

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Priest's Tidings

We appreciate grateful people very much. Do we ourselves not forget to thank? For many, it is the Lord who is forgotten. Look at everything we owe God: our life, our bodies with our eyes to see the marvels of creation and our ears to hear creation's songs. There is all the beauty around us and all the good people to appreciate and love. Above all, God himself has come near to us in Jesus. He brought us repeated forgiveness and the capacity to forgive and to love. Let us thank God and praise him at the top of our voices.

Isn't it a pity that we believers, are at times, even often, put to shame by people who are not Christians, or separated or non-practicing? Not that we are in competition with them or have to think that we are better than they, but we owe it to Christ, to the Church, to the kingdom for which we work, to live our faith in practice, to do deeds of faith. We see "outsiders" do these deeds even as we fail to do them. Let us recognise the good deeds done by others and learn from them, as Jesus points out to us today.

<u>Fr Hugo</u>



Entrance Hymn:

Entrance-282 - Come, ye thankful people, come.

Collect:

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

First Reading:

Reading from the book of 2 Kings 5:14-17 ·

In those days: Naaman the Syrian went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of Elisha, the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, 'Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none.' And Naaman urged Elisha to take it, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'If not, please let there be given to your servant two mule-loads of earth, for from now on your servant will not offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god but the Lord.'

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**



Responsorial Psalm Ps 98

R./The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation.

R/The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

The Lord has made known his salvation, has shown his deliverance to the nations. He has remembered his merciful love and his truth for the house of Israel. **R/ The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.**

All the ends of the earth have seen, the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song, and sing out your praise.

R/ The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

Second Reading:

Reading from the letter of 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Beloved: Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful for he cannot deny himself.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn:

Gradual-739 - Now thank we all our God

Gospel Reading

Hear the The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 15.11-24

Glory to you, O Lord.

11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. 13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. 17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants. ' 20 So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. 21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. 22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast

and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.

So they began to celebrate. This is the Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, O Christ**

Prayers of Intercession

R/ Lord, we give you thanks: hear us and have mercy upon us.

We give thanks for your Church throughout the world and ask that it might share in your healing and bringing of peace.

We remember before you all priests and pastors, spiritual healers and those who are chaplains and carers of the terminally ill.

We pray for the Leprosy Mission and its work throughout the world.

R/ Lord, we give you thanks: hear us and have mercy upon us.

We give thanks for all who maintain good government and care of the nations. We ask your blessing upon all leaders, rulers and politicians. We remember the work to relieve the needs and suffering of others. We pray for our own community and ask that we may appreciate all who work to keep it in good order

R/ Lord, we give you thanks: hear us and have mercy upon us.

We give thanks for our homes and our loved ones, for all who have helped us and taught us in life. We ask your blessing upon our families, our friends and all our relationships. We pray for those who are separated from their loved ones through illness or circumstance.

R/ Lord, we give you thanks: hear us and have mercy upon us.

We give thanks for our life and our health We remember before you all who are suffering alone with no one to help. We pray for those who are in isolation wards and all who are unable to join in the full life of the community. We remember also those whom we know who are in hospital at this time. We ask your blessing upon all who work in healing and in caring for the ill.

R/ Lord, we give you thanks: hear us and have mercy upon us.

We give thanks that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. We remember our loved ones who are departed from us and ask that they may enjoy the fullnes of life eternal. We rejoice in the fellowship of all your saints and commend the world and ourselves to your unfailing love.R/Lord, we give you thanks: hear us and have mercy upon us.

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

Offertory Hymn:

Offertory – 746 – O God, our help in ages past

Communion- 510 – Will you come and follow me

Post Communion Prayer:

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Recessional

Recessional - 766 - Praise my soul the King of heaven, Verses 1,2,3&5

Prayer and Meditation

Lectio:

(Bible passage reference as Luke 17:11-19)

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us an important lesson about gratitude. On His way to Jerusalem, where He will face His passion, death, and resurrection, Jesus encounters ten men suffering from a terrible skin disease, most likely leprosy. These men had been cast out of society separated from their families, communities, and religious life because they were considered "spiritually unclean." Many even believed that such a disease was a punishment from God. From a distance, the ten lepers cry out to Jesus, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" Jesus doesn't heal them on the

spot. Instead, He tells them to go and show themselves to the priests, as was required by Jewish law for anyone who had been healed. As they obey and head toward the priests, they are miraculously healed on the way.

But only one of them, realizing he has been healed, turns back to thank Jesus and praise God. This man is a Samaritan someone the Jewish people usually looked down on and considered outsiders or heretics. Yet, he is the only one who returns to express his gratitude. Jesus notices this and says, "Were not all ten healed? Where are the other nine?"

Jesus then tells the Samaritan, "Get up and go; your faith has saved you." These words are powerful. The phrase "get up" can also be understood as a reference to resurrection or new life. While all ten men were physically healed, only this one the grateful Samaritan receives spiritual healing as well. This Gospel reminds us how important it is to recognize God's blessings in our lives and to respond with faith and thanksgiving. Gratitude opens the door not just to healing, but to a deeper relationship with God.

Meditatio:

- -How does this passage speak to you?
- Why do you think the nine that were also healed didn't return to thank Jesus?
- Have you ever received an answer to prayer but forgot to thank God before doing anything else?
- How can we avoid taking God's blessings for granted? Is there a danger that we can sometimes feel we 'deserve' God's blessing because of something we have done?

Oratio:

Think about all the ways God has been good to you. Write them down and read your list through each day this week. Respond to God with thanks and praise. The Holy Spirit may well remind you of more things as the week progresses. Ask God to help you to always be grateful for all he has done in your life. Choose a Psalm each day this week to help you express your praise to God.

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

Mission Morning

Welcome to Canon Gary Jenkins who is our guest preacher today. Please do stay after the service for a workshop he is leading for us on community outreach

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!

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