

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Priest's Tidings

Is the Lord to be found also in the chaos of our doubts, our confusion, our hesitant faith? Can he still be found in the disorder of our time? He is there, in the storms and difficulties of the little world of our own heart and in the wide, divided and threatening world, but it is hard to recognise him there. If we really encounter the Lord in faith, friendship and deep love, then the Lord makes everything become quiet, even when the storm wind keeps blowing, for the Lord makes his presence felt. Keep trusting, keep believing, for the Lord is here with us

Fr Hugo



Entrance Hymn: -621 -Dear Lord and Father of Mankind,

Collect:

Almighty ever-living God, whom, taught by the Holy Spirit, we dare to call our Father, bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters, that we may merit to enter into the inheritance which you have promised.

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.

First Reading:

Reading from the book of 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

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

Responsorial Psalm

R./ Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **R/**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **R/**

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

Gospel Acclamation :

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on the King who comes,
in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven

and glory in the highest heavens!

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

Hear the The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Prayers of Intercession

**R/ Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer**

We ask for your protection in the troubles and storms of life. Bless all Christians who are struggling against great odds. We pray for those who are suffering from persecution, violence or ridicule. We remember those whose lives are at risk and those who are exhausted.**R/**

We give thanks for the work of the Mission to Seafarers and those who go out in lifeboats. We pray for all whose work is upon the sea. We ask your blessing upon fishermen, merchant seamen and the Royal Navy. We remember today all who are caught up in storms, in earthquakes, floods or droughts.**R/**

We give you thanks for the safety and protection of our homes. We pray for all who are struggling with problems of debt or whose relationships are breaking down. We pray for the work of Shelter and remember all who are homeless and living on the streets of our towns and cities.**R/**

Lord, we pray for your blessing upon the world-weary, the worried and worn, all who feel overwhelmed and unable to cope. We remember all who are ill at home or in hospital and those who care for them. We pray especially for any involved in accidents or whose illness finds no cure.**R/**

Heavenly Father, we lift St Matthew's Elephant and Castle to You. By Your Spirit, grow Your church in number, faith, and love. Draw those who are searching to Christ, equip us to share the Gospel with boldness, and make us a welcoming community where lives are transformed. May all who come encounter Your presence. In Jesus' mighty name we pray. Amen.**R/**

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

Offertory Hymn: 664 - How sweet the name of Jesus sounds, The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.

Communion Hymn: The lily of the Valley,

1 I have found a friend in Jesus,
He's ev'rything to me,
He's the fairest of ten thousand
to my soul;

The "Lily of the Valley," in Him
alone I see,

all I need to cleanse and make
me fully whole.

In sorrow He's my comfort, in
trouble He's my stay,
He tells me ev'ry care on Him to
roll;

He's the "Lily of the Valley, the
Bright and Morning Star,"
He's the fairest of ten thousand
to my soul.

2 He all my grief has taken, and
all my sorrows borne,
in temptation He's my strong and
mighty tow'r;

I have all for Him forsaken, and all
my idols torn
from my heart, and now He
keeps me by His pow'r.

Though all the world forsake me,
and Satan tempt me sore,
through Jesus I shall safely reach
the goal;

He's the "Lily of the Valley, the
Bright and Morning Star,"
He's the fairest of ten thousand
to my soul.

3 He will never, never leave me,
nor yet forsake me here,
while I live by faith and do His
blessed will;

A wall of fire about me, I've
nothing now to fear,
with His manna He my hungry
soul shall fill.

Then sweeping up to glory, to
see His blessed face,
where rivers of delight shall ever
roll;

He's the "Lily of the Valley, the
Bright and Morning Star,"
He's the fairest of ten thousand
to my soul.

Post Communion Prayer:

Holy and blessed God, who dost vouchsafe to feed us
with the body and blood of thy Son and hast filled us with thy Holy
Spirit: grant that we may honour thee
not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service
of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

ALL: Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Strengthen us by the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. **Amen.**

Recessional 652 -Guide me O Thou great Redeemer,

Prayer and Meditation

Reflection Reading:

After feeding the crowd, Jesus told his disciples to get into the boat and cross the lake while he stayed behind to pray alone. During the night, the disciples' boat was battered by strong winds and waves. In the early hours of the morning, Jesus came to them, walking on the water. The disciples were terrified, thinking they were seeing a ghost, but Jesus reassured them, saying, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." Peter asked Jesus to command him to walk on the water as well. Jesus invited him to come, and Peter began walking toward Him. However, when Peter focused on the strong wind, he became afraid and started to sink. He cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand, rescued him, and said, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When Jesus and Peter got into the boat, the wind stopped. The disciples worshipped Jesus and declared, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Personal Questions:

- In moments of darkness and interior storms, how do I react? How are the presence and absence of the Lord integrated in me? What place does personal prayer and dialogue with God have in me?
- What do we ask the Lord in a dark night? A miracle, that he frees us from this?

Concluding Prayer:

"Lord Jesus, sometimes we are full of enthusiasm and forget that You are the source of our joy: In the moments of sadness, we do not seek you or we want your miraculous intervention. Now we know that you never abandon us, that we should not fear. Prayer is also our force. Increase our faith, we are ready to risk our life for your Kingdom."

What's happening in our Parish!

Sunday

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 Fridays from 5-7pm at Christ Church, 90 Brixton Road, SW9 6BE. All 14-18 year olds are welcome!

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