

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.*

COLLECT

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, always pondering spiritual things,
we may carry out in both word and deed
that which is pleasing to you.
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 1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

A reading from the First Book of Samuel.

In those days: Saul arose and went down to the wilderness of Ziph with three thousand chosen men of Israel to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.

David and Abishai went to the army by night. And there lay Saul sleeping within the encampment, with his spear stuck in the ground at his head, and Abner and the army lay round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'God has given your enemy into your hand this day. Now please let me pin him to the earth with one stroke of the spear, and I will not strike him twice.' But David said to Abishai, 'Do not destroy him, for who can put out his hand against the LORD's anointed and be guiltless?' So David took the spear and the jar of water from Saul's head, and they went away. No man saw it or knew it, nor did any awake, for they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the LORD had fallen upon them.

Then David went over to the other side and stood far off on the top of the hill, with a great space between them. David said, 'Here is the spear, O king! Let one of the young men come over and take it. The LORD rewards every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the LORD gave you into my hand today, and I would not put out my hand against the LORD's anointed.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 103(102):1-2. 3-4. 8. 10.
12-13. R. 8a

R: *The LORD is compassionate and gracious.*

1. Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with mercy and compassion. **R.**
3. The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**
4. As far as the east is from the west,
so far from us does he remove our transgressions.
As a father has compassion on his children,
the LORD's compassion is on those who fear him. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters: 'The first man Adam became a living being'; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL John 13:34

R: *Alleluia, alleluia.*

A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord,
that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

R: *Alleluia.*

GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you; and from one who takes away your goods, do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.'

'If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.'

'Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

As we celebrate your mysteries, O Lord,
with the observance that is your due,
we humbly ask you,
that what we offer to the honour of your majesty
may profit us for salvation.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.*

Or

*Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ,
the Son of the living God, who is coming into this world.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that we may experience the effects of the salvation
which is pledged to us by these mysteries.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

February 23rd, 2025

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our gospel today sets out some of Jesus's most profound and difficult teaching. The ideas that we should love those who hate us, be kind and generous to those who abuse us, and give to any who ask anything from us, are ones we probably all agree are beautiful and worthy, but which also feel completely unrealistic and likely to leave us vulnerable to exploitation by unscrupulous or manipulative people. We usually find ways of persuading ourselves that there always other factors that let us off following the things that Jesus commands us to do. But we must struggle to find a path that honours Jesus's teaching while enabling us to survive in the 'real' world. And no-one ever told us that being a Christian would be easy.



Entrance Hymn

580 Thou whose almighty word

Offertory Hymn

556 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Recessional

508 Let us, with a gladsome mind

THIS WEEK

24th: Monday of Week 7. No services in church; Offices said privately.

25th: Tuesday of Week 7. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; No Boys' Brigade meeting.

26th: Wednesday of Week 7. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Warm Welcome Centre 1100-1400; Evening Prayer 1700

27th: Thursday of Week 7. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700

28th: Friday of Week 7. No services in church. Offices said privately.

1st March: Feast of St David, Bishop. Offices said privately.

NEXT SUNDAY: Sunday 2nd March: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Mass at 1000 as usual.

FUTURE DATES: Wednesday 5th March: Ash Wednesday. Masses and imposition of ashes at 1000 and 1800. This is a Day of Obligation, so please be at one or other of these masses!

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

Kathyan Fenton; Aldo; Richard.

(If you wish a name to be on the list, please give the details to Susan, Fr Josiah, or Fr Stephen.)

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

23rd: Herbert Bateman

24th: Ronald (Jim) Durnford

25th: Albert Lock

26th: Bill Young

27th: John George Harris

28th: William Bayley, Freda Irene Boddy

SPECIAL BLESSINGS: Please let one of the sidespeople or a churchwarden know before mass begins if you'd like a special blessing. If you have requested a blessing, please come up to the chancel step after the intercessions.

YOUNG CHILDREN IN CHURCH: Don't worry if they make a noise or move about! Young visitors to the sanctuary are always welcome, so no drama if they go for a walk! We'll have a look at the children's work after mass...

FINANCIAL POSITION: During January 2025, our income was £2,324.23, but our outgoings were £2,691.72. Please consider if you can increase your contributions to the church or set up a regular donation through the Parish Giving Scheme if you don't already do so.

SPONSORING CANDLES, ETC.: If you would like to help us by sponsoring votive candles, sanctuary lights, incense, or wafers for communion, please do sign up! A sanctuary light (the candles by the tabernacle on the altar and by the statue of the Virgin Mary) costs £3.50, votive candles (next to the statues of other saints) are £1.00 each, and 100 communion wafers are £1.50. Please talk to one of the clergy or to Susan. We'll be delighted to receive your sponsorship.

ELECTORAL ROLL: This year the roll must be started again from scratch, so everyone must make an application even if you have been on the roll until now. Greta, Susan and Coleen will have forms for you to sign. Please join the roll as it determines how our parish is perceived, and how much support we get from the deanery and the diocese!

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Fr Stephen: fr.stephen@stanselm.co.uk; 020 4603 7795

Fr Josiah: fr.josiah@stanselm.co.uk; 07597 701878

Susan: susan@stanselm.co.uk

If you have any palm crosses at home from previous years, please bring them to church next Sunday. We will be burning them to provide the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

PLEASE JOIN US IN THE HALL AFTER MASS FOR TEA AND COFFEE, AND BISCUITS OR CAKE!