

MASS TEXTS PROPER TO TODAY'S OBSERVANCE

Reflection prior to Mass

Appreciation, thankfulness—this attitude towards God is at the core of our Eucharist. When a man counts his blessings, and sees that all good things come ultimately, from God, his prayer begins to take on the flavour of a thanksgiving. Today's Scripture shows how pleasing this reaction is. Our Lord himself welcomes it, when someone returns to say thanks. Perhaps the reason why we spend so little of our prayer in thankfulness is that we don't properly value what Christ has done, and is doing, for us.

The Collect

O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (SIT)

The First Reading 2 Kings 5:14-17
 SMSG Reader: Isa Thomas Old Testament Page 277
 All Saints Reader: Rita Wiseman

The Responsorial Psalm (from Psalm 98)

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

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

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. ®

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. ®

Second Reading 2 Timothy 2:8-13
 Reader: Sister Janet New Testament Page 179

Gospel Acclamation (STAND)

Alleluia, alleluia!
 Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
Alleluia!

The Gospel Luke 17: 11-19
 New Testament Pages 68

The Prayer of the Faithful (Biddings: Fr Ross)

Priest:
 Gathered together in Christ as brothers and sisters, let us call to mind God's many blessings and ask him to hear the prayers which he himself inspires us to ask.

Intercessor:
 For our Bishop *Jonathan*, all the Church's ministers and

the people they have been called to lead and serve.....
 Let us pray to the Lord:

V/. Lord, hear us.
R/. Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who serve us in public office and for all those entrusted with the common good..... Let us pray to the Lord:

For all travellers, by land, air, or sea; for prisoners; and for those unjustly deprived of freedom..... Let us pray to the Lord:

For all sick and suffering people, both those in hospital and those ill at home, and for those who care for them... Fiddy Abraham, Anna Archer, Henry Blake, Shirley Brown, Steve Cooper, Rebekah Coss, Eileen Cox, Jane Holman, William Leese, Terry Mason, Sue Maton, Pete, Tony Oakley, Shirley Scrutton, Wendy, Marian Wright... Let us pray to the Lord:

For those who have died, those who have shared with us in the faith of Christ and those whose faith is known to God alone... Margaret Hooton, Melvyn Woodhouse... and for all whose anniversary of death occurs during this week... **9th** William Wilkes, Mary Wright; **10th** William Wilmer, Les Lovesy; **11th** Charles Read, Robert Bryant; **12th** Ivan Bazeley, John Eales, Ivy Black, Marion Crook; **13th** Graham Faithful; **14th** Charlotte Ollington; **15th** William Roebuck... Let us pray to the Lord:

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.
And let light perpetual shine upon them.

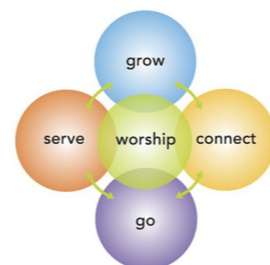
For all of us gathered in this holy place in faith, reverence, and love of God..... Let us pray to the Lord:

Priest:
 Father, hear the prayers of your Church and, in your love, make up for what is lacking in our faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Reflection:
Only one in ten returned to say thanks.
 Lord; often I'm like that too, forgetful of what you've done for me, and too wrapped up in other matters to show appreciation. But now I thank you for the thousand blessings of life, of grace and hope, for mercy and renewal; for gospel and guidance; and above all for your own self, in this great sacrament of love. Lord, give me a grateful spirit, that will never in future neglect to praise your mercy, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



THE PARISH NEWSLETTER
THE 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY 9th October AD 2016



Welcome to the Parish Church where, after the example of the early church, we celebrate the Eucharist: the "apostles teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread"

The incident of the ten lepers happened as our Lord was on His way to Jerusalem, where He was to die on the cross so that we could live eternally. The Church brings it before our minds today, not so much to remind us of the mercy and kindness of Jesus to all people, even the outcasts, as lepers were, but so as to make us see and be amazed at the depths of ingratitude to which we can so easily sink.

