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1st Nov 2020

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM
ALL SAINTS DAY

THEME : The Feast of All Saints opens two windows for us. It allows us to look backwards to all the holy men and women who have served God faithfully, yet it affords us in this Mass a glimpse forward to the glory we hope one day to share forever, gathered around God's table with all the saints in heaven.

Blessing of November candles.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Celebrant : Forgive us, Lord, when we destroy each other by our lack of love.
Lord have mercy.

People : **LORD HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant : Forgive us, Lord, when we cut off the living from the dead.
Christ have mercy.

People : **CHRIST HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant : Forgive us, Lord, when we forget to rejoice in your Saints.
Lord have mercy.

People : **LORD HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness

GLORIA:

OPENING PRAYER : Let us pray that the prayers of all the saints will bring us forgiveness for our sins. Father all-powerful and ever living God, today we rejoice in the holy men and women of every time and place. May their prayers bring us your forgiveness and love.

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading – Revelation 7v.2-4;9-14. John's vision was of a countless number of people from every nation, race, tribe and tongue, standing at the throne of God. It is a lesson full of hope and encouragement.

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my lord.' Then he said, 'These

are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 23

® **Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord.**

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm.®

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things.®

He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob.®

Second Reading – I John 3v.1-3. We are invited to follow Christ faithfully so that we may really be what we are called to be – children of God.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

Acclamation **Alleluia, alleluia! Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. Alleluia!**

Gospel - Matthew 5 v.1-12. This is possibly the most challenging of all the Gospels ever read. Jesus shows us a way of life that is radical and almost too challenging for comfort. Where in our world today are people living out the Beatitudes?

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

Address Creed (Nicene)

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant : We believe that we are one people and that every person of every nation, race, tribe and language is a child of God. As one people let us now turn to God in prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for all who show an example of holiness to the world. May they lead all men and women to the Kingdom God has reserved for those whom he loves.

Let us pray for all our families, especially those under particular strain. May they find the understanding support of our Christian community and encouragement to grow in the love of Christ each day.

Let us thank God for the many saints who are still alive today and who, by their quiet, heroic service of God, bring hope and encouragement to those whom they meet.

Let us pray for a deeper understanding of the Eucharist, which is a pledge here on earth of our eternal feast in heaven.

Let us pray for all those who try to follow the law of love and fail. May they find help and support and so come to enjoy the community of Saints.

Let us pray for all who are persecuted for their practice of the Christian faith. May they be strengthened in the gift of the Holy Spirit and remain faithful through every trial.

We pray for ourselves, that we may have the courage to live in the Spirit of the Beatitudes.

Let us pray for all who are sick, especially all affected by coronavirus and also – Diana Kay, Paul Allan, Nichola Berry Michael Denny, Lynda Brill, Ralph Lambert, Daphne Lambert, and all prayed for at Shrine Prayers

We pray for all affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Greece.

Let us ask the Father to welcome into heaven all those who have died. We pray for Michael Pawsey, Frank Mawson, Mary Gray, Donald Macdonald; Alan Parks; Joseph Tinsley; Molly Thurston, John Pyett, John Herron and Charles Stepanic, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Mary is Queen of Heaven and our Mother. Let us ask her to pray for us.

Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with Thee. Blessed art thou among woman 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

All: **God our Father, we thank you for uniting us with the whole Church in this Mass, with those who have achieved their glory and with those who are still going towards it. Amen.**

SANCTUS:

AGNUS DEI:

Post Communion Prayer and Angelus

This Week: Divine office - Psalter Week 3

Mon: ALL SOULS -

9.30am Requiem Mass –
(11Macc.12v.43-45; Rom.5v.5-11; Mark 15v.33-39, 16v. 1-6)
6.30pm Requiem Mass –
(11Macc.12v.43-45. ;Rom.8v.31-35;37-39; Luke 24v.13-35.)

Tues: St Victorinus, Martyr

9.30am Mass – (Phil 2v12-18. Luke 14v15-24.)
Int: A deeper love of scripture

Wed St. Charles Borromeo

9.30am Mass – Int: Christian Unity
(Phil 2v12-18. Luke 14v25-33.)

Thurs 8.00am Mass (Phil.3v.3-8; Luke 15v.1-10.)
Int: Guild of All Souls

Fri 9.30am Mass – Int: Departed members of SOLW
(Phil 3v.17-4.v.1. Luke 16v.1-8)

Sat: 3.00pm 1st Mass of Sunday 32 of year A
Intention:- Parish and congregation
(Wisdom 6v.12-16. 1Thess 4v.13-18. Matt.25v.1-13)

Next Sunday : Remembrance Sunday

9.30am Mass of Requiem for Fallen in War
(11 Maccabees 12v.43-45. Rev.21v.1-7. Luke 24v.13-35.)

Notices

1. Please observe All Souls Day – a day of prayer for the dead.
2. **Remembrance** Please note that plans may change at any time because of Government regulations. The current plans are:
 - a) The Roll of Honour will be read on Saturday and Sunday next.
 - b) On Sunday all seats will be allocated to those who have 'booked' a place, as seating is limited because of social distancing requirements.
 - c) Others are welcome to socially distance in the South churchyard, where the service will be broadcast courtesy of the Parish Council PA system.
 - d) There will be a short service at 10.30 on Wednesday 11.11.20 to remember the fallen in the war.

If you do not already receive the online 'Mendlesham Newsletter' it is a very useful resource, with up-to-date information regularly sent out by Sharon Jones, the parish clerk to all who ask to be included. Her email address is:
parishclerk@mendleshampc.org