

MILFORD ANGLICAN PARISH NEWS

ST. PAUL'S BY-THE-SEA DECEMBER 2014



Painting by Leonard C. Mitchell

ON CHRISTMAS DAY 1841 THE FIRST CHRISTIAN SERVICE
WAS HELD AT OIHI. THE PREACHER WAS
THE REV'D SAMUEL MARSDEN.

MAY YOU HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AS WE CELEBRATE
200 YEARS OF FAITH IN NEW ZEALAND.

Dear Parishioners,

Already there have been services to commemorate the 200 years since the brig Active arrived at Oihi with missionaries, Samuel Marsden, Ruatara and other Maori, families, some convicts working for freedom from New South Wales, animals including horses, seeds and tools. Marsden made the Active to use for later trade to fund the mission – a type of Op. shop support. The loss of the Boyd earlier meant ships did not come to the Bay of Islands We have a large copy of the picture of the Marsden Cross placed on site 100 years ago to help our Advent worship. As well we have pictures of brigs, Celtic crosses, and maybe southern crosses to further our thoughts.

We usually shift figures of Mary and Joseph around the church to represent their journey to Bethlehem. This year we will also shift a model of the Active to show it sailing from Sydney to Oihi.

Do try to watch the televised Christmas Day service from 11.00 Christmas Day. On the 14th at St. Peters at 7pm there will be an Ecumenical Service for Takapuna to mark the 200 years also.

We have talked of a trip up north to visit the early sites and have fun in the sun. Please indicate to Joyce if you are interested in a January adventure.

Barrie Collet recently received an award from the Kiwanas. Well done Barrie.

We are very grateful to all who do voluntary tasks for the church. Hazel has helped with flowers for many years and we have enjoyed her artistic efforts. Thank you.

Please watch the diary part of this magazine. Note on the 14th there is one morning service only at 9.30 am to be followed by shared food. We will worship as a Christmas family. This is the day to bring food and presents for the City Mission.

The Christmas Fair made \$932.00. We may next year have tables at the Pirate day at the November regatta instead of our own fair. Wonderful craft, baking and selling was done. The raffles were won by Maxine Firth and Paul Nicholls.

Come, Immanuel, shape our living and our being. Come and bless us at that as we are blessed we will bless other people. Come in the weakness of a baby who has the power to melt our hearts to love: to amend our thinking to generosity and compassion: to change our experience and meaning and purpose in all our living on earth.

May God be with you in Advent, Christmas and into the New Year.

Warm wishes to you, your friends and your family.

Joyce.



**Prayers for the sick – Please remember in your prayers:
Julie,**

CWS Christmas Appeal

***Advent One Sunday 30th November –
Training Young People in Gaza***

Young people in Gaza have dreams and hopes like people everywhere. They want a job to help their families make ends meet. Specialist training is hard to get in Gaza's crippled economy, but the Department of Service to Palestinians runs four long established vocational training schools. Young people study for qualifications in sewing, building, welding, working in an office and electrical work. Most graduates earn an income and can help rebuild their country. Please give generously to the [2014 Christmas Appeal](#), *Build Hope for Tomorrow*.

***Advent Two Sunday 7th December –
Supporting Workers in Sri Lanka***

Long gruelling hours working in a factory are a shock to new arrivals in Sri Lanka's Free Trade Zones. Now many are Tamils coming from the north where their families are destitute five years after the civil war ended. When factory owners and landlords exploit them, it is the Women's Centre that pushes for better treatment. It also offers a safe place to come for health and employment advice, computer access and a library. Their acclaimed theatre group promotes worker rights and campaigns against violence. Fostering friendship and understanding between people of different ethnic groups, is important peace making work in a country where tensions remain high. Your support to the [2014 Christmas Appeal](#) will *Build Hope for Tomorrow*.

Advent Three Sunday 14th December – Educating South Sudanese

In July 2011, the people of South Sudan celebrated their newly won independence. Three and a half years later political conflict has pushed the country to the brink of disaster. In the township of Maridi, **the Maridi Service Agency** is building something new. Decades of war and poverty have deprived most South Sudanese of education. MSA runs the secondary school with a special focus on girls' education plus three preschools. It runs health education programmes and the only radio station in the region, Maridi FM. Helping locals and newly displaced people set up small businesses, hold community celebrations and equip others with computer skills brings opportunities where there were none. By giving to the [2014 Christmas Appeal](#), you will *Build Hope for Tomorrow*.