In today's incident there was one who said 'Thank you,' and he was the one least expected to do so, who had the decency to return and thank his benefactor. This pleased our Lord and led Him to remark on the ingratitude of the others. "Were not all ten made whole, where are the other nine?" He was surprised and also sad for their sakes, not for his own. They missed greater graces through this lack of appreciation and gratitude.

With this knowledge then of what Christ means to us, of what His Incarnation has won for us, of the eternal freedom from all sickness and death which His human life, death and resurrection have put at our disposal, how can any real Christian ever cease thanking Him, could there be such a being as an ungrateful Christian ever on earth?

Unfortunately, there is not only one such ungrateful being, but there are millions of them. There are many who think of God only when in difficulties. While things are going well, when there is no sickness in the home, when business is prospering, when there is peace all around, how many times in the week do we say, "thank you, God, you are very good to me." When trouble strikes it is a different matter. We rush to church, we implore God to have pity on us. This is not wrong. What is wrong, however, is to forget to thank God all the time that He is giving us spiritual and temporal favours.



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

TODAY: 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:30am PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles
11:00am FAMILY MASS at All Saints
Pray for: Our Parish & for all Prisoners, the Prison Service and all Prison Chaplains & Visitors.
(Week of Prayer for Prisons)

Monday: St Paulinus of York, Bishop
 9:30am 'Squeals on Wheels' in Parish Hall
 8:00pm Bell Ringing Practice
Pray for: the Sick, Housebound and Disabled

Tuesday: Feria
10:30am Mass at All Saints + 'Elevenses'
 7:30pm Joint School Governors Meeting
Pray for: the Homless & for Rough Sleepers

Wednesday: St Wilfrid, Bishop
 6:30pm Handbell Ringing Practice at SMSG School
 7:15pm The Band - Practice at SMSG School
7:30pm Mass at St Mary & St Giles
 8:00pm Parochial Church Council Meeting
Pray for: the Sick

Thursday: St Edward the Confessor
10:30am Mass at St Mary & St Giles
 12:30pm School Merger Meeting
Pray for: Her Majesty the Queen

Friday: St Callistus I, Pope & Martyr
8:00am Mass at St Mary & St Giles School
 7:30pm Parish Singers Rehearsal
Pray for: the Bishops of the Church

Saturday: St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Doctor
 1:00pm Autumn Concert Rehearsal
4:00pm Confessions at St Mary & St Giles
4:30pm Evening Prayer at St Mary & St Giles
Pray for: Visitors to our Parish Churches, and for commitment to holiness of life

NEXT SUNDAY: 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:30am PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles
11:00am FAMILY MASS at All Saints
 3:00pm Autumn Concert in St Mary & St Giles
Pray for: Our Parish

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY:
 1st Reading: Exodus 17: 8-13
 Psalm: 121 (part)
 2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 3: 14 - 4: 2
 Gospel: Luke 18: 1-8

Sidesmen	Team 2	Altar Servers	Team 2
Offertory	Marilyn Hopkins		
Cleaning	Team 2	Gardening	Team 1

Worshipping Numbers last Sunday: 138
 Weekday Worshipping Numbers (w/e 1st Oct): 30

Rector: Fr Ross Northing SSC - Tel: 01908 562148
 Email: rector@parishstonystratfordcalverton.com - Mobile: 07718 884779

Church Army Officer: Sister Janet Northing CA - Tel: 01908 562148
 Email: jf.northing@btinternet.com

Parish Website: www.parishstonystratfordcalverton.com

Associate Minister: Fr Tunji Adebiyi
 Tel: 01525 790954

Honorary Assistant Priest: Fr Joseph Loveday SSC
 Tel: 01327 351511

Parish Hall Booking Secretary: Nicola Crompton

INFORMATION

The Order of Mass is on the laminated card. The references to the Scripture Readings, which may be either listened to or followed in the Bibles provided, along with the Psalm and the Prayer of the Faithful are also included in this Sheet. Hymns are unannounced but are indicated on the boards towards the front of the Nave.



