

**The Parish of Christ Church  
with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul  
St Leonards on Sea**



**26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR  
26 September 2021  
Liturgy of the Word for those at home**

# THE GATHERING

## Antiphon

All that you have done to us, Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

## Hymn

Stand up, and bless the Lord,  
Ye people of his choice;  
Stand up, and bless the Lord your  
God  
With heart and soul and voice.

O for the living flame  
From his own altar brought,  
To touch our lips, our minds  
inspire,  
And wing to heaven our thought!

Though high above all praise,  
Above all blessing high  
Who would not fear his holy name,  
And praise and magnify?

God is our strength and song,  
And his salvation ours;  
Then be his love in Christ  
proclaimed  
With all our ransomed powers.

Words James Montgomery Tune CARLISLE

## Sign of the Cross and Greeting

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## The Penitential Rite

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in thought and word and deed and in what we have left undone. For the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your name. Amen**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy, **Lord have mercy**      Kyrie eleison, **Kyrie eleison**  
Christ, have mercy, **Christ, have mercy**      Christe eleison, **Christe eleison**  
Lord, have mercy, **Lord have mercy**      Kyrie eleison, **Kyrie eleison**

## **Gloria**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth,  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father; we worship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take  
away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you are seated at the right  
hand of the Father, receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the  
most high, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the  
Father. **Amen**

## **Collect**

O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and  
showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make  
those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the  
unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*Numbers 11. 25-29; James 5. 1-6; Mark 9:38 ff.*

**First Reading** A reading from the Book of Numbers

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of  
the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit  
came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other  
Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent,  
their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the  
camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look,' he said 'Eldad and

Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

The word of the Lord   **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm**    from Psalm 19 (18)

**The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.**

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.  
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. /R

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. /R

So in them your servant finds instruction;  
great reward is in their keeping.  
But who can detect all his errors? From hidden faults acquit me. /R

From presumption restrain your servant and let it not rule me.  
Then I shall be blameless, clean from grave sin. /R

**Second Reading**   A reading from the Letter of St James

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

The word of the Lord   **Thanks be to God**

**Acclamation** Alleluia, **alleluia!** Your word is truth, O Lord: consecrate us in the truth. **Alleluia!**

## **Gospel**

The Lord be with you   **And also with you**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark   **Glory to you, O Lord**

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord   **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

## **Homily** (Fr Thomas)

*'Do not stop him...for whoever is not against us, is for us'*

You can just imagine it can't you? John running up breathlessly to Jesus, desperate to tell Him the good news. They've stopped someone working in Jesus' name – someone not part of their group – and are expecting credit from the Lord for putting a stop to it. John, and the rest of Jesus' closest disciples, haven't been doing particularly well recently: they've just been caught in awkward, embarrassed silence by Jesus when He asks why they are arguing (although of course He knows) – as you'll recall from last week, it was petty

jealousies about who was the greatest of them which had cause their bickering. Just before that, Mark recounts how Jesus has foretold His betrayal and His Resurrection, but again the disciples have failed to understand what He is saying; and this incomprehension comes hot on the heels of their previous failure to cast a demon out of a sick child. It seems that they just can't do anything right.

But here is a chance to make up some ground! To win back some approval from their master and teacher! They have found someone performing works in the name of their Lord – works that, no doubt very frustratingly, they had been unable to do themselves. “Ah ha!” they think: this man is not one of us. He isn't part of our group, he doesn't have the right to perform these miracles – so we can put a stop to this right away. Surely, they think, Jesus will be pleased at their vigilance. They can make up for their earlier errors. But no. He is not pleased. Once again, this group of grumbling Galileans have got it wrong: they have again behaved like little children, but in the very worst way. Not, as Fr Nick explained to us last week, in the way we all should be – trusting, open and hopeful: full of faith and wonder. But rather they have been *childish*: they've been stubborn and squabbled, and now they are running to tell tales about someone doing something good, just because he's not one of them.

