

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Take me home!
01st of February

Priest's Tidings

To be poor and humble and gentle, merciful and weeping and persecuted – as things that would make us happy sounds quite strange to us. Is it not rather to have things aplenty and power and a lot of fun? To understand these statements we have to look at Jesus himself. For example, he led the life of the poor but he was happy. He suffered, but he made us happy and was at peace with God and himself. Let us ask our Lord that we may understand his teaching better and become more like him.

Today's message of the beatitudes is perhaps the most upsetting and challenging page of the Good News of Jesus Christ; it is right at the heart of the Gospel. The rich, the proud and the mighty are self-satisfied: they have what they want. They are dangerously shut in within themselves and with what they have. The poor and the suffering are not praised because they have nothing or are persecuted, but because the poor and the humble, the gentle and those who weep are aware that they have nothing but themselves to give, and so they are people who hope, expecting everything from God and from people. Let us be among these happy ones.

Fr Hugo



Entrance Hymn:

602 – Blest are the pure in heart,

Collect:

Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honour you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart. 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 Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

Seek the Lord, all you humble of the land, who do his just commands; seek righteousness; seek humility; perhaps you may be hidden on the day of the anger of the Lord.

I will leave in your midst a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord, those who are left in Israel; they shall do no injustice and speak no lies, nor shall there be found in their mouth a deceitful tongue. For they shall graze and lie down, and none shall make them afraid.

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

Responsorial Psalm Ps 146

R./Alleluia.

It is the Lord who preserves fidelity for ever, who does justice to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord who sets prisoners free. **R/**

The Lord who opens the eyes of the blind, the Lord who raises up those who are bowed down. It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord who protects the stranger. **R/**

The Lord upholds the orphan and the widow, but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, your God, O Sion, from age to age. **R/**

Second Reading:

Reading from the letter of 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 ·

Consider your calling, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption; so that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'

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

Gospel Reading

Hear the The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

5:1-12a

4

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.'

**This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ**

Prayers of Intercession

R/ God of love and joy, hear us and refresh us.

Lord God, may we reveal your joy and power in our daily living. We ask your blessing upon the Church, that it may be obedient to your word and seek to bring others to know your glory. We ask you to bless all preachers and teachers of the faith, that they may have the power to reveal you and your love to others. **R/**

Lord, our Creator, we pray that we may use the world aright. Let us not squander or waste the resources you have given us but use them to your glory and the benefit of all. We pray for all who monitor our planet and its resources.

We ask your blessing upon scientists and politicians and all who work to care for and improve our world. We remember today all who suffer from deprivation, from poverty, from hunger or from homelessness. **R/**

We give thanks for our own home and all you have given us. We pray for those who provide us with our food and our daily needs. We ask your blessing upon all who work to provide good homes and shelter to the poor of our world. **R/**

We remember today all who are running out of resources. We pray for the fearful and the anxious, the sad and the lonely. We ask your blessing upon all who are ill and cannot cope on their own. We remember all who, through ageing or illness, need regular care and attention. We pray for all carers and all who work in the health service. **R/**

We rejoice in life and that you give us life eternal. Renewing and restoring God, we remember in your presence our loved ones departed and ask that they may rejoice in your presence and in the fullness of life eternal. We commend them, the world and ourselves to your unfailing love. **R/**

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

Offertory Hymn:

-593 - At the name of Jesus,
Verses 1, 3, 4 & 7

For You are my righteousness (You
are my righteousness)
I worship You
Almighty God
There is none like You X 4

Communion Hymn:

I Worship you Almighty God, there
is none like you,

I worship You
O' Prince of Peace
That is what I want to do
I give You praise
For You are my righteousness (oh
You are my righteousness)
I worship You
Almighty, mighty God
There is none like You

I worship You
Almighty God
There is none like You (there is none
like You)
I worship You
O' Prince of Peace
That is what I want to do
I give You praise

I worship You
Lift your voices!
Almighty God
There is none like You
There is none, there is none, there is
none
I worship You (I worship you)
O' Prince of Peace
That is what I want to do
I give You praise
For You are my righteousness (You
are my righteousness)
I worship You
Almighty God
There is none like You
There is none like You
There is none like You (there is
none)
There is none like You.

Repeat.

Post Communion Prayer:

Generous Lord, in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your love, help us so to live out our days that we may be signs of your wonders in the world; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen

Recessional

805 - There is a Redeemer

Prayer and Meditation

Lectio:

Mark's Gospel was likely written first, and Matthew and Luke used it as a source, along with other materials, especially for Jesus' teachings. In Matthew, Jesus' teachings are organised into five major sections, with the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-7:27) being the first. The Beatitudes open this sermon, highlighting what it means to live under God's kingdom. Jesus emphasises attitudes—such as humility, mercy, purity, peacemaking, obedience, and dependence on God—rather than worldly values like wealth or power. Those who cultivate these attitudes are aligned with God's priorities, bringing His kingdom to earth. The word often translated as "happy" could also mean "congratulations," indicating God's approval of these dispositions.

Meditatio:

- Each of the beatitudes is challenging. Which do you find most challenging and why?
- Which of the beatitudes seems most achievable to you and why?
- What difference would it make to our world if all Christians demonstrated these attitudes in their lives?

Oratio:

Choose just one of these beatitudes and talk to Jesus about it. Ask him for the grace to be able to give God's ways more priority in your life. Remember God sends the Holy Spirit to help us live for him. Last week we read how the apostles had to leave their everyday lives behind so they could learn how to live and minister in God's kingdom. Jesus has given us the beatitudes to enable us to do the same. Draw apart from your busy life for a little while every day this week and allow God to replenish you so that you can live out the beatitudes more faithfully.

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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Office Hours: 10:00 am to 4:00

PILGRIMAGE EASTER WEEK

**FROM MARCH
6TH TO 8TH FOR
CHILDREN
AGES 7 TO 11**



SANCTUARY OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

We'll have a great time at Mass with energetic worship and live music, engaging prayer stations, games to connect with God, lots of other activities, and a fun disco!

£104 PER CHILD

£138 PER ADULT

PRICE INCLUDES:

- TRANSPORT AND ACCOMMODATION
- MEALS
- T-SHIRT AND GUARANTEED FUN



**MISIÓN HISPANA
ANGLICANA**

MORE INFO 07523089797 (MONI)

✨ Holy Week Pilgrimage from March 6th to 8th ✨

Hello everyone 🙏❤️

We are pleased to announce our Holy Week Pilgrimage from March 6th to 8th for children aged 7 to 11 🕊️🌿

Spaces are limited, so please register as soon as possible. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to pray, reflect, and walk together in faith 🏰✨

For more details about registration, please contact the parish office or @Moni Pons at 07523 089797