

Parish of Mottingham St Andrew with St Alban

4th October 2020, 17th Sunday after Trinity, 10 am

We offer today's Eucharist in memory of departed loved ones: Alice Payne, Anjali Walker, Don Wharton, Herma Shepherd & Merle Holley.

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 Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city
where we shall see you face to face;
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 (Philippians 3: 4-14)

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

Singing of 'Alleluia' to introduce the Gospel.

Gospel Reading: (Matt 21: 33-end)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. All: Glory to you O Lord.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do

to those tenants?' They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.'

Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"?'

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.'

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily - Revd Anne Hoad

Prayers

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.

Given the increase in the current Covid-19 infection rate and the need for remedial measures to contain the pandemic, our parish Communion services are being held on Zoom for the time being.

Harvest Festivals: Sunday 11 October. Please bring gifts of dry and packet food, and deposit them at the rear of the two churches. The decision whether to hold these services in church will be taken in the light of the public health situation and Covid-19 infection rate. If Sunday services are not held in church, please bring your gifts of food when the churches are open for private prayer, and they will be donated to the Mottingham Foodbank.

Monday Zoom Bible Study with Revd Maureen Spinks, on the minor prophets, 7.45 pm, ID 864-888-0283, Password 278331. Tomorrow's meeting will focus on Obadiah.

Please note Revd Anne's new telephone number – 0208 852 9408.

All Saints and All Souls Memorial Service. Sunday 1st November. Format tbc.

PCC Meeting of 23rd September: Decision taken to hold the 2020 APCM next year.

Mid-week Communion: 10 am Wednesday, St Andrew's – on Zoom this week.

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

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

Children's sharing. As always, your recent creative work is warmly welcome, if you wish to share it.

Mottingham Foodbank. Provisions for the food bank may be donated Mon, Thur, & Fri 9.30 am – 1 pm, and Wed 6-7 pm at St Edward's Church Hall. If anyone is interested in volunteering at the Foodbank, contact Revd Ian.

Prayers for the sick: We offer prayers for healing for Christiana, Fiona Bailey-Sylvester, Rachel Stevens, Roger Welch, & all whose needs are on our hearts and minds.

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 Anjali Walker, Merle Holley, Don Wharton, Alice Payne, Herma Shepherd, Arthur Henry Whyton, Owen Lewin, Sylvia Mayden Fellows and all whose Year's Mind falls at this time.

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