

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

**Sunday 12th March 2017**  
**2nd Sunday in Lent**

**Vicar** The Rev'd Grant Robertson  
**The Vicarage** 10 Otakau Road, Milford  
**Telephone:** 486 1010  
**Parish Office:** 486 0668  
**Website:** [www.stpaulsmilford.co.nz](http://www.stpaulsmilford.co.nz)

**Sentence:** I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. Genesis 12:2

**Collect:** Holy God, you blow where you will. Blow once more through us your chosen people. Enliven us with your power, and move us with your strength. That we might be born again into your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

8.00 am – Lenten Liturgy  
9.30 am – Lenten Liturgy

**Introit** 494 This is the truth which we proclaim  
**Gradual** 634 Will you come follow me?  
**Offertory** Now to your table spread (see sheet)  
**Dismissal** 542 O God, our help in ages past

## Readings for today Sunday 12th March

2nd Sunday in Lent

**1st Reading** - Genesis 12:1-4a

**Epistle** - Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

**Gospel** - John 3:1-17

Readers 8.00 am - Rosemary Maire

Readers 9.30 am – Priscilla Philip and Maureen Christensen

### Genesis 12:1-4a

Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed”. So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

### Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

### John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

We remember in our prayers today – Kelvin, Louie (Hilary’s grandson) Briar, Robyn, Bob and Gabrielle, Simon, Julieanne, and Carol. And we remember parishioners and residents in Forrest Hill Road, Grenada Avenue, Havelock Avenue, Keldale Place.

## Readings for next Sunday 19th March

3rd Sunday in Lent

**1st Reading** - Exodus 17: 1-7

**Epistle** – Romans 5: 1-11

**Gospel** - John 4: 5-42

Readers 8.00 am - Ian Turner and Mary Griffiths

Readers 9.30 am - Gaylene Hotchkiss and Marion Chiswell

## This Week

<b>Tuesday 14th</b>	Selwyn Centre Come and join us for friendship, fun and fellowship. Cost \$3.00.
<b>Wednesday 15th</b>	10.00 am Holy Communion followed by morning tea.
<b>Thursday 16th</b>	10.00 am Mainly Music.
<b>Sunday 19th</b>	Services 8.00am and 9.30am Holy Communion

**Parish Luncheon** - Are you interested in joining a group of people from the parish to have a Pot Luck lunch? If you are interested please put your name down on the list at the back of the church. The day will be Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March. Please contact Margaret McLaren on phone 410 0472.

**St Johns North Shore** – Callers and Clients needed for the Caring Callers Division. For more information phone John Pritchard on Phone 526 0527 extn 8915. See church notice board.

## Dates to put in your diary

**A.G.M Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March.** To be held **during** 9.30am service. Followed by shared morning tea. No 8.00 am service this Sunday.

**Garage Sale Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April.** For storage purposes please encourage people to bring their contributions down to the church as near

to this date as possible