

Tea & Coffee in Church after Mass – please stay.

This Week – Divine Office – Psalter Week 4

Mon: 9.30 am Mass (of St John Bosco) (Phil. 4 v. 4-9; Matt. 18 v. 1-5.)

10.30 am Baptismal rehearsal.

Tues: St John Bosco

9.30 am Mass Requiem – 1st anniversary – Beryl Allen

(*Readings to be decided*)

10:30 – 12:30 Coffee, tea & soup in Church.

Wed: EVE OF CANDLEMASS

6.30 pm Blessing of Candles, Procession, Sung Mass & Address

(Malachi 3 v. 1-4; Luke 2 v. 22-40)

Int: Mission of Church.

Shared refreshments after Mass.

Thurs: PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD (Festival)

9.30 am Mass (Hebrews 2 v. 14-18; Luke 2 v. 22-40)

Int: King & Government.

Fri: St. Blaise

9.30 am Mass & Blessing of St. Blaise. (Rom. 5 v. 1-5; Mark 16 v. 15-20)

Int: Persecuted Christians.

Sat: 10:00 am 1st Mass of Sunday. (Readings as on Sunday)

Int: Our vocation as Lights for Christ.

4.00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Next Sunday: 5th of Year A

9.30 am Parish Mass & Address & Holy Baptism (Mabel Pooley-Smith)

(Isaiah 58 v. 7-10; I Corinthians 2 v. 1-5; Matt 5 v. 13-16)

NOTICES

1. Our next healing service is on Mon 6 February.
2. Please check the electoral roll.
3. Eric completed 52 years of winding the clock in the tower last Monday.
4. The PCC decided last week to support the Bishops' appeal for Kagera during Lent.
5. Please support our Candlemass celebration on 1st February.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM

4th of Year A

THEME: The attitudes and realities valued in heaven – the things of God – are so often completely opposed to earthly values and today's Mass underlines this. In the Gospel our Lord gives us the recipe for a life pleasing to God – a true Christian life. Let us pray then that we might truly live out the beatitudes in our daily lives.

Entrance Hymn: **134 v. 1-3**

PENITENTIAL RITE

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of confidence in the gift of the Spirit. Lord have mercy. **People (sing) Kyrie Eleison** (*Ukrainian setting*)

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when we are afraid to accept our Christian mission. Christ have mercy. **People: Christe Eleison**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for our reluctance to give love if we have not received it. Lord have mercy. **People: Kyrie Eleison**

Celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness

Gloria – St Thomas Setting (on sheet)

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray for a greater love of God and our fellow people.*

Lord, our God, help us to love you with all our hearts and to love all men as you love them.

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading – Zephaniah 2 v 3; 3 v12–13 Seeking and obeying the Lord requires humility to recognise our dependence on, and trust in, Him. Zephaniah looks forward to the faithful remnant of God's people who will be humble and lowly.

Seek the Lord, all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 145

Ⓜ **How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. Ⓜ
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. Ⓜ
3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. Ⓜ

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 1 v. 26–31 The choice by God of those who appear foolish, weak or contemptible in the eyes of the world reflects His wisdom. In their nothingness, Jesus, who is true wisdom, is everything to them.

Take yourselves for instance, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

Gospel Hymn: **134 v 4**

Alleluia, alleluia! (ALL) Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!

Gospel – Matthew 5 v. 1–12 In what are known as ‘the Beatitudes’ we hear of a reversal of worldly values. Jesus sat down with the people to tell them about the true Spirit of the Kingdom of God, where the poor in spirit, humble, gentle, merciful, ready to suffer for his sake, are those who are most richly blessed.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.’

Naming and Blessing – Mabel Elizabeth Mary Pooley-Smith

Creed – Apostles Creed – page 8 of hymn book

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: Happy are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Let us pray for this Spirit to spread through the Church to all mankind, so that all may come to share in the Kingdom.

Reader: Happy are the poor in Spirit: Lord teach us humility; help us to abandon our proud ways and learn true lowliness of Spirit from your Son.

Happy those who mourn: Let us remember those who at this time are suffering the loss of a loved one. Console them, Lord and let them find their comfort in the

Resurrection of Jesus. We pray especially for the Cutting, Foster, Triscott, Colchester, Brundall and Wyatt families

Happy are those who hunger and thirst for justice: we pray for all in the world who suffer injustice and oppression, especially those wrongly imprisoned or tortured for their Christian faith. Lord, deliver them from their bondage.

Happy the peacemakers: we pray for all areas of unrest in the world that peace will reign in all troubled lands of the world, especially Ukraine and Iran – may their suffering peoples soon see an end to their strife.

Let us pray for Mabel Elizabeth Mary Pooley-Smith, named and blessed today. May she be given grace to follow Jesus as she prepares for her Baptism.

Let us pray for the sick and disabled, and for those who care for them. We pray for Margaret Maundrell, Marjorie Rousseau, Billy Carter, Ferdi Vincent and all prayed for at Shrine prayers.

Father, you have promised us a share in your Son's resurrection on the last day; remember those who have gone before us on the path to eternal life, especially Beryl Allen, Bridget Anthony-Chadwick; Margaret Wright, James Burke, Phyllis Syrett, Mary Jacobs, Esme Perry, Zachary Monksfield, Margot Fletcher; Florence Hubbard, Raymond Westendra-Hartley, Vida Godart Brown; Eleanor Ball, Mabel Parker and Frederick Freeman whose anniversaries of death are at this time.

The name of Mary is blessed by all nations, because of her poverty and faithfulness. We too call her blessed, and ask her to pray with 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.

SILENCE

All: God our Father, you gave your Son to the world to be a light to all nations. Open the eyes of your people to see his light, their ears to listen to his word, their mouths to proclaim his message. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Hymn: **7 v. 1 & 2**

Offertory Prayers

Hymn v. **3 & 4**

Mass continues page 9 of the hymn book

Sanctus: St Thomas setting

Mystery of Faith – St Thomas setting

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

Mass continues on page 11 of the hymn book.

Agnus Dei – St Thomas setting

Communicants of other denominations are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you are not a Communicant and would like a blessing come to the altar holding a hymn book.

Hymn at Holy Communion. Please join in **145**

Hymn during Ablutions: **179**

Post Communion Prayer

Angelus

Recessional Hymn: **Stand up for Jesus** (*on sheet*)