Advent Four 21st December – Equipping teachers in Haiti

In distant Haiti a small group of highly experienced development workers help rural people to keep hunger at bay. **ICKL** works with isolated communities to find out what they need and how to make it happen. In a country regularly rocked by natural and political disasters, ingenuity is only one part of the equation. Strong analysis, hard work and outside support are the others. More than anything the community of Dauphine wants a new school so their children can have the education they did not

have. With the bakery that will help fund its operations on the way, they need help to rebuild their school and train the local teachers. Help them do more by giving to the [2014 Christmas Appeal](#), *Build Hope for Tomorrow*.

Christmas Day Thursday 25th December Happy Christmas from the staff at CWS. – Growing food in Ha’apai Tonga.

New gardens promise food security for residents on Tonga’s Ha’apai island group. Members of **Ama Takiloa** have banded together to establish a demonstration garden to feed the community as well as the motivation to replant family plots. After January’s Cyclone Ian, the people relied on each other for support when they had lost homes and livelihoods. Water, food and temporary shelter came from outside to help in the first months. Slowly the locals are finding the strength from each other to recover what they have lost. Now the gardens are growing they need help to replace fruit trees and water tank systems lost in the storm. Please give what you can to the [2014 Christmas Appeal](#), *Build Hope for Tomorrow*.

November /December 2014



Sunday 30	Advent Sunday. Services 8am and 9.30am.
Tuesday 2	10am Park Lane Advent Communion. Selwyn Centre 9.30am to 11.15am. Then Christmas carols and Christmas lunch. 7.30pm Season’s meeting followed by Christmas supper.
Wednesday 3	10am Holy Communion, morning tea and Bible study.
Thursday 4	10am Mainly music. Preschool programme with caregivers and music, fun and food.
Sunday 7	Advent 2. Services at 8am and 9.30am. 7pm we sing carols, read lessons and enjoy a Christmas supper.
Tuesday 9	10.30am Holy Communion at Lady Allum. Selwyn Centre 9.30am to 12.00. Join us for companionship, quizzes, scrabble, laughter and morning tea. Cost \$3.00.
Wednesday 10	10am Holy Communion and morning tea.
Thursday 11	10am Mainly music. Closure for the year. Nativity scene, gifts and food.
Sunday 14	Only one service at St. Paul’s 9.30am. Nativity play Carols, and gifts. Please bring gifts of toys/or food for the City Mission. 7pm Ecumenical service for remembering 200 years of Christian faith in New Zealand at St Peter’s Takapuna.
 Tuesday 16	State schools close.
Wednesday 17	10am Holy Communion and morning tea. No midweek communion until January 14 th .
Saturday 20	Op shop closes until 5 th January.
Sunday 21	Advent 4. Service at St. Paul’s 8am and 9.30am. The Active arrives at Oihi. Opening of the Rangihoua Centre at Oihi by the Governor General.
Tuesday 23	10am Holy Communion at Park Lane.

<p>Wednesday 24 Christmas Eve</p>  	<p>9.30am Setting up the church for Christingle Service. A fun task of getting ready for the symbol making later. 5pm Christingle service. Symbol making, carols and informal communion. An excellent service for families and people wanting an early service. 11.15pm Carols and the midnight Communion. Candle light.</p> <p>Christmas Day Thursday 25 Holy Communion 8am and 9.30am. Watching the Oihi service at 11am at the vicarage. Shared lunch at 12.30 All welcome.</p>
<p>2015</p>	<p>Services on Sundays 8am and 9.30am. Shop reopens Monday 5th January. Selwyn Centre and Parish office Tuesday 13th January. Lady Allum Communion Tuesday 13th January. Mid week Communion 10am Wednesday 14th January.</p>



December 6th – St Nicholas-

Shield of St. Nicholas on back of organ in St. Nicholas church
Great Hornmead Hertfordshire, England

Nicholas was a fourth-century bishop of Myra in southern Turkey. Known for loving and caring for children, Nicholas fed the hungry, healed the sick, and cared for the oppressed. However, it is the story of Nicholas saving three young women from a life of prostitution that spawned numerous legends and traditions. Tradition says that a gift of money spared and rescued the women from poverty. There has long been a tradition of bearing gifts to children on the feast day of St. Nicholas, which is still observed with great enthusiasm in the Netherlands as well as some other places.