Large Print Orders of Service are available at St Mary & St Giles. Please ask a Sidesman or Sideswoman for a copy.



A Loop System is in operation at St Mary & St Giles - please set hearing aids to the "T" position.



Access for the Disabled at St Mary & St Giles is via the path on the north side of the church. **At All Saints** it is via the South Porch.



Gluten-Free Hosts: if you are on a Gluten-Free diet and would like a Gluten-Free Host when you receive Holy Communion please mention this before Mass to one of the Sidesmen who will arrange this for you. Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest so that he is aware of your need.



Collections: for the continuing mission of Christ are taken while the altar and gifts of bread and wine are being prepared. If you are a visitor and a taxpayer and would like to make a donation please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided at the end of each row - please fill in your details. This enables us to reclaim, from the Inland Revenue, 25p for each £1 donated.



We observe a period of quiet prayer and reflection before the celebration of Mass, between the end of the Organ Voluntary and the Sacristy Bell being rung, in order that we may be better prepared to worship almighty God.



Reception of Holy Communion: All Baptised and Confirmed Christians are encouraged to receive Holy Communion. If you are unwell or uncertain about receiving the Precious Blood please do still receive the Host. Our Chalice Assistants are not authorised to permit the intincting (dipping) of the Host.



Please join us at the back of church for tea or coffee after Mass. A priest will be near the main door shortly after the end of Mass should you need to talk with one.

Please take this Service Sheet home with you and use as part of your devotions during the week.

FUTURE DIARY DATES

Wednesday 12th October

SMSG School Open Day
All Welcome
8:00pm PCC Meeting

Thursday 13th October

12:30pm School Merger Meeting

Sunday 16th October

3:00pm Autumn Concert

Wednesday 19th October

12:15pm Funeral Rite for Margaret Hooton in All Saints Church
2:00pm The Fellowship

Thursday 20th October

12:30pm Lunchtime Concert at SMSG

Saturday 22nd October

10:00am Musical Bite Coffee Morning

Saturday 29th October

7:30pm Organ Recital

Tuesday 1st November

ALL SAINTS DAY
10:30am Mass at All Saints

Wednesday 2nd November

ALL SOULS DAY
9:30am Mass at SMSG

10:30am Mass at All Saints

7:30pm Sung Mass at SMSG

Saturday 12th November

10:00am Choral Day at SMSG Church

Sunday 13th November

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
9:30am Parish Mass
11:00am Family Mass
3:00pm Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial

Monday 14th November

12:30pm School Merger Meeting

Wednesday 16th November

2:00pm The Fellowship
A talk by Ray & Jenny on their holiday in Morocco with slides

7:30pm SMSG School Governors' Meeting

Thursday 17th November

7:30pm Parochial Church Council Meeting

Saturday 19th November

7:30pm Parish Quiz Night at SMSG School

Saturday 26th November



Vacancy for a Hall Caretaker/Booking Secretary: After four years of dedicated work Nicola Crompton has decided that it is time to hand over this role to another person. The Rector and Churchwardens are very grateful to her for all her hard work over this period and to Chris, who has been roped into assist regularly.

The Churchwardens, Louise and Kieran, are keen to appoint a successor and would be grateful if any who are interested in the position would see them as soon as possible. This post comes with a modest remuneration.

St Mary & St Giles School Open Day: Can You Help Please. Wednesday 12th October from 9:30 – 11:30 and 1:30 to 2:45pm

Each year we hold an Open Day which is partially for prospective parents to come and have a look at the school in session – but it is far more than that. It is an opportunity for the Year 6 children to show parents and visitors around the school – and talking to adults in such a setting is part of the requirements of the National Curriculum. We now have 59 children in Year 6 which means that we need LOTS OF VISITORS if every child in Year 6 is going to have the opportunity to show a guest round the school.