Here, not for the first time nor for the last, Our Lord is called on to rebuke His followers: ‘you must not stop him...anyone who is not against us, is for us’. So Jesus makes clear to them, and to us, the true nature of the Good News and of His ministry. It is not narrow or exclusive, not small or limited: it is generous, it is expansive, it is open to all. The love He bears and the redemption that He brings are for everyone: difficult as it is for them to hear, He works – or can work – *through* anyone. Likewise, following Jesus is for everyone, not just a select few who are in the know, or have been doing so for a long time. These things, these qualities, that Jesus emphasises in His rebuke to John – generosity, openness, inclusivity – are not just hallmarks of His ministry in 1<sup>st</sup> century Galilee but should be hallmarks of His Church at all times and in all places.

For the job of the disciples then, just like us as disciples now, is not to build barriers or create obstacles to coming to Jesus; its not to act as jealous gatekeepers of His mercy and redeeming love. It is the complete and total

opposite: it is to make known this love and mercy to everyone, to as many people as we possibly can. To share the incredible joy that we have at knowing how much we are loved by God, to invite others into that joy, into the life of the Risen Christ which we inhabit as members of His Body the Church.

Yet the attitude of John and of the other disciples can all too often be replicated today, sometimes intentionally, sometimes not. Either way, it is something for which we all need to be on our guard: to make sure that we are not putting barriers between others and the Lord. To make sure that we are facing outwards to the world, warm and welcoming, not falling inwards on ourselves insular and exclusive. Throughout history this has been a weakness of the Church, and things have been made especially difficult over the past two years of the COVID pandemic: a fearful time of closed doors and covered faces. Government restrictions and episcopal decisions have caused many to feel – or indeed to be – excluded from the Church, whether from praying and worshipping in Her buildings, from finding solace in these houses of prayer or joining together in joy and celebration to be nourished at the altar.

Thankfully those days are, please God, behind us: but the task of extending welcome, of removing barriers to those who seek the Lord and going out to encourage and draw in the rest, remains as necessary as ever. It has always been a daunting one, and now especially so. We face it together, priests and people, clergy and laity; united in our love for the Lord and for our neighbours, guided and encouraged by the Holy Spirit and confident in the tender care of our Father, with whom all things are possible.

So it is an extremely exciting time to be arriving here at Christ Church, at this turning of the tide as we look to the future with hope and optimism. I look forward immensely to sharing with you all in the mission of this church and the wider Church to share God's love with our neighbours here in this parish and town, and beyond. To play our part in bringing that hope which Jesus offers into the lives of others – so many of whom have been living in shadow and darkness these past few years especially. You will see in your pew sheets that next Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October Bishop Will, the Bishop of Lewes, is hosting a Walsingham Festival Day in Brighton 'Renewing Hope' where Christians from across the diocese are invited to gather together in joyful celebration and preparation to go out once more into our parishes and towns with

enthusiasm. I hope that many of you will join us there from 11.00am at St Paul's – do speak to me if you'd like to know more. In the meantime, let us all pray for renewed hope in our lives, in our parish and in the wider Church: hope in the Gospel, hope in the Lord, hope in His promise of the heaven where all are welcome in His name. Amen.

## **The Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (*all bow*) was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## **Intercessions**

For Your Church throughout the world, and for those who lead her: Pope Francis, Patriarch Bartholomew & Archbishop Justin, for our own Bishop Martin and Will, his suffragan. Lord, hear us...

For the needs of the world, especially those places of conflict, poverty and suffering. Lord, hear us...

For all who call Christ Church their home, for those who visit and those who find here peace and contentment. Lord, hear us...



For all who do not yet know You, and those who have turned from You. Lord, hear us...

For those who are sick and suffering, in body, mind or spirit, that they may know Your healing presence. Lord, hear us...

