

Parish of Mottingham St Andrew with St Alban

26th July 2020, Seventh Sunday after Trinity, 10 am

Opening Hymn & Introduction to worship

Confession Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, We have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault, we are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Lord have mercy (x2), Christ have mercy (x2), Lord have mercy (x2). Absolution.

Collect Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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. **All Amen.**

First Reading (Romans 8: 26-39)

26The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. 27And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

28We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. 29For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. 30And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

31What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? 33Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. 35Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

37No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, 39nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

Singing of 'Alleluia' to introduce the Gospel.

Gospel Reading: (Matt 13: 31-33, 44-52)

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

All: Glory to you O Lord.

31Jesus put before the crowd another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; 32it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.' 33He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

44The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

45Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; 46on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

47Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; 48when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. 49So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

51Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' 52And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily - Revd Ian Welch

Prayers - Revd Ian Welch

The Peace & Offertory Hymn

Eucharistic Prayer

(To be followed as an Agape celebration with one's own un-consecrated bread and wine, if so wished).

Blessing & Closing Hymn

Notices.

Regular Groups Meeting in Church Halls: *copies of Risk Assessment plans and Public Liability Insurance documentation needs to be forwarded to Revd Ian by Wed 29th July. Please inform Revd Ian and the Churchwardens if you need to enter our churches or halls, to enable public health guidance to be followed.*

PCC Decisions: The Council voted to continue with live-streaming of the Sunday Eucharist until Sunday 13 September, after which Sunday Eucharistic worship will resume in our two churches (celebrated alternately at St Andrew's and St Alban's), with simultaneous live-streaming for those who wish to continue virtual worship.

Please note that Revd Anne is on retreat until Monday 3rd August. *This is a 'virtual' retreat, so please do not contact her at home during this time.*

Arts Showcase in Support of the Greenwich and Bexley Community Hospice. *To date. C.£1,000 has been raised for the Hospice from this event. Many thanks to all who have supported this initiative.*

Private Prayers: *St Alban's, Thursdays, Noon-1pm; and St Andrew's, Fridays 10-11am*

On-line Improvised Daily Taizé Prayer. *Zoom available via the parish website.*

Funeral Service for Sylvia Mayden Fellows, *Wednesday 29th July, 2.30 pm, Eltham Crematorium.*

Children's sharing. *Any children who wish are welcome to share the creative work they've done this week.*

Mottingham Foodbank. *Provisions for the food bank may be donated any day of the week, 9.30 am – 1 pm, at St Edward's Church Hall. If anyone is interested in volunteering at the Foodbank, contact Revd Ian.*

We continue to hold our dear departed loved ones & friends *in our prayers, and our thoughts are very much with their families at this time. In particular we remember Sylvia Mayden Fellows, Richard Charlton, Havelock Binns, Michelle Parker, Alan Farrer, June Littler, Barry Law, Myrtle Merchant, and all whose Year's Mind falls at this time.*

A very Happy Birthday to all celebrating Birthdays at this time.