

St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford
Sunday 1st December 2024
First Sunday of Advent



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Sentence - Stand up and raise your heads; your redemption is drawing near. Luke 21: 28

Collect - Eternal God you have taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand: keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom, and make us strong in faith, so that when Christ comes in glory to judge the earth, we may go out joyfully to greet him; and, with all your saints, may worship you forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Introit	454 Come and see the shining hope
Gradual	376 Songs of thankfulness and praise
Offertory	353 In the bleak mid-winter
Closing	438 Jesus comes with clouds descending

8.00am - NZPB 404

9.30am - NZPB 404

Readings for today Sunday 1st December

First Reading - Jeremiah 33: 14-16

Epistle -1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13

Gospel - Luke 21: 25-36

Readers - 8.00am - To be advised

Jeremiah 33: 14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Luke 21: 25-36

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the

kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man.”

We remember in our prayers - Patrick, Lorraine, Anne, Tomas, Donna, Julie, Megan, Dianne, Noeline, Gillian, Barrie, Lesley, Shobha, Pat, Hazel, Shelley, Cynthia, Logan, Kelvin, Margaret, Jeff, and Bryce. Residents and parishioners in Seine Road, Trevone Place, Alma Road, Argyle Terrace, Brian Avenue, Cecil Road, Commodore Parry Road.

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 3rd	Selwyn Centre 9.30am. Join us for fun, friendship and morning tea. Cost \$5.00.
Wednesday 4th	10am Holy Communion. Followed by morning tea.
Thursday 5th	Mainly Music at 10.00am. Cost \$5.00.
Sunday 8th December	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Holy Communion

Readings for next Sunday 8th December

First Reading - Malachi 3:1-4

Epistle - Philippians 1:3-11

Gospel - Luke 3:1-6

Readers - 8.00am - To be advised

Readers - 9.30am - Ulo and Liz

The meaning of the Advent wreath.



An Advent wreath is circular and symbolizes everlasting life and unending love. The arrangement is used to put our attention on the meaning of Christmas. The candles, in particular, put our focus on hope, peace, joy and love.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS - Sunday 22nd DECEMBER

9.30am (NO 8am service this day)

CHRISTMAS EVE - Tuesday 24th DECEMBER

**5.00pm Christingle Children &
Family Service (with communion).**

11.00pm

Candles, Carols & Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY – Wednesday 25th DECEMBER

8.00am - 9.30am Carols & Holy Communion

Vicar Rev'd Grant Robertson

COME & JOIN US