Are you a Parent? A Grandparent? An Aunt? An Uncle? A Close family friend? A neighbour? A local Resident? A local Taxpayer? If you fit into any of these categories you are VERY WELCOME at our Open Day and I hope you will come for a tour of the school, and then a cup of tea or coffee and some light refreshments, provided for you by Year 6 pupils. There will also be a chance to meet me but mainly it is an opportunity to see the school in action.

So what help do you want Mr Salter?

What I really want is for you to book the time in your diary/calendar – AND to pass on the invitation to anyone and everyone you think might be prepared to come and have a look at the school so that every Year 6 pupil gets the opportunity to conduct at least one tour of the school. Your help in passing on this invitation to family and friends will help make the day a success. You can come for a tour during any of the time slots above – there is no need to book in advance, just turn up and you will be made most welcome. Thank you for your support.

Heating at All Saints: The current heating system at All Saints, as many of us know all too well is less than efficient and there are huge problems with the system causing a quick rise in temperature which then leads to dangerous levels of condensation on electrical equipment.

In consultation with our Architect the PCC engaged Christopher Dunphy (the foremost heating designer for churches in the UK) to look at All Saints and design a system that would make the building warm as efficiently and economically as possible without causing the problems experienced with the current system. A new system was designed and a specification of works drawn up which the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches at first queried believing that a system of under-pew heaters would be best until the experts pointed out that all that would do is warm people's backsides, but not the building and would lead to the same condensation problems on electrics. So the committee accepted that our scheme was the best solution.

Over the past few months the PCC has been applying for a faculty which gives us the necessary legal consent to do the work on the basis that, having got the necessary consents to do the work, we would then be able to raise funds. I am pleased to announce that the Faculty was received on Wednesday of last week.

In terms of the cost and funds available this is the position:

Cost of removing the present system:	£2316*
Cost of the new system & installation:	£30,840*
Architect's Fees	£1500* (Maximum)
Total Cost	£34,656 (inc VAT)

*prices only valid until 31st December 2016

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES



Total Monies in All Saints Restoration Fund £31,131

So ostensibly there is a shortfall of £3525. However, the PCC is able to claim back from the Inland Revenue the VAT which amounts to £5776, which means that the net cost of the project is £28,880 which leaves £2251 in the Restoration Fund. However, it needs to be noted that the PCC has to pay the VAT in the first place, and can only claim it back after the work is complete and all bills are paid.

The Fabric Committee at All Saints are, understandably, concerned that this leaves the Restoration Fund with only a small amount towards any emergencies, but are acutely aware that grants would not be available for this project as we have the funds to pay for it. The irony is that grants are more readily available when there is no money.

The Fabric Committee would really like to have the new system installed before the winter and to take advantage of this year's prices rather than risk the price increasing by delaying the project's completion. However, at the same time it desires to ensure that a greater amount is left in the Restoration Fund, if possible, and to that end would be very grateful to any who might want to make a donation towards the cost of the new heating system.

Pantomime: 30 tickets are left for our trip to the Pantomime at Milton Keynes Theatre on Tuesday, 3rd January at 6pm. All seats are £18, but accompanied children from our Parish Family go for free. Please book your seats as soon as possible from Lesley Salter.

Retirement: after considerable prayer and thought our Organist, John Neal, has decided that it is time for him to retire. John has kindly given the Rector an assurance that he will serve three months notice and so his final Sunday will be on the 30th October which gives us some time to see if we can appoint a new organist and/or choirmaster. Obviously, we will want to mark John's retirement nearer the time. The PCC is currently advertising for a new organist and your prayers for a suitable person to be appointed are requested.

Church Library Reading Day: Do you ever feel you'd like to sit down and read a book during the day, but there's always one more job to be tackled first?

