

APCM follows our Parish Mass. Please do stay.

This Week: Divine office - Psalter Week 2

Mon: 9.30 Mass (Acts 16 v.11-15; John 15 v. 26- 16 v. 4)  
Int: Christian Aid

Tues: 9.30 Mass (Acts 16 v.22-34; John 16 v. 5-11)  
Int: All who are hungry and homeless

Wed: **Eve of Ascension of Our Lord**  
7.30 Mass (Readings as tomorrow)  
Int: Mission of the Church

Thurs: **Ascension of Our Lord (Solemnity)**  
9.30 Mass (Acts 1 v.1-11; Eph 1 v17-23; Mark 16 v. 15-20)  
Int: Parish and Congregation

Fri: **St Matthias, Apostle & Martyr (Feast)**  
9.30 Mass (Acts 1 v15-17, 20-26; John 15 v9-17.)  
Int: Our Bishops

Sat: 6.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation  
7.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> Mass of Sunday Readings as on Sunday

Next Sunday: Seventh of Eastertide  
9.30am Parish Mass and Address  
(Acts 1v.1-11; Eph.1v.17-23; Mark 16v.15-20)

Notices.

1. Please observe the Feast of Our Lord's Ascension either on Eve or Day.

2. Please respond generously to **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK**. There will be no house-to-house collections but the need is very great. Please give either in the churn in Church or online via: [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mendlesham](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mendlesham)  
A suggestion from one member of our congregation is to donate the equivalent cost of your covid vaccination (which we have or will have received free of charge) remembering those in developing countries who are less fortunate.

**Thought for the week:** What is my attitude toward people who are different from myself in race, nationality, religion or gender?  
What attitude adjustments do I need to make?  
How can the Spirit help me to do this?  
Risen Jesus, send your Spirit to unite all people to profess the faith we profess.

Please take this bulletin home with you.

9<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Please keep silence from 9.25 to prepare for Mass

**PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM**  
**SIXTH OF EASTERTIDE – ROGATION SUNDAY**

THEME: We often speak and think as if we chose to be Christians ourselves. Not so, says Jesus, I chose you; more than that, I chose you to be my friends. Now, as my friends, you must love one another in the same way that I love you.

Blessing of the 3rd set of candles for the departed

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when we think your love asks too much of us. Lord have mercy.

People : **LORD HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant : Forgive us, Lord, for being so blind to the Holy Spirit working in us. Christ have mercy.

People : **CHRIST HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant : Forgive us, Lord, because we fear to be changed if we open our hearts to you. Lord have mercy.

People : **LORD HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness

GLORIA

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray that we may practise in our lives the faith we profess.* Ever-living God, help us to celebrate our joy on the resurrection of the Lord and to express in our lives the love we celebrate.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

First Reading – Acts 10v.25,26,34,35,44-48. Before he receives his first converts into the community of faith, Peter tells them that he has come to realise an important truth: God does not have favourites; all who do what is right are acceptable to him.

*As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!' Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him. While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.*

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 97

® **The Lord had shown his salvation to the nations.**

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders.

His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation.®

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations.

He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. ®

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy.®

Second Reading – 1 John 4v.7-10.

The overwhelming love that God has for his creatures is the basis of Christian love.

Failure to love means the failure to know the truth about God.

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!

**Jesus said: "If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my father will love him, and we shall come to him." Alleluia!**

Gospel - John 15 v.9-17. In his last discourse to his disciples Jesus appeals to them to remain in the love that he has shared with them. God first chose them. In that choice they can bear fruit that will last.

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love.

I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you.

A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me: no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

**Address**

**Creed - Nicene creed**

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: God asks us to love one another. Let us pray that our love for God may be more than words and may affect the way we live.

Reader: We pray for all Christians; may we help others to know God as our Father and Jesus Christ whom he has sent.

Let us pray for all who are especially precious to us, and all with whom we find it difficult to relate; that we may always treat each other with Christ-like love.

Let us pray for all who are unable to love, either because they have never known love or because they have been badly hurt.

On this Rogation Sunday let us pray for all farmers, farm workers, fishermen and all who have laboured to provide food from land and sea. May they feel joy in sharing God's creation. We pray for the work of Christian Aid.

Let us pray for poor communities made vulnerable by natural disaster; for those living in situations of war and conflict; for those who cannot access the health care they need. We pray for the crisis in India.

Let us pray for all who tend the sick and suffering; for those who stay awake with people in pain and death. For those who spend themselves in love and service.

We pray for the healing of the sick, especially for Doug Hales, our parishioners in homes and all who have suffered in the Mexican rail disaster.

Through your cross and resurrection you have won immortal life – grant to our dead the joys of your kingdom – especially Gwendoline Stringer; Bob Sanders; Bunny Palmer; Phyllis Wenden; Charles Gray; George Huggins; Harry Hayward; Janet Knock; Edith Clements; Thomas Roberts; Arthur Euston; Jean Pipe; Gladys Prior; Kim Staff and Leslie Howlett whose anniversaries are this week.

We ask Mary, who loved to the uttermost, to share her prayers with us.

**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

**Gracious God, who bids us to love one another, may we listen to the voices of all who speak out for a more loving world; inspire us to gifts of love and friendship; sustain us when we stand together for change and transform our offerings so that we become a part of the miracle of your love. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Offertory Prayers    **Sanctus**    **Mystery of Faith**    **Lord's Prayer**    **Agnus Dei**  
Post Communion Prayer    Prayer at the Shrine of Our Lady    Regina Coeli

**All: Lord our God, you have made the Virgin Mary the model of all who welcome your word and who put it into practice. Open our hearts to receive it with joy and by the power of your spirit grant that we also may become a dwelling place in which your word of salvation is fulfilled. Amen.**