

PARISH OF MILFORD
St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford
Sunday 8th March 2020

Vicar The Rev'd Grant Robertson
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Sentence - 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.

Collect - God of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, and always ready to forgive: grant us grace to renounce all evil and to cling to Christ, that in every way we may prove to be your loving children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

8.00am - Lenten Liturgy

9.30am - Lenten Liturgy

Introit - 83 Give to our God immortal praise

Gradual - 483 Welcome to another day!

Offertory - 384 My song is love unknown

Dismissal - 324 Name of all majesty

Readings for today Sunday 8th March

1st Reading - Genesis 12: 1-4a

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

Gospel - John 3: 1-17

Readers 8.00am -To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Karen Stubbs and Gaylene Hotchkiss

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. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

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 – Lesley, Lorna, Lyn, Tommy, Shobha, Bob, Jessica, Dennis, Pat, Hazel, Robert, Shelley, Cynthia, Hilda, John, Logan, Kelvin, Bob and Gabriel. And residents and parishioners Argyle Terrace, Brian Avenue, Cecil Road, Commodore Parry Road.

Readings for next Sunday 15th March

1st Reading - Exodus 17: 1-7

Epistle - Romans 5: 1-11

Gospel - John 4: 5-42

Readers 8.00am -To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Marion Chiswell and Megan Bowden

This Week

Tuesday 10th March - 9.30am Selwyn Centre. Join us for friendship, fun and good conversation. \$4.00.

Wednesday 11th March - 10.00am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea.

Thursday 12th March - 10.00am Mainly Music.

Sunday 15th March - 8.00am and 9.30am Holy Communion.

Invitation from St John's Campbells Bay

We have been invited to join St John's Anglican Church Campbells Bay for a Reflective Service - Taizé style on Wednesday 18 March 2020 at 7.00 pm. This service is based in the Taizé tradition, with music, readings, and periods of silence. After the service we will walk the Labyrinth, finishing the evening with a cuppa tea.

Some dates to put in your diary –

***Thursday 9th April Maundy Thursday -**

We will join St Peters Anglican Church Takapuna.

***Friday 10th April Good Friday -**

We will join the ecumenical service at the Milford Baptist Church.

***Thursday 23rd April 7pm -**

Parish dinner at Milford Bar & Restaurant formally Athena on Roma.

***Parish A.G.M -**

Sunday 3rd May during the 9.30am service. Only one service this Sunday.

Saturday 16th May - High Tea more information to follow.