

13th September 2020.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM

24th of Year A

Theme: The Lord is compassion and love who forgives all our guilt but as the readings today point out, we cannot expect forgiveness and mercy from God if we do not forgive other people. To nurse a grudge is not permitted.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when our pride prevents us turning to you.
Lord have mercy.

People: **LORD HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when we are grudging in forgiveness.
Christ have mercy.

People: **CHRIST HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when we forget your patience and loving kindness. Lord have mercy.

People: **LORD HAVE MERCY**

GLORIA.

OPENING PRAYER: Let us pray that God will keep us faithful in his service. Almighty God, our creator and guide, may we serve you with all our hearts and know your forgiveness in our lives. Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading - Ecclesiasticus 27 v.30. 28v.7 This reading gives us a strong motive to forgive the wrongs done to us since our readiness to forgive others will be a measure of the forgiveness we receive.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High and overlook the offence.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Psalm 102

Ⓜ **The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul gives thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.Ⓜ

It is he who forgives all our guilt who heals everyone of your ills
Who redeems your life from the grave
who crowns you with love and compassion.Ⓜ

His wrath will come to an end he will not be angry for ever

He does not treat us according to our sins

nor repay us according to our faults.Ⓜ

For us as the heavens are high above the earth

as strong as his love for those who fear him

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. Ⓜ

Second Reading - Romans 14 v. 7-9 Belonging to God changes our life and our death.
Belonging to God means we belong together.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18 v. 21 – 35 In the Gospel reading Jesus gives Peter a direct answer that forgiveness should have no limitation. He uses the parable to illustrate how we should forgive if we want to be forgiven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

CREED Nicene Creed

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant : Remembering that God constantly forgives all faults, let us pray to him for the Spirit of Forgiveness in the world.

Reader: Let us pray for all whose lives are poisoned by resentments and grudges; for all families divided by spite and jealousy.

Let us pray for those who are suffering because of man's inability to live fully God's command of love. We remember those who are suffering because of war or natural disaster.

We pray that a peaceful solution may be found to end all serious divisions and differences between nations.

Let us pray for all those in authority in our society who are called to judge others, that their justice may always be seasoned with mercy. We pray for all barristers and judges.

Let us pray that we may grow stronger in the kind of loving and forgiving which will show us as true followers of Christ.

Let us pray for the sick - especially our parishioners in homes- Margaret Maundrell, Hazel Lockwood, Judith Hurd and Cindie Lind. We continue to pray for Billy Carter, Jessica Mercer, Ralph Lambert and Nichola Berry. Forgive any insensitivity to their needs and may that forgiveness give us new spirit to help them in their need.

Let us pray for the work of the Additional Curates Society and the fostering of vocation.

May God forgive the sins of our parents, relatives and friends who have died. Also those whose anniversaries we commemorate and through forgiveness, welcome them into everlasting life - especially Jean Yeardsey; Betty Rush; Muriel Downie; George Drayson; James Edwards; Charles Kitchen; Muriel Owen-King; Tony Keeling; Olive Burch; George Davy; Herbert Nash; Harold Baully; Rosemary Double; Mabel Baker whose anniversaries occur this week.

Let us commend ourselves to Mary's prayers - she was wounded by the death of her son. **Hail Mary full of grace the Lord is with Thee, blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

SILENCE

All: Merciful God, may we go from this Mass and give to others the forgiveness we have ourselves received. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Prayers

SANCTUS:

AGNUS DEI

Post Communion Prayer and Angelus

Quotes on forgiveness

"Forgiveness is a funny thing; it warms the heart and cools the sting." William Ward.

"Hatred does more damage to the person in which it is stored than to the person on which it is poured."

Suggested Prayer for Forgiveness

Merciful Father give me the grace to seek forgiveness of those whom I have injured and to forgive those who have offended me.

Lord Jesus I pray for all those who do not listen to your voice, those who cannot listen and those who will not listen.

This week Divine Office Psalter week 4

Mon: HOLY CROSS DAY (Feast)
8.00 Mass (Numbers 21 v. 4-9. John 3 v. 13-17)
Int: Priests' Society of the Holy cross

Tues: Our lady of Sorrows
9.30 Mass (1 Cor. 12 v 12-14, 27-31 John 19 v. 25-27)
Int: The Bereaved.

Wed: S.S. Cornelius and Cyprian
9.30 Mass (1 Cor. 12 v. 31 -13 v. 13. Luke 7 v. 31-35)
Int: Respect for all creation
International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer

Thurs: 9.30 Mass (1 Cor. 15 v. 1-11. Luke 7 v. 36-50)
Int: Forgiveness and Reconciliation.

Fri: 9.30 Mass (1 Cor. 15 v.12-20. Luke 8 v.1-3)
Int: Ministry of Deliverance.

Sat: 9.30 Mass (1 Cor. 15 v. 35-37, 42-49 Luke 8 v.4-15)
Int: All who farm the land.

Next Sunday 25th OF YEAR A
9.30 Mass and Address (Preach +Mike, Bishop of Dunwich)
(Is. 55 v. 6-9 Phil. 1 v 20-24. Matt. 20 v. 1-16)

Notices

- 1 The next P.C.C. will be on 27th September at 10.30
- 2 Thank you all who took part and sponsored Ride and Stride Day.