

11<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

**PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM**  
**28th of year A - Harvest Thanksgiving**

*Theme:* God has saved us through Jesus but we must make this salvation something real. If we do not, then we face God's rejection. In this Mass we ask God to change our sinfulness into eternal life.

**BLESSING OF HARVEST GIFTS FOR HOMELESS**

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

*Celebrant:* Forgive us, Lord, for the times we use people to satisfy our needs. Lord have mercy. **LORD HAVE MERCY**

*Celebrant:* Forgive us, Lord, for the times we carry grudges and resentments against those we feel have hurt us. Christ have mercy. **CHRIST HAVE MERCY**

*Celebrant:* Forgive us, Lord, for the times we do not show enough attention or interest for those in need of help or comfort. Lord have mercy. **LORD HAVE MERCY.**

**CELEBRANT PROCLAIMS GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

**Gloria:**

**Opening Prayer;** Father, God of goodness, you give man to provide him with food. May the produce we harvest sustain our lives and may we always use it for your glory and the good of all.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

1st Reading: Isaiah 25 v 6-10. Isaiah depicts man's final judgement in the image of a banquet, a celebration of God with all His people.

*On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Psalm 22

® **In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. ®

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff, with these you give comfort. ®

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. ®

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. ®

*2nd Reading:* Philippians 4. 12-14, 19-20. St. Paul expresses total confidence in God who is his strength.

*I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen*

**Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God. Alleluia!**

*Gospel Reading:* Matthew 22 v 1-14. We are invited to the wedding feast, the banquet prophesied by Isaiah in the first reading. But we must come spiritually dressed for the occasion – our faith must be clothed in good works.

*Jesus began to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'*

**ADDRESS**

**CREED:** (Nicene)

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:**

*Celebrant:* St. Paul reminds us that there is nothing we cannot do if we have the help of the one who gives us strength. So with great confidence let us turn to the Father and ask Him to show us His will.

*Reader:* Let us pray for those who refuse the Lord's invitation, that they may be helped to discover what they are being asked to do and who is asking them to do it.

Let us pray for those who are troubled by difficulties, oppressed by suffering, who have lost trust or who have given way to despair, that they may discover the strength of their Saviour.

Let us pray for ourselves, that we will always be ready to respond to the Lord's invitation and be ready to do His will in all things.

Let us pray for the work of all agencies that promote the growth of food and its distribution throughout the world, especially Christian Aid & St Martin's Housing Trust, Norwich.

Let us pray for those who waste the resources of the earth, who use living creatures unworthily. May they come to appreciate the oneness and dignity of God's creation.

Let us pray for farmers, farm workers, fishermen and all who have laboured to provide food from land and sea.

Let us pray for those who through poverty, illness or oppression are locked out of life's banquet; for those who are satisfied as they are and feel no hunger for a deeper life.

Let us pray for ourselves that we may experience that inner hunger and thirst for the goodness of life Christ spoke about, so that He can fill us.

Let us pray for the healing of the sick, our parishioners in homes- and for Michael Denny; Daphne Elliott; Clarice Bentley; Lynda Brill, Peter King, Sam Elstone and all prayed for at Shrine Prayers.

Let us pray for those who have died, that they may share in the eternal banquet especially Frederick Button; David leGrys; Helen Mitchard; Jean Larter; Mary Burrows; Tom Lockwood; Jessica Walker; Arthur Pipe; Alice Lebbell; George Pollard and Bertie Woods whose anniversaries occur this week, that all those who hoped in the vision of the Lord may now possess the fullness of heavenly glory.

We now ask Mary to teach us to respond to God's invitation as willingly as she did. **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.**

S I L E N C E

**All: God our Father, you have called us to the banquet of your Son so that you may feed us and make yourself known to us. Listen kindly to our prayers which we make through Jesus your Son. Amen.**

**SANCTUS: AGNUS DEI:** *Post Communion Prayer & Angelus*

### **This week: Divine Office - Psalter Week 4**

**Mon:** 9.30am Mass (Gal 4 v 22-24,26-27,31 - 5v1; Luke 11 v. 29-32.)  
Int. Baby Loss awareness week

**Tues. St Edward the Confessor**  
9.30am Mass (Gal 5 v 1-6; Luke 11v. 37-41.)  
Int: Queen & Government

**Wed.** 8.00 am. Mass. (Gal 5 v 18-25; Luke 11 v 42-46)  
Int: All Lawyers

**Thurs. Translation of Our Lady of Walsingham**  
9.30am. Mass (II Sam 6 v 2,5,12-17; Luke 1 v 26-38)  
Int: All pilgrims

**Fri, St Margaret Mary**  
9.30am Mass (Eph 1 v 11-14; Luke 12 v.1-7)  
Int: All who reject Our Lord

**Sat. St Ignatius of Antioch**  
3.00pm 1st Mass of Sunday Int: Persecuted Christians

### **NEXT SUNDAY: - 29 of Year A.**

9.30am Parish Mass, Address  
(Is. 45 v. 1, 4-6 1 Thes. 1. V. 1-5 Matt. 22 v. 15-21)

### **NOTICES:**

1. On Monday 19th there will be a Bible Study in Church at 10.15am.
2. Thank you to all who have contributed to harvest gifts.
3. Boxes for Friends of St Mary's are blessed at Mass on 25th Oct at 9.30am
4. APCM will be on Sun 25th Oct at 10.30am. Nomination form for Deanery Synod Reps on Table.
5. List on Table for November candles - £6 each.

### **THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:**

**God does not ask for our ability or inability but for OUR AVAILABILITY.**