For the departed, those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries fall around this time; for all whom we love and see no more. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

*After the final petition we say*

**Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.**

## **Hymn**

We pray thee, heavenly Father, to hear us in thy love,  
and pour upon thy children the unction from above,  
that so in love abiding, from all defilement free,  
we may in pureness offer our eucharist to thee.

All that we have we offer, for it is all thine own;  
all gifts by thine appointment in bread and cup are shown.  
One thing alone we bring not, the wilfulness of sin,  
and all we bring is nothing save that which is within.  
Within the pure oblation, beneath the outward sign,  
by that his operation – the Holy Ghost divine -  
lies hid the sacred body, lies hid the precious blood,  
once slain, now ever glorious, of Christ our Lord and God.

Wherefore, though all unworthy to offer sacrifice,  
we pray that this our duty by pleasing in thy eyes;  
for praise and thanks and worship, for mercy and for aid,  
the catholic oblation of Jesus Christ is made.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven  
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**Deliver us, Lord, from every evil. Graciously grant us peace in our days, that  
by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all  
distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus  
Christ. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for  
ever. Amen**

**Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I  
give you; look not on our sins, but the faith of your Church, and graciously  
grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will; who live and reign  
for ever and ever. Amen**

## **Agnus Dei**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

## **Act of Spiritual Communion**

**In union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where  
your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to  
offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in  
the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot receive you sacramentally, I ask  
you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace  
you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you.  
Let me live and die in your love. Amen.**

## Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have won for us,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for us.

O most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother, may we know you more  
clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly,  
day by day. Amen

## Prayer

Eternal God, the light of the minds that know you, the joy of the hearts that  
love you, and the strength of the wills that serve you; grant us so to know you  
that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may fully serve you,  
whom to serve is perfect freedom, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## Hymn

O thou who camest from above,  
The pure celestial fire to impart,  
Kindle a flame of sacred love  
On the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn  
With inextinguishable blaze,  
And trembling to its source return  
In humble prayer, and fervent  
praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire  
To work, and speak, and think for  
thee;  
Still let me guard the holy fire,  
And still stir up thy gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,  
My acts of faith and love repeat,  
Till death thy endless mercies seal,  
And make my sacrifice complete.

## Prayer

Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and  
graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you;  
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

May almighty God bless us, keep us free from evil, and bring us to  
everlasting life. **Amen**

Let us bless the Lord **Thanks be to God**

## **Prayer after Communion**

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord, restore us in mind and body, that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ, to whose suffering we are united whenever we proclaim his death, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Angelus**

The angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary  
**And she conceived by the Holy Spirit**

**Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,  
Jesus.**

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our  
death. Amen**

Behold the handmaid of the Lord **Be it unto me according to thy word**  
**Hail Mary...**

And the Word was made flesh **And dwelt among us. Hail Mary....**

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God **That we may be worthy of the promises  
of Christ**

## **During the week (26<sup>th</sup> of the Year)**

**Monday to Friday the Mass will be offered at 10.30 and at 6.00 pm, on Saturday at 10.30**

**Rosary Wednesday 10 am.**

**Monday to Friday the Church will be open 8.30 – 6.30.**

The calendar, intentions and readings for Mass are below.

<b>Vincent</b>	Zechariah 8. 1-8	<i>Company of Mission Priests</i>
<b>De Paul</b>	Luke 9. 46-50	

<b>Feria</b>	Zech. 8. 22-23	<i>The bell ringers</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	Luke 9. 51-56	

<b>Michaelmas</b>	Apocalypse 12. 7-12	<i>St Michael's Hospice</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	John 1. 47-51	

<b>Jerome PD</b>	Nehemiah 8. 1-12	<i>The Bible Society</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	Luke 10. 1-12	

<b>Teresa of the</b>	Baruch 1. 15-22	<i>Vocations to the religious</i>
<b>Child Jesus DV</b>	Luke 10. 13-16	<i>life</i>

<b>Guardian</b>	Exodus 23. 20-23	<i>Children in the parish</i>
<b>Angels</b>	Matthew 18. 1, 5-10	

We continue at Mass selected readings from the history and prophets of the time of the exile of the nobility to Babylon in 597 BC and the restoration of Jerusalem later. The readings for the feast of Michaelmas are special to the day as also may be at Mass for the Guardian Angels.

