

CHRIST CHURCH Brixton Road



17th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY
TIME
27/07/2025





Vicar's Tidings

The first lengthy prayer we learned as children, and the prayer we still pray most often, is probably the "Our Father." Is it more than a formula to us? Is it to us, as it was for Jesus, a word of warmth and tenderness, and a cry of trust and close relationship? With Jesus we stand here before our Father and with the Spirit in our hearts we call out: "Father, our Father!" It would perhaps be much easier for us to pray if prayer would not be just a compartment in life, some moments we reserve for certain places and occasions and times of special needs. Prayer is less a way of obtaining favours from God than a way of expressing to our Father in heaven, to Jesus or to the Spirit our trust in God, speaking about our life, our difficulties and our joys, entrusting to God those who are dear to us in life or in death and even recommending to him those who cause us trouble. And remember, in praying we do not try to bend God to our will but we ask that we may do his will. How long ago have we prayed this way?

Revd. Hugo Adán

Holy Communion

Collect:

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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 Genesis (18:20-32)

In those days: The Lord said, 'Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.' So the men turned from there and went towards Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the Lord. Then Abraham drew near and said, 'Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?' And the Lord said, 'If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.' Abraham answered and said, 'Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?' And he said, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.' Again he spoke to him and said, 'Suppose forty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of forty I will not do it.' Then he said, 'Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.' He answered, 'I will not do it, if I find thirty there.' He said, 'Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.' Then he said, 'Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm (138)

R./ On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart; you have heard the words of my mouth. In the presence of the angels I praise you. I bow down towards your holy Temple. R./

I give thanks to your name for your merciful love and your faithfulness. For you have exalted over all your name and your promise. On the day I called, you answered me; you increased the strength of my soul. **R./**

The Lord is high, yet he looks on the lowly, and the haughty he knows from afar. You give me life though I walk amid affliction; you stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes. **R./**

With your right hand you save me; the Lord will accomplish this for me. O Lord, your merciful love is eternal; discard not the work of your hands. **R./**

Second Reading:

A reading from Colossians (2:12-14)

Brothers and Sisters: You have been buried with Christ in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

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 (11:1-13) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' And he said to them, 'When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.'

And he said to them, 'Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey and I have nothing to set before him"; and he will answer from within, "Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything"? I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayers of Intercession

As we rejoice in your love for all people, may your Church strive for justice and freedom for all. We remember all who are persecuted for their faith and all who are oppressed by tyranny. We ask your blessing upon all who witness to the power of prayer and knowing you. We pray for religious communities and for all who preach the word and administer the sacraments.

Father, your kingdom come in us as it is in heaven.

As we pray for our daily needs, we remember all who suffer from poverty, hunger and homelessness. We remember those who are deeply in debt and all who are struggling to cope with life. We ask your blessing upon all who are not sure where their next meal will come from. We pray for the harvests of the world and for fair trade.

Father, your kingdom come in us as it is in heaven.

We give thanks for all who have cared for us and supplied our needs. We ask your blessing upon our homes and our loved ones. We pray for all who are responsible for upholding high standards and integrity within our communities and we ask that we may be an example to others.

Father, your kingdom come in us as it is in heaven.

We give thanks for your forgiveness and we pray for all who are burdened with guilt and remorse and who are striving to live a new life. We remember all who are ill at home or in hospital. We ask your blessing upon them and upon those who care for them.

Father, your kingdom come in us as it is in heaven.

We trust in your never-failing love and commend to you our friends and loved ones departed. May they rejoice in the fullness of your kingdom, in the joy and peace of life eternal.

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

Post Communion Prayer:

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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