you gave it to the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life; in the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Introit	39 Great is your faithfulness
Gradual	184 The Kingdom of God
Offertory	469 I come with joy, a child of God
Closing	321 Crown him with many crowns

9.30am - NZPB 476

Readings for today Sunday 6th July

First Reading - 2 Kings 5: 1-14

Epistle - Galatians 6: 7-16

Gospel - Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

Readers - Liz Powell and Gaylene

2 Kings 5:1-14

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease. So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said". And the king of Aram said, "Go, then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel." He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his skin disease." When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me." But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it?" How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'? "So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean."

Galatians 6: 7-16

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.

See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who try to compel you to be circumcised only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house! And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.’

“Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.”

The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!” He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. Indeed, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

We remember in our prayers – those people in our parish in need of prayer. We remember Lyn and Megan. We also remember residents and parishioners in Penning Road, Pierce Road, Prestige Place, Prospect Terrace, Rangitoto Terrace, Richards Avenue, Saltburn Road.

Next Week

Tuesday 8th July	Selwyn Centre at 9.30am. Join us for exercise, fellowship, fun, and morning tea. Cost \$5.00.
Wednesday 9th	Holy Communion at 10.00am. Followed by morning tea.
Thursday 10th	School holidays. No Mainly Music resumes July 17 th .
Sunday 13th	Holy Communion 9.30am.

Readings for next Sunday 13th July

First Reading - Amos 7: 7-17

Epistle - Colossians 1: 1-14

Gospel - Luke 10: 25-37

Readers – Ulo and Liz

Thank You - Rosemary for the lovely flower arrangements you did for our Patronal Festival. They were admired by many. So nice to have fresh flowers in the church.

For your diaries - Time to put your thinking caps on for our next Quiz night on Friday the 25th of July at 7.00pm. The previous evening quizzes have been a lot of fun. It's also a great chance to help those around the table and hopefully be the winners at the end of the night. You are welcome to make up your own table of six and let us know what your team's name may be. We can also make up teams of six if you come as individuals or as partners. Please bring your own nibbles and drinks. We will serve a light supper during the interval.