

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Priest's Tidings

A Christian, a follower and disciple of Christ, is supposed to be someone who tries to be a good witness to Christ in word and deed. The first and great witness to Jesus in the gospel is John the Baptist, who showed him to people. But even John had to acknowledge that at first he did not know who Jesus really was and that he had to be converted, to learn who Jesus was and what he stood for. Only then could he become a firm

witness. And we, do we not have to better learn who Jesus is and what he means to us and to people, so that we can become closer to him and attract people to him? Who is Jesus for us? What is the name for us that would best fit him? The disciple of Isaiah called him the Servant of God. St Paul calls him Jesus Christ. John the Baptist points him out as the Lamb of God. Jesus is all these. It implies for us what we have to be with him: servants, saviors, if necessary victims. Let us celebrate this eucharist with Jesus.

Fr Hugo

Collect:

Almighty ever-living God, who govern all things, both in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the pleading of your people and bestow your peace on our times. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

First Reading:

Reading from the book of second book of Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' And now the Lord says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him for I am honoured in the eyes of the Lord, and my God has become my strength he says: It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 40

R./Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord, and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. **R/ Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.**

You delight not in sacrifice and offering, but in an open ear. You do not ask for holocaust and sin offering. Then I said, 'Behold, I have come.' **R/ Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.**

In the scroll of the book it stands written of me: 'I delight to do your will, O my God; your instruction lies deep within me. **R/ Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.**

Your uprightness I have proclaimed in the great assembly. My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. **R/ Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.**

Second Reading:

Reading from the letter of 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Paul, called by the will of God to be an Apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn:

506 - The church's one foundation,

Gospel Reading

Hear the The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 1:29-34

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me." I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptising with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John bore witness: 'I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptise with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptises with the Holy Spirit." And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Prayers of Intercession

R/ Lord, we pray to you, you are our health and salvation.

Father, we ask your blessing upon the Church, that it may grow in love for you, that it may grow in holiness, that it may grow in size. We remember before you all who reach out in mission to tell of your love and your saving power. We pray for preachers of the word and teachers of the faith, and we ask that we may all share in bringing others to you

R/ Lord, we pray to you, you are our health and salvation.

we pray for all who are being exploited by others. We remember the poor and the homeless and we ask your blessing upon all who care for refugees and deprived peoples. We pray for all who lack any moral or spiritual guidance and who are being led astray by people around them.

R/Lord, we pray to you, you are our health and salvation.

We give thanks for those who taught us the faith and who set us an example by their lives. We ask your blessing upon our home, our loved ones and all who have cared for us. We pray for all who suffer from neglect, violence or a lack of love.

R/Lord, we pray to you, you are our health and salvation.

God, in you is our peace and our hope. We remember in your presence all who are ill or suffering. We pray especially for any who feel confused by life and who are not able to cope. We pray for all who are caught up in drug abuse or vice.

R/Lord, we pray to you, you are our health and salvation.

We give thanks for your redeeming love and for the gift of life eternal.

We pray for all our loved ones departed and commend them, this world and ourselves to your unfailing love.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Offertory Hymn:

533 All things bright and beautiful,

Communion Hymn:

104 - Songs of thankfulness and praise,

Post Communion Prayer:

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Recessional

Prayer and Meditation

Lectio:

The opening chapter of John's Gospel shows John the Baptist clearly identifying Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah. John's role as a prophet was to prepare people for the Messiah by calling them to repentance and baptising them in the River Jordan. Rather than describing Jesus' baptism in detail, the apostle John focuses on its meaning. The crucial sign was the Holy Spirit descending and remaining on Jesus, which God had revealed would identify the one who would baptise with the Holy Spirit. This confirmed Jesus' identity as the Messiah. John the Baptist also calls Jesus the "Lamb of God," indicating

that this Messiah would bring salvation from sin rather than political liberation,

and that his mission would extend beyond Israel to the whole world.

Meditatio:

- The presence of the Holy Spirit was essential for Jesus' ministry, showing that we also need His guidance and power in our lives. What has been your experience of the Holy Spirit's work in your life? Additionally, Jesus being called the "Lamb of God" teaches us that He came to take away sin and offer salvation, highlighting His redemptive mission and humility.

Oratio:

Read through Isaiah 53 and reflect on the image of God's Son as a lamb. Spend a little time with God and allow the wonder of what you are reading about Jesus to sink deep within you. Let it be a source of hope for this coming week.

What's happening in our Parish! Sunday—Mass at 9:30 a.m

Mission WhatsApp Groups

We have a series of WhatsApp groups with activities voted for by the congregation. Please have a look and see if you would like to join one: if you are already in one, please think of ways you can proactively help run the activity you have volunteered for.

Welcoming at our Eucharist

Are you able to arrive at 9.15am to help welcome people into our church? If so, it would be lovely to have you join the welcoming team! Please chat to Cynthia so we can add you to the rota

Regular Giving

Many thanks for your generous giving to the ministry of St Matthews' each week. If you have taken home a red envelope please fill out the form and return it so we can plan our future developments of St Matthew's

Youth Club

Our Youth Club runs on Thursdays from 5-7pm at Christ Church, 90 Brixton Road, SW9 6BE. All 14-18 year olds are welcome!

Bishop's Retirement

The Bishop of Southwark, The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, has announced he will

retire on his 70th birthday in August 2026. We give thanks for his faithful ministry in our diocese and send him our prayers and good wishes for the next stage of his Christian pilgrimage

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