

ANGLICAN PARISH OF MILFORD

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

Sunday 20 September 2015

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today

8.00 NZ Prayer Book, p.404

9.30 NZ Prayer Book, p.456

TODAY IN OUR WORSHIP

Sentence

Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.

Collect

O God and Father of all, you have taught us through your Son that the last shall be first, and have made a little child the measure of your kingdom: give us the wisdom from above, so that we may understand that in your sight the one who serves is the greatest of all. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Readings

Psalm 54 (words printed in this newsletter)

Epistle James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a.

Gospel Mark 9:30-37

Post-Communion

Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

Today's Hymns

Introit	390	We sing the praise of him
Gradual	[62	Tell out my soul]
Offertory	75	You servants of God
Dismissal	678	Take my life and let it be

INSTITUTION OF NEW VICAR

Further reminder: The Institution and Induction of our new Vicar, the Revd Grant Robertson, will take place at St Paul's on **Wednesday 2 December** at 7.30pm.

Please mark in your diary now!

Priest-in-charge: The Revd Dr Noel Derbyshire

Home: 09 537 3407

E-mail: noelandjudith@xtra.co.nz

Parish Office: 09 486 0668

Office E-mail: stpaulsmilford@xtra.co.nz

Website: www.stpaulsmilford.co.nz

John Coleridge Patteson, Martyr Bishop of Melanesia

He was born in London in 1827 into a well-to-do family. He was educated in Devon and then at Eton, where he proved to be a good student and sportsman. He was also deeply religious. In 1845 he went to Oxford where he was influenced by the Oxford Movement. He studied briefly in Germany, and showed his outstanding flair for languages. Ordained deacon in 1853 and priest in 1854, he offered himself to Bishop Selwyn for work in Melanesia. He arrived in NZ in 1855 and was put in charge of the Melanesian Mission in 1857. On 24 February 1861 he was consecrated as the first Bishop of Melanesia. Like Selwyn, Patteson was another of a new style of bishop: missionary, at the forefront of the church's work, boldly leading the church into new areas. This caused debate in England, where the idea of a bishop operating outside the British Empire seemed strange, if not illegal. Patteson inherited the missionary system established by Bishop Selwyn, in which young men from the islands were taken to Auckland for instruction during the summer. They were then returned to their islands, in the hope that they would provide some Christian input and influence in their communities. It was not very successful, and Patteson determined that missionary work must be done in the islands themselves and in one of the local languages. His ten years as bishop were spent opening up the islands to the gospel, and arranging for the education of young Melanesians, at Kohimarama in Auckland, and eventually on Norfolk Island from 1867. One of his objects was to establish a group of Melanesian priests. This in itself was a novel idea. He was a brilliant linguist, but his greatest gift was that of friendship. He had no sense of prejudice about colour at all. Although he realised that they seemed uncivilized, he had a clear vision of what they might become. Indeed Patteson seemed freer than most European contemporaries of the view of Melanesian life as something to be replaced with Christianity. He was convinced that the Melanesians could accept and practise Christianity within their own culture. He wrote: "No Melanesian is excluded now from any position of trust. . . . some day Melanesian bishops may preside over native churches throughout the islands of the sea." Travel in Melanesia was always risky, and Patteson's life was often in danger. Certainly, his health suffered in the 1860s. In the same period traders sought cheap indentured labour from Melanesia. While many Melanesians were enthusiastic travellers, some of the traders were unscrupulous and even used Patteson's name to lure people on to their ships. On 20 September 1871 he was murdered on Nukapu. Joseph Atkin and Stephen Taroaniara died a week later of wounds received at the time. It was believed that Patteson's death was in retaliation for the "slave" trading, but this is by no means certain. However, it did ensure more rigorous regulations on labour trading, and gave strong impetus to the missionary work of the church. What is also clear is that his life was taken by those for whom he would gladly have given it.

Today we pray:

Blessed are you eternal God,

to be praised and glorified for ever.

Heavenly Father, hear us as we pray for the unity of the Church, and especially for others in this community who follow Christ.

May we all be one that the world may believe.

We pray for the Church, for the bishops, clergy and people of the Church of Melanesia. For Grant Robertson, our Vicar-elect. For Ross and Jim, our bishops. For the Parishes of Albany-Greenhithe, Northcote, Glenfield, Birkenhead and Birkdale-Beachhaven. For the Church Army and especially for Phil Clark, its Director, who is ill.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you.

that the life of Christ may be revealed in us.

We remember those who have died.

Father, into your hands we commend them.

We praise you for your saints, especially John Coleridge Patteson, first Bishop of Melanesia, and for all who have entered your eternal glory,

may we also come to share your heavenly kingdom.

Have compassion on those who suffer from sickness, grief or trouble, and especially for Robin Norris, Robyn Lynch, Briar Garraway, Amanda, Hope, Bob, Gabriel, Hilda Hutchinson.

In your presence may they find strength.

Look with your kindness on our homes and families and especially for those living in Seine Road, Trevonne Place, Alma Road, Argyle Terrace, Brian Avenue.

Grant that your love may grow in our hearts.