January 6th – Epiphany - On the 12th day after Christmas the church remembers the visit of the magi to the Christ child.

According to the gospel of Matthew, sages from the East came to Jerusalem seeking the child. They had observed a new star rising and followed it to find the newborn king of the Jews. The word epiphany means “manifestation” or “sudden appearing”. During the Season after the Epiphany, which lasts from January 6 until the beginning of Lent, the church focuses on making Christ known to the world, reading stories of call, prophecy, and discipleship. Many churches observe the feast of the Epiphany on the Sunday prior, which this year is January 4.



Christmas 2014 at Oihi –

How exciting if you can attend either of these events

On Christmas Day 1814 a service and a sermon preached by Samuel Marsden, to a Māori and Pakeha congregation, began Christian mission in this land. It was the partnership of Marsden and Ruatara which led to a pivotal moment in our history and the development of the special relationship between the two peoples, Māori and Pakeha, it was a step towards nationhood.

December 21st will be the opening of Rangihoua Heritage Park, a place that tells of beginnings and includes the site of the Marsden Cross. Details for that day are available on www.rangihouaheritage.co.nz



On December 25th there is an invitation for all to attend a Bicentennial Ecumenical Service of Thanksgiving at the Marsden Cross site. The Christmas Service will celebrate the birth of Christ at the birthplace of Christianity in Aotearoa New Zealand. It will be lead by church leaders from across the country. If you intend to come to the service, to assist with planning it would be appreciated if individuals or groups could register numbers attending at the following [website](#).

Start time: The service will begin at 11am. It needs to start on time as it will be broadcast live on TV One. It is suggested people walk down to the cross by 10:30am at the latest. It is a 15-20 minute walk. People are encouraged to arrive early, if they are able, to ease possible congestion.

Parking: There will be a drop off point for those travelling by car at the entrance to the pathway on Oihi Road that leads down the hill to the Cross. Cars will be parked in allocated areas approximately 1.5 kilometres away. Shuttles will then take drivers back to the beginning of the pathway. It is not possible to take vehicles down the access path on the day.

Boat: Those travelling by boat can arrive at the beach but should be aware of commercial vessels operating that day. Fullers are also operating services on the day and inquiries can be made to their Paihia office about bookings.

What to bring: People need to be self-sufficient with their own water, refreshments, sunscreen and clothing for changeable weather. There is an invitation for people to stay after the Service with their own picnic and walk round the site and view the information panels that tell the story of Rangihoua.

Note: we can all watch on T.V.

St. Paul's 10 Otakau Road, Milford

Office email: stpaulsmilford@xtra.co.nz

web site: www.stpaulsmilford.co.nz

Worship every Sunday:

8am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Eucharist (NZPB)

9.30am J Team – Karen Stubbs – 410 8089

Weekday Communion -10am - Every Wednesday at St. Paul's

Baptism, Marriage, Funerals - By arrangement with the Vicar

Clergy: Vicar Rev'd Joyce Marcon 486 1010 –or - 021 616 390

Email: j_marcon@clear.net.nz

Hon. Assist Priest Rev'd John Marcon 486 1010

Church Directory:

Clergy Warden Graeme Thomas 445 3670

People's Warden Pam Martin 414 4223

Parish Secretary Mary Griffiths 486 0668

(Office – Tuesday- Friday 1.00pm to 5.00pm)

Parish Treasurer Megan Bowden 410 5117

Parish Recorder Cynthia Row 489 8892

Synod Reps. Mary Griffiths 410 7306

Megan Bowden 410 5117

Youth Rep. Ethan Kolodzinski

Vestry members:The Wardens, Treasurer, Synod Reps. Patrick Jackson, Gaylene Hotchkiss, Tania Manuel, Robin Norris, Tex Riley, Karen Stubbs, , Jack Weir.

Selwyn Centre: Tuesday - 9.30am – 12.00. Enquiries Mary Griffiths 486 0668

Opportunity Shop: Otakau Road. Enquiries Parish Office 486 0668

Hall Bookings: St. Paul's - Parish Office 486 0668

Magazine Distributors:

Milford East Millie McHattie 489 1441

East Coast Road/Castor Bay Parish Office 486 0668

Milford West Parish Office 486 0668

Outer Parish Parish Office 486 0668

Forrest Hill Joyce Burgess 410 9125

For prayers, house blessings and visiting contact the vicar