



**33rd Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

"Blessed
are all
who fear the Lord,
who walk
in obedience to Him."
-Psalm 128:1



Take me
Home !!

November 19th 2023

Rector's Tidings

The Lord God trusts us more than we perhaps trust ourselves. He entrusts to us a lot of potentials not only to become the persons and Christians he has called us to be, but also to build up the Church and God's Kingdom. What a trust! He puts himself and the Church and the Kingdom into our hands! That trust is our responsibility. In this eucharist we ask the Lord Jesus to make us respond fully to God's deep trust in us. It is disheartening to see at times how people with a lot of potentials simply refuse to use their gifts. Are they afraid of committing themselves, of taking risks with people? Perhaps we too are scared to take the risk of putting ourselves into the hands of people. We keep our faith for Sundays but fail to invest it in the goodness of people, in forgiveness when we have been wronged, in speaking out for those who have no voice, in affection that may not be answered. Let us risk ourselves with the Lord here among us.

Fr Hugo

Holy Communion

Entrance Hymn:
15 At the name of Jesus

Collect:

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord..

Amen.

First Reading Proverbs 31:10-13

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm (128)

R./ Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Blessed are you who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favoured. **R./**

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; Your children like olive plants around your table. **R./**

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD. The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. **R./**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

Hear the The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (Matthew 25:14-30)

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. 'The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 'Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." 'His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." 'Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." 'Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, giver of all good gifts, we give you thanks for all you have given us. May we share our talents and use them to the benefit of others and for your glory. We pray today for all who tell others of your love and proclaim the Gospel. We ask your blessing upon all who minister to others.

Giver of all good gifts
here us and help us to live to your glory.

Lord, giver of all good gifts, we ask your blessing upon all artist, musicians, craftspeople, gardeners, architects, politicians and all who use their gifts to improve our world. We remember all who are unable to use their talents to the full through oppression or other circumstance.

Giver of all good gifts
here us and help us to live to your glory.

Lord, giver of all good gifts, blessed us and our loved ones. We pray that our homes may be places where talent is fostered and given the chance to grow. We ask your blessing upon all schools and places of learning and all who help others to develop skills.

Giver of all good gifts
here us and help us to live to your glory.

Lord, giver of all good gifts, bless all who are thwarted in their ability through illness, oppression or the lack of opportunity. We pray for all who are struggling due to poverty and hunger. We remember before you loved ones and friends who are ill.

Giver of all good gifts
here us and help us to live to your glory.

Lord, giver of all good gifts, we thank you for the gift of life eternal. We rejoice in the fellowship of all your saints and ask your blessing on our loved ones departed, that they may be at home with you in your kingdom of love.

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

Intercessions

- **For the Church:**

For Justin, our archbishop, Christopher and Martin our bishops and for the bishops, priests, deacons and people of the Diocese of The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East and the Church of the Province of Myanmar.

For everyone at Christ Church and St. Matthew's.

- **For the world:**

Zimbabwe, Russia and Ukraine, the Holy Land.

- **For our community:**

The Charity Shop and Food Cupboard

The Halls Trust and Co-op business centre

Christ Church Primary School, Van Gogh Primary School and Reay Primary School

- **For the Sick and Bereaved:**

Anastasia, Bangori, Christina, Fay and family, John, Julie, Kandy & Benji, Karen, Kenneth, Maria, Neville, Pam, Ruby, Ron, and Stephen.

- **For the Faithful Departed:**

Anthony Battick, Sharon Pinnock

Offertory Hymn

212 take my life, and let it be

Communion Hymn

153 Make me a channel of your peace

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Recessional Hymn

39 Crown him with many crowns

What's on!!

Services This Week

Tuesday 21st November 9.30am Morning Prayer and Eucharist

Thursday 23rd November 9.30am Morning Prayer and Eucharist

Friday 24th November 11.30am Funeral for Sharon Pinnock

Sunday 26th November Christ the King 11am Patronal Festival Eucharist followed by Bring & Share - 6pm Spanish Mass

PCC

After the Eucharist today

Christ the King Patronal Festival

Next Sunday 26th November: we celebrate our Patronal Festival at our 11am Eucharist followed by a Bring & Share lunch.

Charity Shop closure

The shop will be closed on Friday 24th due to a funeral. We apologise for the inconvenience.

Christ Church celebrates Black History and Windrush

On 10th December at our 11am Eucharist, we will be celebrating Black History and Windrush. We are honoured that our local MP, Florence Eshalomi, will be in attendance.

Bubble Church

The Next Bubble Church service for toddlers and families will be **Sunday 3rd December at 9.45am**. Do please spread the word to family and friends: it's great fun and you can book at **bubblechurch.org**. Many thanks to all who have volunteered so far, if you, your children or grandchildren would be interested in helping, please let us know.

Participating in Ministry in Christ Church

We're always happy to welcome new volunteers and new ideas in different areas of ministry at Christ Church, such as welcoming, teas and coffees, readings and intercessions, music, flower arranging, pastoral visiting and prayer walks in the parish. If you would like to try participating in something new, please do let us know.

Job Vacancies

We're recruiting for a bilingual fundraising manager. If you or anyone you know is interested, please send a CV at dop@stmatt.co.uk

Hire the Holland Room

We are taking bookings for the Holland Room again and church members get a discount! Please contact Carolina for more information.

Regular Giving

We welcome online donations, which you can make via scanning the QR code. Many thanks for your generosity.



Supporting with Estates Ministry

We are looking to reach out to those living on estates in our parish. If you feel called to serve in this way, the Diocese offer support and training, so please let us know if you are interested.

Daily Bible Verse Reflections

Fr Steve is doing daily 60 second videos on Christ Church's social media channels, reflecting on a Bible verse. Here are this week's passages:

Monday John 8:12- **Tuesday** 1 John 4:10 - **Wednesday** 1 John 2:5 - **Thursday** Mark 11:24 - **Friday** John 10:27.

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