

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM

32nd of Year B

Mon: Wisdom 1v.1-7; Luke 17 v1-6
Int: The Dying

Tues: DEDICATION OF WATERAN BASILICA (feast)
Ezek. 47v.1-2,8-9,12' John 2v.13-22
Int: Conservation Societies

Wed: ST LEO THE GREAT
Wisdom 6 v.1-11; Luke 17 v 11-19
Int: Those suffering from Leprosy

Thurs: ST MARTIN OF TOURS
Wisdom 7v.22 – 8v.1; Luke 1 v 20-25
Int: The homeless

Fri: ST JOSAPHAT
(Wisdom 13 v.1-9; Luke 17 v26-37
Int: All who suffer

Sat: Daniel 12 v 1-13; Heb. 10 v 11-14, 18; Mark 13 v 24-32
Int: Parish and congregation

NEXT SUNDAY: REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

9.30 Solemn Requiem for fallen in war, followed immediately by Act of Remembrance at American memorial in South Churchyard
2 Maccabees 12 v. 43-45; Revelation. 21 v. 1-7; Luke 24 v. 13-35

NOTICES:

Unfortunately all services are cancelled this week but I plan to resume on Remembrance Sunday after the requisite 10 days of isolation. All are welcome at the Mass, which will be followed by a short act of remembrance at the American War Memorial. We plan to welcome visitors including representatives from USAAF Lakenheath, Mendlesham and Wetheringsett Parish Councils and uniformed organisations. We would like everyone to wear a mask or face covering unless exempt. Thanks to Stuart Larkin and Simon Furze who plan to broadcast the service to the churchyard for the benefit of any who feel uneasy about coming into the church. Further details will follow before next Sunday.

THEME: Widows were among the most vulnerable and disposable people in Biblical times. The two widows in today's Mass were pitiable figures, yet startling reminders to us of our lack of trust in God's providence.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Celebrant: Forgive us Lord, for those times we have failed to trust in your promises. Lord have mercy. *People:* **LORD HAVE MERCY.**

Celebrant: Forgive us Lord, for the times we have made a show of our giving but not really given ourselves. Christ have mercy. **CHRIST HAVE MERCY.**

Celebrant: Forgive us Lord, for our petty meanness and lack of love. Lord have mercy. *People:* **LORD HAVE MERCY**

GLORIA –

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray for health of mind and body.* God of power and mercy, protect us from all harm. Give us freedom of spirit and health in mind and body to do your work on earth.

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

1st Reading: 1 Kings 17 v 10-16. During a time of drought and famine, the prophet Elijah asks the help of a poor widow. She shares the little she has with the prophet and this brings her new life and hope.

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring me a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Psalm 145

® My soul give praise to the Lord.

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever
Who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry
The Lord, who sets prisoners free. ®

® **My soul give praise to the Lord.**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind
Who raises up those who are bowed down.
It is the Lord who loves the just
The Lord who protects the stranger. ®

He upholds the widow and orphan
But thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever
Zion's God from age to age. ®

2nd Reading: Hebrews 9 v 24 – 28. Christ has entered history to take our sufferings on Himself in order that we might be able to enter into the very presence of God himself.

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

Acclamation: (all) Alleluia, Alleluia! Even if you die, says the Lord, keep faithful and I will give you the crown of life. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 12 v. 38 - 44. Jesus warns us of the political and religious leaders of his day who pretended to be religious while they grew rich by exploiting the poor. He points us to the poor widow who quietly shares what little she has.

Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

CREED - Apostles.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: Faced with the great problems of world injustice, the Church calls us to a generous solidarity with the poor. We pray for sensitivity and strength to respond.

Reader: Lord, help us to be generous to those in need, like the widow who shared all she had with Elijah.

Lord, comfort with your loving presence all those who have recently lost, through death, their husband or wife.

Let us pray for the leaders of the Western world; that they may be inspired not by narrow self-interest but by effective concern for the great masses of the world's poor.

Let us pray for all our aid agencies; that they may continue to spearhead real solidarity with the poorest of the poor.

Let us pray for those in charge of social services, that they may help the poor and needy and regard them always as full members of our society for whom it is their privilege to care.

Let us pray for all who tend to be covetous; that we may open their hearts to those around us, so that forgetting ourselves and our possessions, we may discover the happiness of sharing with others.

Let us pray for the unemployed and for all those who are in pain or distress; that the words of Christ may give them strength and hope.

Let us pray for a greater spirit of gratitude to God; that we may continue to thank the Lord for all His goodness to us.

Let us pray for the sick – especially for Marjorie Rousseau, Julie Gray, Lucy Muskett and all prayed for at Shrine Prayers.

Let us remember the departed, especially those we have known and loved, that they may see the fullness of God's glory. We pray for Joce Taylor, Audrey Finbow, Marjorie Greensmith, Brian Everett, Ada Cracknell, Luther Greensmith, Betty Sadd and Reginald Carter whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

Let us pray with Mary who relied completely on 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

All: Father, you have given us more than we deserve and the answer to these our prayers will be an added reason for praising you, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Offertory Prayers:
Sanctus & Benedictus –**

Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei –

Post communion Prayer

Angelus

Blessing