

Coffee and tea at the back of church after Mass; please stay if you can.

12th February 2023

This week – Divine Office – Psalter Week 2

Mon 9.30 am Mass. (Gen 4 v1-15,25; Mark 8 v 11-13).
Int: All in prison

Tues: **S.S. Cyril & Methodius - Patron Saints of Europe (Feast)**
9.30 am Mass (Acts 13 v 46-49; Luke 10 v 1-9)
Int: People of Europe
10.30-12.30 Coffee etc, in church

Wed: 9.30 am Requiem Mass - February anniversaries

Thurs: 9.30 am Mass. (Gen 9 v 1-13; Mark 8 v 27-33).
Int: Peace of the world

Fri: 9.30 pm Mass (Gen 11 v 1-9; Mark 8 v 34 – 9 v 1))
Int: Blind & partially sighted

Sat: 10.00 am 1st Mass of Sunday.
(Readings for Sunday – see below)
Int: That we may learn to love our enemies.
4.00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

Next Sunday – QUINQUAGESIMA – 7th of Year A

9.30 am Parish Mass & Address.
(Leviticus 19 v 1-2, 17-18; 1 Corinthians 3 v 16-23; Matthew 5 v 38-48)

NOTICES:

1. Please support our coffee morning on Tuesday 10.30 - 12.30
2. Vestry meeting is on Sunday 26th Feb to elect Churchwardens
3. AGM of Friends of St. Mary's is 26th Feb at 11.30am please support.
4. The APCM is Sunday 12th March at 10.30 - 1st PCC 11.30 in church
5. Ash Wednesday 22nd Feb. Masses at 9.30am & 6.30pm
6. Palms for ashing should be brought to church next Sunday.
7. Electoral Roll revision concludes 26th Feb. Please check the Roll.
8. Turkish/Syrian Earthquake Disaster Emergency Appeal: Val is setting up the churn in church for donations to Christian Aid.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM

Sexagesima - 6th of Year A

Theme: God has given us all a choice - to accept the love He has revealed to us in Christ, or reject it. For God's law is a law of love within our hearts. Let us ask forgiveness in this Mass for choosing so often to reject God.

Entrance Hymn: 60 v 1-3

PENITENTIAL RITE.

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for the times we have infringed your commandments.

Lord have mercy. **People** (*sing*) **Kyrie Eleison** (*Ukrainian setting*)

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for the times we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. Christ have mercy. **People: Christe Eleison**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for the times when we have broken our promises. Lord have mercy. **People: Kyrie Eleison**

CELEBRANT PROCLAIMS GOD'S FORGIVENESS

GLORIA: St Thomas setting (on sheet)

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray that everything we do will be guided by God's law of love. God our Father, you have promised to remain for ever with those who do what is just and right. Help us to live in your presence.*

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD:

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 15 v 15-20. The writer argues that God is not responsible for the evil in the world. He gives no one permission to sin. In the choices they make people opt for life or death.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 118. © They are happy who follow God's law.

They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law.

They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. ©

You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.

May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. ©

Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word.

Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. ©

Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end.

Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. ©

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2 v 6-10. Paul continues to point out to the Christians at Corinth that true wisdom comes from God, not from philosophies of the age. Only the Spirit of God can reach the depths of everything.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Hymn: 60 v 4 & 5

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

Gospel: Matthew 5 v 20-22,27-28,33-34,37. Matthew describes the relationship between the Law of Moses and the new vision of Jesus. Jesus asks His disciples to follow a more radical course than the ancient law required.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven. 'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

Address **CREED:** Nicene – P7 in Hymn Book.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: Let us pray to Christ who saw the love of God was the perfect fulfilment of the Law and to ask Him to give us that same wisdom.

Reader: Lord, open our hearts to your loving Spirit that we may follow your law of love. May we be more attentive to the promptings of your word in our daily lives and eager to share the riches of our faith with others.

Lord we pray for those who do not know you; may your Spirit enlighten their minds and hearts.

Let us pray for all those who make laws and administer them; that they may

be guided by the Spirit of wisdom and discernment and be patient and fair when they administer of justice.

Let us pray for all who teach the Christian Faith by word or example, especially to our children; that God will work through them to touch the hearts of many and bring them the joy of knowing His abundant love.

Father, inspire us to help those in our community in need: those who have no employment, those who are sick or lonely and those in any kind of trouble. We pray for all anointed at Monday's healing service and for Lucy Muskett, Jan Robinson, Jan Ross, Julie Gray, Eric Boon, Marjorie Rousseau and all prayed for at Shrine prayers.

Let us pray for those injured or bereaved in the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria and for all rescue workers and aid agencies supporting them.

Let us pray for those who have died, for all who have died in the earthquakes and for Dick Harvey-Samuel, Margaret Butlin, Stephanie Mayes, Gordon Vicnent, Sebastian Andrews, Richard Penistan, Ivy Nickless, Frederick Wylde, Lionel Stannard, Vera Ward, Peter Redhead, Horace Bennett, Charles Fletcher, Basil Cann, Anne Humble, John Juby, , whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Let us ask Mary to show us the wonder of God's law and the joy of serving Him - **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 with us sinner, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

S I L E N C E

All: Lord of wisdom and truth, make us ready at all times to study your law of love and to serve you with joy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Hymn: 184 v 1-2 **Offertory Prayers** **Hymn v 3 - 6.**

Mass continues page 9 of the hymn book

SANCTUS: St Thomas setting

Blessed and praised be Jesus Christ in the most Holy Sacrament, Hosannah! Hosannah! Hosannah in excelsis!

AGNUS DEI: St Thomas setting

Communicants of other denominations are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you are not a Communicant and would like a blessing, please come to the altar holding a hymn book.

Hymns at Holy Communion: 169, 231 Please join in.

Hymn at Ablutions: 41

POST COMMUNION PRAYER ANGELUS BLESSING

Recessional Hymn: 262