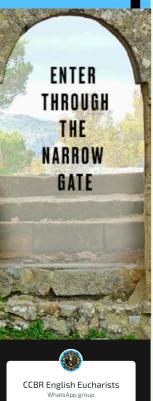


CHRIST CHURCH Brixton Road



21st SUNDAY **IN ORDINARY** TIME 24/08/2025



Vicar's Tidings

It is surprising how many people live in fear: fear of illness, fear of losing their beloved ones, fear of their own death, fear of today, fear of tomorrow. Jesus assures us: "Do not fear! Do not give up your hope! Have faith!" Even when we go through difficult days, we should never give up our faith and hope; we should always stay alert to the Lord and to his loving coming among us. In this Eucharist we ask the Lord to keep us always attentive to his presence.

Everyone likes to go to a house where the doors are always open in welcome. That is how Jesus wants the Church to be: a house of welcome open to anyone. Jesus says of himself that he is the gate or the door. He welcomes all who seek him and even goes out of his way to look for people. But at the same time the door is narrow. We have to make an effort to become like Jesus and to serve and love God and people with him and to live in the spirit of the Gospel. With Jesus we now thank the Father, and ask that we too may be open to all.

Revd. Hugo Adán

Holy Communion

Collect:

Grant, we beseech you, merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; 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. **Amen**.

First Reading

A reading from Isaiah (66:18-21)

Thus says the Lord: 'For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the Lord, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem,' says the Lord, 'just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the Lord. And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites,' says the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm (117)

R./ Go into all the world and proclaim the good news.

O praise the Lord, all you nations; acclaim him, all you peoples! R./

For his mercy has prevailed over us; and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever. R./

Second Reading:

A reading from Hebrews (12:5-7, 11-13)

Brothers and Sisters: Have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? 'My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.' It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

Hear the The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (13:22-30) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that time: Jesus went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying towards Jerusalem. And someone said to him, 'Lord, will those who are saved be few?' And he said to them, 'Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, "Lord, open to us", then he will answer you, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will begin to say, "We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets." But he will say, "I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!" In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.'

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

Prayers of Intercession

We give thanks for all who have found newness of life and the power to start again in Christ Jesus. We ask that our church may be welcoming and friendly to newcomers and invite them to share in our fellowship. We pray for the work of prison and hospital chaplains. We ask your blessing upon all that are seeking to be faithful to your word, especially any who are being persecuted for their faith.

Lord, forgive our sins

and heal our infirmities.

We give thanks for all works of renewal and restoration. We pray for reconciliation units and for all who seek to bring peace to families, communities or to the world. We pray for those who work in the rehabilitation of drug abusers or prisoners. We ask your blessing upon all who work for freedom and justice in our world.

Lord, forgive our sins

and heal our infirmities.

We give thanks for the community to which we belong and for all who maintain its well-being. We pray for local councils and organisations that help to enhance our world. We ask your blessing upon our families and friends.

Lord, forgive our sins

and heal our infirmities.

We pray for all who have lost their freedom through tyranny or war. We remember all political prisoners and all who are in refugee camps. We pray for all who are prisoners due to vice or drugs. We ask your blessing upon all who suffer from a physical or mental handicap. We pray for all who are housebound or in hospital.

Lord, forgive our sins

and heal our infirmities.

We commend ourselves and our loved ones departed to your love and look forward to the freedom of your eternal kingdom.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Intercessions for our community:

For the Charity Shop and Food Cupboard. For everyone at Christ Church and St. Matthew's.

Offertory Hymn

103 Immortal invisible

Communion Hymn

69 He is Lord

Post Communion Prayer:

Father of light, in whom is no change or shadow of turning, you give us every good and perfect gift and have brought us to birth by your word of truth: may we be a living sign of that kingdom where your whole creation will be made perfect in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

67 Hallelujah sing to Jesus

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