Make us alive to the needs of our world community, for all refugees, especially those from Syria seeking a safe haven.

Help us to share one another's joys and burdens.

Inspire and lead those who hold authority in the nations of the world,

Guide us and all people in the ways of justice and peace.

Strengthen all who minister in Christ's name.

Give us courage to proclaim your Gospel.

We pray in silence for our own needs ...

Almighty God, you have promised to hear the prayers of those who ask in your Son's name; we pray that what we have asked for by faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Psalm 54

Save me, O God by the power of your name: and vindicate me by your might.

Hear my prayer O God: and listen to the words of my mouth.

For insolent people have risen against me: ruthless ones are seeking my life, they give no thought to God.

But see, God is my helper: it is the Lord who upholds my life.

The offering of a willing heart I will give you: and praise your name O Lord in your faithfulness.

James 3:13-4:3,7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Mark 9:30-37.

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

SYNOD

A report on the recent Diocesan Synod is available this morning. Mary Griffiths and Megan Bowden are happy to discuss this with anyone who would like that.

WEEKLY VIDEO FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

For the last few months the Bishop and his staff have been communicating with the clergy by means of a weekly video. This is available to anyone who is interested. Please find below the link for last week's video clip from the Auckland Diocese office. This link will take you straight to the Diocesan website.

<http://www.auckanglican.org.nz/news/news/weekly-video-news-from-auckland-diocese>

The following link will take you to the Diocese's channel where you can view the latest video as well as all previous videos.

<https://vimeo.com/channels/903243>

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Each week in our intercessions we remember some of the parishes in the diocese. These are taken from the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer. It provides day-by-day intercessions which you may like to incorporate in your own prayers. It's updated each month. For the latest version, download:

http://www.auckanglican.org.nz/Anglican/media/Images/Cycle%20of%20Prayers/DIOCESAN-PRAYER-CYCLE_August-2015_1.pdf

OUR OWN WEBSITE

It's a while since this has been referred to but a reminder that St Paul's has its own website. Apart from general information about the parish, you can access the monthly magazine, the weekly newsletter, and the text of the sermon. These are normally posted on the Monday. Previous issues are also available. To find the website you can Google 'Milford Anglican' (or something like that) or else:

<http://www.stpaulsmilford.org.nz>

ANGLICAN TAONGA WEBSITE

You don't have to wait 3-4 months to get your copy of *Anglican Taonga*. They have a very good website that's updated daily and enables you to keep up to date with Anglican news here and overseas.

<http://www.anglicantaonga.org.nz/>

A VERY OLD JOKE (BUT IT'S NOT TOO BAD)

I Don't Want To Go To Church!

A mother went to wake her son for church one Sunday morning. When she knocked on his door, he said, "I'm not going!"

"Why not?" asked his mother.

"I'll give you two good reasons," he said. "One, they don't like me. Two, I don't like them."

His mother replied, "I'll give you two good reasons why YOU WILL go to church. One, you're 47 years old. Two, you're the vicar!"

This Week

Tuesday 22	9.30 to 12.00 Selwyn Centre. Join in good conversation, excellent morning teas, games. Cost \$3.00. 7.30 Vestry meeting at Mary's home
Wednesday 23	10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea.
Thursday 24	10.00am Mainly Music. Cost \$3.00 per family.

NEXT SUNDAY, 27 September

is the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

A REMINDER THAT THIS MARKS THE BEGINNING OF DAYLIGHT SAVING

Services at 8.00 and 9.30, both using the NZPB.

Readings: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16,24-29; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50.

FOOD BASKET

Please remember that gifts of food are especially welcome. You may bring food along each Sunday for the City Mission. They have an endless demand for food and every item helps. A basket is placed near the font.

BLESSING OF PETS AND THANKSGIVING OF ANIMALS

Coming up on **Sunday 4 October** at the 9.30 service. Please ask your pet to enter this in their diary. We also remember the life of St Francis of Assisi and pray for the Society of St Francis.

PARISH FAIR

Looking ahead a bit, a reminder that this will be on **Saturday 10 October**.

COMMON LIFE MISSIONS CONFERENCE

The Bishops and the recent Synod have asked us to encourage people to register for the Common Life (our whole church) missions conference. It's to be hld in Auckland at King's College, Otahuhu beteen **6-9 October**. See notices in the foyer or speak to the clergy or download: <http://clmc2015.org.nz/>

ANGLICAN TAONGA

Copies of our highly regarded national Anglican magazine are available in the foyer. A great way to learn about our church. What's more, it's free.

MRS HILDA HUTCHINSON deeply appreciates the support she received from parishioners who attended Jack's funeral on Tuesday. She wants to say that your presence brought her great strength. Noel was privileged to celebrate Holy Communion with her in her home the following morning.

PARISH OFFICE

Some overdue work is being carried out (by our own David Oswald) with a view to providing a better working environment for Mary. Too much has been expected from that small space! This work should help.

DAPHNE STONES passed away earlier this week. Daphne has been living at Edmund Hilary Retirement Village. Her funeral is this Tuesday.