

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

Sunday 26th July 2020

Vicar The Rev'd Grant Robertson
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Sentence - Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8: 38-39.

Collect - O God, the fount of wisdom, you have revealed to us in Christ the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price: grant us your Spirit's gift of discernment, that, in the midst of the things of this world, we may learn to value the priceless worth of your kingdom, and be ready to renounce all else for the sake of the precious gift you offer. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

9.30am - NZPB 404

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| Introit | 184 The kingdom of God |
| Gradual | 44 Immortal, invisible, God only wise |
| Offertory | 312 Let us gladly with one mind |
| Dismissal | 298 For the beauty of the earth |

St Paul's A.G.M one service 9.30am

1st Reading - Genesis 29: 15-28

Epistle - Romans 8: 26-39

Gospel - Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

Readers 9.30am - Patrick Jackson and Marion Chiswell

Genesis 29: 15-28

Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go into her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Romans 8: 26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate

us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

We remember in our prayers - Ray, Barrie, Lesley, Lorna, Shobha, Jessica, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, John, Logan, Kelvin, Bob and Gabriel. And residents and parishioners in Regal Place, Seine Road, Trevone Place, Alma Road Argyle Terrace.

This Week

Tuesday 28th July - 9.30am - 12.00noon Selwyn Centre. Join us for fun, friendship and morning tea. Cost \$4.00.

Wednesday 29th July -10.00am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea.

Thursday 30th July -10.00am Mainly Music.

Sunday 2nd August - Holy Communion 8.00am, Family Communion 9.30am.

High Tea - Saturday 1st August \$35.00 a ticket. Please sign your name on clip board at back of the church. Mary is selling tickets.

Parish Dinner - Thursday 6th August 7.00pm Milford Bar and Restaurant Milford Road. For booking purposes please sign clip board at the back of the church.

Readings for next Sunday 2nd August

1st Reading - Genesis 32: 22-31

Epistle - Romans 9: 1-5

Gospel - Matthew 14: 13-21

Readers 8.00am - To be advised

Readers 9.30am - Priscilla Philip and Erika Halliday