

Coffee and tea in church after Mass. Please stay.
11:30 PCC meetings /Shared lunch

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM
3rd of Year A

This week: Divine Office – Psalter Week 3

Mon: 9.30am Mass (Heb 9v.15,24-28; Mark 3v.22-30).
Int: Christian Unity

Tues. St. Francis de Sales
9.30am Mass (Heb 10v.1-10; Mark 3v.31-35)
Int: Christian Unity
10:30-12:30 Tea, coffee, soup, cake in Church.

Wed. CONVEERSION OF ST. PAUL
9:30 Mass (Acts 22v.3-16; Mark 16v.15-18)
Int: Christian Unity.

Thurs: S.S. Timothy & Titus
9.30am Mass. (II Tim 1v.1-8; Mark 4v.21-25)
Int: Greater love of Scripture

Fri. 9:30 Mass (Heb 10v.32-39; Mark 4v.26-34)
Int: Bible Societies

Sat. St. Thomas Aquines
10:00 1st Mass of Sunday
3:00 Sacrament of Reconciliation.
(Readings as Sunday)

Next Sunday – 4th OF YEAR A

9.30am Parish Mass and Address
(Zeph 2v.3, 3v.12-13; 1Cor 1v.26-31; Matt 5v.1-12)

NOTICES:

1. Wed 1st February: Eve of Candlemass: 6.30 pm Sung Mass, followed by a bring and share party.

Please take this bulletin home with you

Theme: In complete darkness, any light, no matter how faint, is very welcome. It reassures us; we feel more secure because of it. Christ, the light of the world, completely dispels the darkness of sin and calls us to spread the light to others today. Let us pray in this Mass for the strength we need to fulfil this task perfectly.

Entrance Hymn: 331 v. 1 – 4

PENITENTIAL RITE

Celebrant: Forgive us for the times we have not welcomed the light of Christ. Lord have mercy. **People (sing) Kyrie Eleison** (*Ukrainian setting*)

Celebrant: Forgive us Lord for obscuring the Light of Christ in ourselves by our sins. Christ have mercy. **People: Christe Eleison**

Celebrant: Forgive us Lord for failing to follow your call at once. Lord have mercy. **People: Kyrie Eleison**

Celebrant proclaims God's Forgiveness

GLORIA: Dom Gregory

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray for unity and peace.* All powerful and ever-living God, direct your love that is within us, that our efforts in the name of your Son may bring mankind to unity and peace.

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD:

1st Reading: Isaiah 8 v. 23 - 9 v.3: The prophet unites to encourage his people. The Lord is the Light that brings great joy and hope.

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor – these you break as on the day of Midian.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 26 ® The Lord is my light and my help.

The Lord is my light and my help;

Whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

before whom shall I shrink? ®

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, For this I long,

To live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life,

To savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple.®

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! **® The Lord is my light and my help**

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1 v. 10-13, 17: We hear St. Paul's plea for unity. Christ is not divided.

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ.' Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

Gospel Hymn: 331.v 5 & 6

Acclamation; Alleluia! Alleluia! Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the Kingdom and cured all kinds of sickness among the people. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 4 v. 12-17: Jesus settles in Galilee and begins his ministry from Capernaum.

Hearing that John had been arrested, Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled: 'Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned.'

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

Address CREED – Nicene (page 7 of Hymn Book)

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: Jesus came to bring light into the world. Through our prayer today, may this light touch the hearts of all people.

Reader: Let us pray for Christians throughout the world. May each follower of Christ draw closer to Him day by day, that all may be one in Him.

Recognising the union with other Christians which is ours through our common baptism, we thank God for the unity of the body of Christ, and await the day when we will be perfectly one.

Let us pray for our parish and Diocese. We pray for Bishops Martin, Mike and Norman. May we strive to do God's will, holding firmly to what matters but accepting change where change is needed.

Father, free us from our sins of prejudice and intolerance. Give us a new heart

and put a new spirit in us.

Lord, you were sent to show all people the power of salvation. Let your Light shine in us so that others may be drawn to the Father.

Let us pray for countries that are divided by war and violence and especially Ukraine and Iran. May people learn to value one another and welcome the variety that God has given to His creation.

Let us pray for all who are bereaved, especially the Wyatt family, that with faith in Christ and the help of their friends, they may have the strength to pick up the pieces and go on with life.

Let us pray for those who are sick, housebound or in hospital. May they find peace in knowing the love of Christ through those who are near. We pray especially for Adrian Last, Jim Wilson, Ferdi Vincent, Julie Gray, Lucy Muskett, Jan Robinson Jan Ross, Kenny Ager and Pam Thorpe and all remembered at Shrine prayers.

Let us pray for those who have died. May they experience the light of Christ, especially we pray for Peter Wyatt buried here on Friday (*pause – candle lit*); and for Minnie Ashbolt, Emilie Pritchard, Arthur Hill, Violet Pritchard, Fr Malcolm Pearce, Fr Herbert Shaw, Fr James Jolley, Celia Walker; Fr. Herbert Shaw; John Davison; Arthur Warren; Frederick Lewis; Kenneth Smith and Susan Thurgar; whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

Let us ask Mary our Mother, who pondered God's word, to pray for us. **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**

SILENCE

All: Father, help your Church to spread the Kingdom of Christ by care and concern for all those in need, and may our prayer reach out to all your children. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Hymn: 249v. 1 & 2 Offertory Prayers Hymn v. 3&4

Mass continues on page 9 of hymn book

SANCTUS: Dom Gregory **Mystery of Faith: No 1**

Blessed and praised be Jesus Christ, in the most Holy Sacrament.

Hosannah! Hosannah! Hosannah in excelsis

Mass continues on page 11 of hymn book.

AGNUS DEI: Dom Gregory.

Hymn at Holy Communion - 189, 618 (Please join in.)

Hymn at Ablutions: 623

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Angelus

Notices

Blessing

Recessional Hymn: 262