

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

Sunday 13 December 2015
The 3rd Sunday in Advent

TODAY'S SERVICES

8.00 and 9.30: NZ Prayer Book, p.404: *Thanksgiving of the People of God*

TODAY IN OUR WORSHIP

Sentence: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. **Isaiah 40: 3**

Collect: God for whom we wait and watch, you sent John the Baptist to prepare for the coming of your Son; give us courage to speak the truth even to the point of suffering. **Amen.**

Readings:

Lesson Zephaniah 3: 14-20
Epistle Philippians 4: 4-7
Gospel Luke 3: 7-18

Today's Hymns

Introit	440	Rejoice the Lord is King
Gradual (9.30)	35	Glorious things of thee are spoken
Offertory	646	What a friend we have in Jesus
Dismissal	62	Tell out my soul

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Zephaniah 3: 14-20

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ 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

¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹ 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.

²⁰ 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

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3: 7-18

⁷ 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?

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.”

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?”

¹¹ In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.”

¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?”

¹³ He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.”

¹⁴ 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.”

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,

¹⁶ 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.

¹⁷ 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.”

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good

TODAY IN OUR PRAYERS:

We pray in particular for

The sick, especially Robyn Lynch, Briar Garraway, Amanda, Hope, Bob, and Gabriel. This community and especially those living in Rangitoto Terrace, Richards Avenue, Saltburn Road, Selwyn Crescent.

This Week

Tuesday 15	Selwyn Centre 9.30am-12.00. Join us for friendship, fun and morning tea. Final for 2015. We will recommence Tuesday 12 th January.
Wednesday 16	10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea. Last for the year.
Sunday 20	Advent 4. One service today at 9.30am. 9 Lessons in Carols. No Holy Communion. Readers for this service will be advised.
Wednesday 23	No 10.00am Holy Communion today.
Thursday 24	Christmas Eve. 5.00pm Christingle Family Service and Holy Communion. 11.15pm Carols and Holy Communion.
Friday 25	Christmas Day. Holy Communion 8.00am and 9.30am

The Anglican Parish of Milford

Welcomes you to St. Pauls
cnr of Otakau Road & Fenwick Avenue Milford

**Sunday 20th December 9 Lessons and Carols
9.30am only one service this Sunday. No Holy Communion**

Thursday 24th December – Christmas Eve 2015
5.00pm Christingle and Family Communion
11.15pm Carols and Midnight Communion

Friday 25th 2015 – Christmas Day
8.00am and 9.30am Holy Communion and Carols

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