

18th October 2020

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM
29th of Year A

THEME: God is ruler over all, but he chooses men as his instruments. He speaks to us through all the events of our lives - politics, work, family etc. We can pray in this Mass for a greater awareness of God's presence in our lives.

PENITENTIAL RITE

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

Celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness

Gloria.

OPENING PRAYER: Let us pray for the gift of simplicity and joy in our service of God and man. Almighty and ever-living God, our source of power and inspiration, give us strength and joy in serving you as followers of Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading ~ Isaiah 45 v. 1, 4-6 The prophet Isaiah tells us how God chooses Cyrus, King of the Persians, to help fulfil his plan of salvation.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more:
'It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.'

Responsorial Psalm ~ 95(96):1,3-5,7-10

® "Give the Lord glory and power."

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples.

® "Give the Lord glory and power."

The Lord is great and worthy of praise,
to be feared above all gods;
the gods of the heathens are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens, ®

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power;
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts, ®.

Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness ®.

Second Reading ~ 1 Thessalonians 1 v. 1-5 St Paul echoes the first readings, that we have been chosen by God and that he loves us and that through prayer, the power of the Holy Spirit can confirm us in our faith and hope in God and strengthen our love for him and each other.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!

Your word is truth, O Lord consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!

Gospel ~ Matthew 22 v. 15-21 In the Gospel Jesus avoids the trap set for him by the Pharisees. He reinforces the message of Isaiah that while we have a duty to respect earthly authority, we are called first and foremost to give God the worship that is his due, and his alone.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

Father Philip admits the Churchwardens to office

ADDRESS

CREED

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: St Paul orders that prayers should be made for all in authority. We now direct our prayers to the Father in obedience to the apostle.

Reader: Let us pray that we may place loyalty to truth, to right and to God, before loyalty to friends, to party or to country.

Let us pray for the deprived of the world. May they experience the mercy of God through the goodness of people who look after their needs.

We pray for the thousands throughout the world forced into slavery who are suffering from physical, emotional or sexual abuse. Let us pray that God's people will work for justice and the liberation of the oppressed, wherever and whenever oppression and domination are found.

We pray for the Queen, bless her in her selfless devotion. We pray for her government and especially Daniel Poulter our M.P. We pray too for all who live under oppressive regimes. Listen to their sighs as once you heard Israel and free them from their oppression.

Let us pray for those in authority in the Church, that they may be servants and not masters. May they not be afraid to speak out and so provide a courageous voice for truth and justice. We pray for our churchwardens Chris Elstone and Andrew Fleming.

Let us pray for the sick, especially our house communicants Margaret Maundrell, Hazel Lockwood, Billy and Margaret Carter. We continue to pray for Lynda Brill, Nichola Berry. Michael Denny, Ralph and Daphne Lambert.

Let us pray for those who have died: especially John Blake and John Finbow (who recently died, pause while candles are lit) Jessie Tasker; Willie Burney; Nellie Prout; Violet Probert; Edith Bowling; Mary Greensmith; Sylvia Morphew; whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

Let us pray that our Lady may help us never to falter but always have the courage to do the will of God, **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

Father we come to you in faith and hope, confident that you will listen to our needs. Fill us with your love so that we may always respond to your call in generous service. Enabled by the Holy Spirit, we make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sanctus

Post Communion Prayer & Angelus

This Week: Divine office ~ Psalter Week 1

Mon: VOTIVE MASS OF ST. LUKE.

9:30 Mass – Int: The Sick.
(II Tim 4 v.10-17. Luke 10 v. 1-9.)
10.15 Bible Study in Church. Luke 8 v. 42-48, Mark 5 v. 25-34

Tues: 9.30 Mass - Int: Victims of Modern Day Slavery.
(Eph. 2 v. 12-22. Luke 12 v.35-38.)

Wed: 8:00 Mass - Int: Agents fighting human trafficking
(Eph. 3 v 2-12. Luke 12 v.39-48.)

Thurs: 9:30 Mass. - Int: Walsingham
(Eph. 3 v. 14-21. Luke 12 v. 49-53.)

Fri: 9.30 Mass Int: Divided Families.
(Eph. 4 v. 1-6. Luke 12 v. 54-59.)

Sat: 3.00pm Mass Int: Friends of St. Marys.
Readings as on Sunday

Next Sunday - DEDICATION FESTIVAL

9:30 Parish Mass, Address & Blessing of Friends of St. Mary's Boxes
(Gen 28 v. 11-18. 1 Cor 3v.9-13;16-17. John 4 v.19-24)
10.20 (approx.) – immediately after Mass: APCM in church
10.45 (approx.) short PCC meeting in church

NOTICES

1. Please return Friends of St. Mary's Boxes to be blessed next Sunday.
2. Next Sunday is the last day for ordering November candles.
3. Please nominate for Deanery Synod. Paper on table.
4. All Souls Day will be on Monday 2nd November. 2 Requiems: 9.30 and 6.30pm.
5. Please add your name to the list at the back of church if you are intending to come to the 9.30 Mass on Remembrance Sunday (8th Nov) – or email Chris at chris198@hotmail.co.uk We must know by Sunday 1st November so the churchwardens know how many places are available for visitors.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“Lord, renew me with this food from heaven so that I may always follow conscience and be ‘the king’s good servant’ – BUT GOD’S FIRST”