

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Priest's Tidings

How wide are the doors of our Church? Is there place in our Church for everyone? We know and profess that God is the Father of all people. We believe and announce that Jesus died for everyone and all. Yet, is that the reality? We even look down on other Christians, and at times on other Catholics too, because they do not honor the Lord in exactly the same way as we do. Let us ask the Lord of all to help us do away with all discrimination and with him to make us open to all.

What do we think of aliens and strangers and how do we treat them? What is our attitude toward people who are different? The Christian position should be one of acceptance and welcome, for this is God's attitude. All are God's children, and he wants the happiness of all. He calls all to his house and wants it to be a house of prayer for all. With Christ, let us welcome all.

Fr Hugo



**Entrance Hymn: 766 - Praise my soul, the King of heaven,
Verses 1,2,3 & 5**

Collect:

O God, who have prepared for those who love you good things which no eye can see, fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love, so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain your promises, which surpass every human desire. 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 Isaiah 56**

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

R./Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. **R/**

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. **R/**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. **R/**

Gospel Acclamation :

Alleluia, alleluia!

The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice,
says the Lord,

I know them and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

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

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Prayers of Intercession

R/ Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer

Loving God, may your Church throughout the world show your love for all peoples and nations. Bless all who seek to heal divisions and to do away with prejudice. Give courage to all who reach out to those in

need and who seek to welcome the rejected. May your Church reflect your saving love. **R/**

Loving God, we ask forgiveness for the sin and arrogance that divides us and creates barriers between nations and peoples. We pray with love for all minority groups, for those who are judged by their race, colour or history. We remember all who are refugees, homeless or outcasts of society. We ask your blessing upon all who work to bring a new unity and understanding between divided peoples. **R/**

Loving God, we thank you for our homes and for all who have accepted us in love and generosity. We ask your blessing upon our homes and the community in which we live. We pray for all who are suffering from broken relationships and all who feel estranged from the world around them. **R/**

Loving God, we give thanks for our health and well-being. We ask your blessing upon all who are ill at home or in hospital. We remember today all who suffer from autism or schizophrenia and all who are mentally ill. We ask your blessing upon all who are separated from their loved ones through illness and all who feel rejected. **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: What a friend we have in Jesus,

1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer!

2 Have we trials and
temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be
discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer!

3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake
you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield
you; you will find a solace there.

Communion Hymn: My faith looks up to thee,

1 My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Saviour divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day
be wholly Thine.

3 While life's dark maze I tread,
and griefs around me spread,
be Thou my Guide;
bid darkness turn to day,
wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray
from Thee aside.

2 May Thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire;
as Thou hast died for me,
O may my love to Thee
pure, warm, and changeless be,
a living fire.

4 When ends life's transient
dream, when death's cold, sullen
stream shall o'er me roll,
blest Saviour, then in love,
fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above,
a ransomed soul.

Post Communion Prayer:

God our Father, whose Son, the light unfailing,
hath come from heaven that he may deliver the world
from the darkness of ignorance:
may the eyes of our understanding
be opened through these holy mysteries
that we, knowing the way of life,
may walk in it without stumbling;
through 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 739 - Now thank we all our God,

Prayer and Meditation

Reflection Reading:

Lord Jesus, send your Spirit to help us to read the Scriptures with the same mind that you read them to the disciples on the way to Emmaus. In the light of the Word, written in the Bible, you helped them to discover the presence of God in the disturbing events of your sentence and death. Thus, the cross that seemed to be the end of all hope became for them the source of life and of resurrection.

Create in us silence so that we may listen to your voice in Creation and in the Scriptures, in events and in people, above all in the poor and suffering. May your word guide us so that we too, like the two disciples from Emmaus, may experience the force of your resurrection and witness to others that you are alive in our midst as source of fraternity, justice and peace. We ask this of you, Jesus, son of Mary, who revealed to us the Father and sent us your Spirit. Amen.

Personal Questions:

- Why do her words show that she had great faith?
- How can Jesus' words help our community grow in faith?

Concluding Prayer:

"Lord Jesus, we thank for the word that has enabled us to understand better the will of the Father. May your Spirit enlighten our actions and grant us the strength to practice that which your Word has revealed to us. May we, like Mary, your mother, not only listen to but also practise the Word. You who live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen."

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!

CONTACT US

Rector: Fr Hugo Adán rector@stmatt.co.uk © 0759 331 0487

Associate Rector: fr.chidi@christchurchbr.org.uk

Churchwardens: Ms Cynthia Grant churchwarden.eng@stmatt.co.uk

Mrs Carolina Giraldo churchwarden.esp@stmatt.co.uk -

pcc.secretary@stmatt.co.uk

Treasurer: Mr John Brent treasurer@stmatt.co.uk

Safeguarding officer: atinuke.ademefun@gmail.com

Registro Electoral: Mrs Carolina Giraldo electoral.roll@stmatt.co.uk

Youth worker: Monica Pons Robles youthworker@stmatt.co.uk

Worship Director: worshipdirector@stmatt.co.uk

Parish Administrator : Yesenia Espinosa **Ingles:**

admin.eng@stmatt.co.uk - Office Hours: 10:00 am to 4:00