

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

Sunday 2nd July
Patronal Festival



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Sentence – His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the equipment of the saints, for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.
Ephesians 4: 11-12

Collect – God of the new and the old, we praise you for Paul, his leadership and for all we have received from him; grant that we, like Paul may recognise our moment when it comes and choose you.
Amen.

Introit 577 Lord of the Church
Gradual 675 Rejoice in God's saints
Offertory 607 We are called to stand together
Dismissal 37 Glory in the highest

**Readings for today Sunday 2nd July
Patronal Festival**

1st Reading – Zechariah 4:1-6a, 10b-14

Epistle – Acts 12:1-11

Gospel – Matthew 16: 13-19

Readers – Karen Stubbs and Megan Bowden

Zechariah 4:1-6a, 10b-14

The angel who talked with me came again, and wakened me, as one is wakened from sleep. He said to me, “What do you see?” And I said, “I see a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl on the top of it; there are seven lamps on it, with seven lips on each of the lamps that are on the top of it. And by it there are two olive trees, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left.” I said to the angel who talked with me, “What are these, my lord?”

Then the angel who talked with me answered me, “Do you not know what these are?” I said, “No, my lord.” He said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the LORD of hosts. For whoever has despised the day of small things shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel. These seven are the eyes of the LORD, which range through the whole earth.” Then I said to him, “What are these two olive trees on the right and the left of the lampstand?” And a second time I said to him, “What are these two branches of the olive trees, which pour out the oil through the two golden pipes?” He said to me, “Do you not know what these are?” I said, “No, my lord.” Then he said, “These are the two anointed ones who stand by the Lord of the whole earth.”

Acts 12:1-11

About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.

The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with

two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, "Fasten your belt and put on your sandals." He did so. Then he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

Matthew 16: 13-19

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

We remember in our prayers today – Kelvin, Louie (Hilary's grandson) Briar, Robyn, Bob and Gabrielle, Simon, Julieanne, Carol, Pauline and Lynette. And we remember parishioners and residents in Maddison Place, Meadowvale Avenue, Merrifield Avenue, Newport Place.

This Week

Tuesday 4th	Selwyn Centre 9.30am. Join us for fun, fellowship and good conversation. Cost \$3.00
Wednesday 5th	10.00 am Holy Communion followed by morning tea.
Thursday 6th	10.00am Mainly Music.
Sunday 9th	Services 8.00am and 9.30am

Readings for today Sunday 9th July

1st Reading –Zechariah 9: 9-12

Epistle – Romans 7: 15-25

Gospel – Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

Readers 8.00am – To be advised

Readers 9.30am – Chris and Christine Maud

PROBABLY THE GREATEST

St Peter and St Paul were undoubtedly the greatest of the saints in the early church. They are also commemorated separately on other days: Peter for his confession of Jesus as Messiah (February 22) and Paul for his conversion (January 25). We remember them together on June 29 because of their martyrdom in about 64AD.

Tradition tells us that they both perished at the hands of Nero who found the Church a convenient scapegoat for problems in the city. Christians were useful targets for scorn. It is said that Peter was crucified with his head downwards and that Paul was executed by the sword, being a Roman citizen. The places where they were buried became shrines to which pilgrims visited. St Peter's in the Vatican is associated with Peter and St Paul's, outside the walls of Rome, with Paul. Both in their own ways expended themselves in the mission of the Church, which extended from Jerusalem to the major cities around the Mediterranean by the middle of the 1st century. Others were involved in the preaching of the gospel, but Peter and Paul dominate the Acts of the Apostles. Both reached Rome: Paul as a prisoner of the Roman authorities. We know nothing of Peter's work in Rome but Luke tells us that he lived there for two whole years.

The great cathedral at Dogura in Papua New Guinea is dedicated to SS Peter and Paul. In the heart of New Zealand's tourist industry, the churches in Queenstown and Arrowtown are dedicated to St Peter and St Paul respectively. Even closer to home, we at St Paul's, Milford can relate

to St Peter's, Takapuna, as it was our mother church until we became a separate parish in 1971.

Date for your diary

Thursday 20th July 7pm. Parish dinner at Kashmir Indian Restaurant in Kitchener Road Milford. Join us for a social evening together. Please sign list at back of church if you require transport.