## ***NEXT SUNDAY 3 October 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year***

**Mass at 8.00, 9.30, 10.30, 11.30**

*Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 2. 18-24; Hebrews 2. 9-11; Mark 10. 2-16.*

*Intention: The parish*

## **For Your Prayers**

**From the congregation**

Lesley Manser, Kathleen Hughes, Pam Simmons, Wil Jewitt, David Dawkins, Mary Ralph, Julie Harrison, Pauline Gregory, Christopher Goodman, Jennifer Sang, Mary Perry

**For those in urgent need**

Cameron Matheson, Bruce McGillvray, Betty Hansell, Gary Virgo, Glenda Guess, Sharon Foster, Mark Lamprell, Pippa Parker

**For those for whom our prayers are asked in the longer term**

Alex Farrant, Maureen Pocock, Monica Ellis, Howard Hill, Marley Nassey, Katie Robinson, Christine Lee, Brian Marlow, Colin Rushforth, Nita Carder, Hugo Rudolf, James Bradley, Gavin Everton, Lin Townsend

**THE DEPARTED**

**Recently departed** Sheila Humphrey

**Anniversaries**

26<sup>th</sup> Stella Sutton Smith (2008)

27<sup>th</sup> Maeve Marie Earl, Mark Boxter

28<sup>th</sup> Bryan Mence

30<sup>th</sup> May Rimmer

1<sup>st</sup> David Dames, Ruby Bennett, Ethel Croft Pearman

2<sup>nd</sup> Doris Francis Lane, Val Best (2002)

**Notices****October Monthly Sale next Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 10.00-12.30**

Please come and support this church fund-raising event. Usual, tempting cafe.

**Also next Saturday 'Renewing Hope'**

A Walsingham Day at St Paul's Church, West Street, Brighton

11.00 Solemn Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham

Celebrant The Bishop of Lewes

Preacher – Fr Kevin Smith Priest Administrator

2.00 pm Liturgies of Healing concluding with Benediction

All welcome Refreshments available Please bring a packed lunch:

Enquiries [robert.norbury@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:robert.norbury@chichester.anglican.org) or Fr Thomas

**Next Sunday** is the nearest Sunday to the feast of St Francis, Patron of our scouts. Church Parade for scouts, cubs and beavers at the 10.30 Mass.

**Congratulations to Lizzie Fowler**, who has been on our prayer list recently, on the birth of Atticus. We shall baptise him at the 10.30 Mass next Sunday.

### **Poppies**

Fiona Evans writes:

For this year's Remembrance Sunday we would like to have a cascade of red poppies. They can be made out of paper, card, fabric or wool.

So, to all of you, I would like you all to get out your knitting needles, crochet hooks, scissors etc. to make as many poppies as is possible to make this project, a truly spectacular display. As soon as I receive some I'll be attaching them to netting & the finished project will be displayed in the Holy Souls Chapel. For information please see Fiona . Phone 01424 422815

### **Track and Trace**

We no longer have to keep a record but you are welcome to use the QR code and/or also voluntarily to sign the record sheet. We maintain social distancing and the wearing of masks.

### **Sheila Humphrey RIP**

More longstanding members of the congregation will remember Sheila in our parish life during Fr Carter's ministry. We learn that she died peacefully in her sleep last Tuesday. RIP

### **Rector's Board**

We are pleased that the new Rector's Boards have now been installed at the back of church and in the St Mary Magdalen Chapel in memory of Doug Davis, a generous gift by his family.

# Parish Directory

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