We are hosting a "reading day" on Wednesday 26th October at Tricia's house, and would love you to join us. Relax with a good book and like-minded friends. Come for an hour, or come for the whole day, 9.30 till 3.00, to suit yourself. See us for full details. Bring your own book, OR borrow one from the church library in advance, OR we will have a small selection available on the day. Places will be limited, so please see one of us as soon as possible as we will need to know how many people are coming. We are looking forward to welcoming you for a relaxing, interesting and enjoyable time. *Tricia & Jenny*

Advent Calendars: the Meaningful Chocolate Company has again produced a Christian Advent Calendar, using Fair Trade chocolate. It also includes a 28 page activity book all about Christmas. They can be ordered on the signup sheets in both churches – but orders need to be in no later than Sunday, 16th October. If you would normally give a chocolate Advent Calendar, please consider buying these! For more information please ask Lesley Salter or go to <http://www.realadvent.co.uk/>

The Works of Mercy...

There is currently much emphasis in the western Church by the Pope, the Archbishop of Canterbury and indeed our own Bishop Jonathan on mercy. This in no small part is because at times it becomes apparent that we live in a somewhat individualistic, selfish and even vindictive age - despite great acts of kindness and goodness that we see from time to time.

The Church has traditionally encouraged her children to understand the practice of merciful love by dividing the works of mercy into two kinds: corporal (that is, bodily) and spiritual. What we saw in the life of St Teresa of Calcutta is a shining

example of a life dedicated especially to practicing the corporal works of mercy:

- (1) Feed the hungry.
- (2) Give drink to the thirsty.
- (3) Clothe the naked.
- (4) Shelter the homeless.
- (5) Visit those in prison.
- (6) Comfort the sick.
- (7) Bury the dead.

We continue a series of brief articles considering these Corporal Works of Mercy Let us pray that we may be a merciful people.

3. Clothe the naked

The next corporal work of mercy, "clothe the naked," seems rather straightforward. We might think that it simply means to give clothes to someone who doesn't have any. While that certainly is an aspect of this work of mercy, it does not paint the whole picture. Jesus challenges us to be much more active when he said to the sheep on his right, "I was naked, and you covered me" (Matthew 25:36).

Jesus (and the Church) ask us to "clothe" the naked and not simply drop-off our excess wardrobe at a local charity shop such as OXFAM (which is good to do). God wants us to be active in our works of mercy and to touch the lives of individual people.

One of the most famous modern-day examples who "clothed" the naked was St Teresa of Calcutta.

Each morning she would go out into the streets to find men and women too sick to care for themselves. After carrying them back to the hospice, Mother Teresa would bathe, clothe and feed them. She believed everyone deserved to be treated with great dignity and actively helped the poor in her community for the rest of her life.

However, not all of us are called to minister to the needs of the homeless in Calcutta. That is why Mother Teresa would often say,

"Stay where you are. Find your own Calcutta. Find the sick, the suffering and the lonely right there where you are – in your own homes and in your own families, in your workplaces and in your schools. ... You can find Calcutta all over the world, if you have the eyes to see. Everywhere, wherever you go, you find people who are unwanted, unloved, uncared for, just rejected by society – completely forgotten, completely left alone."

When we search out the "naked" of our local community, we shouldn't only be looking for those without clothes. We should also look for those who are rejected, alone, and forgotten. They too are "naked," without friends or family, stripped of all meaningful human relationships. They are like the man in the parable of the "Good Samaritan." He was not only stripped of his clothes, beaten and left for dead, but also completely alone. Numerous people passed him by and no one extended a hand. He was treated like he was invisible.

There are numerous people in our community (and sometimes within our own families), who are "left for dead" and are stripped of everything in their lives. They often feel invisible and think that no one cares about them. It is our duty as Christians to comfort, console and "clothe" them. We may not have to give them actual clothes, but we certainly can give them our love, time and presence.

The key attribute of the "Good Samaritan" is that he went above and beyond what was necessary, putting the man on his own donkey and taking the time to nurse him back to health. We are challenged to be charitable beyond our comfort zone and to take an active part in restoring someone to their dignity as a human person. In so doing we go forth into the world to be missionaries of Jesus' mercy.