

Sunday 20th August 2023

THE 20th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Welcome to all at Mass today and especially anyone who is new. Please take this Newsletter home with you. You may wish to share it with family and friends. This newsletter can also be found via our website. We ask God's blessing on you and your loved ones this week and know that we pray for you all each day.

Sunday Cycle
Readings Year A

Weekday Readings
Week 20 year 1

Divine Office
Week 20 psalms week 4

For children,
download a weekly sheet:
<http://www.sdc.me.uk>
[sundayliturgy/](http://www.sdc.me.uk)

THIS WEEK

Sun 20 Aug 6.15pm (vigil) 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm	20th OF THE YEAR Lucille & Fiona Ints. Edmund Peiris Weerasinghe RIP Mary Mc Nicolas RIP Gabriella Henry RIP THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Mon 21 Aug 9.30am	S. Plus X Robert Lobo RIP
Tues 22 Aug 9.30am	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary Angeline Taylor and Helen Navatatnam
Weds 23 Aug 9.30am	S. Rose of Lima Margaret Cournane RIP
Thurs 24 Aug 9.30am	S. BARTHOLOMEW Mary Jo Cooney RIP
Fri 25 Aug 9.30am	S. Louls Yolande Dias RIP (6th anniv.)
Sat 26 Aug 9.30am	Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God Mamerto M de Jesus RIP
Sun 27 Aug 6.15pm (vigil) 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm	21st OF THE YEAR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH Farrell Valmond RIP Yolande Dias RIP James Walsh RIP Jack & Julieanne Murphy RIP

Blessed Sacrament Lamp: Ashton & Asfra— Thanksgiving
Our Lady of Walsingham Lamp: Joiada Ints.

TODAY'S MASS



In today's Gospel a woman, who is not Jewish, approaches Jesus, requesting that he heal her demon-possessed daughter. At first Jesus ignores her; he says nothing. The disciples ask Jesus to send her away, and Jesus agrees, remarking that he was sent to minister to the Jews alone. The woman persists, paying homage to Jesus, and yet Jesus denies her request again. Eventually Jesus grant her request and heal her daughter.

Jesus' unresponsiveness to this woman may strike us as uncharacteristic or shocking. Yet in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' ministry is directed primarily to the people of Israel. At only a very few points, such as the one found in today's Gospel, do we find Jesus anticipating the later Christian ministry to the rest of the world. Behind Matthew's text we can hear this early Christian community's struggle to understand how God's selection of Israel is consistent with two events: Israel's rejection of Jesus and the Gentiles' acceptance of Jesus. Just as Jesus was surprised by the faith expressed by the Canaanite woman, so too the first Christians were surprised that the Gentiles would receive the salvation God offered through Christ. In today's second reading from Paul's letter to the Romans, we hear the apostle Paul considering this same concern. The faith that the Canaanite woman expresses is an affirmation of and confidence in God's abundant mercy. Yes, salvation comes through Israel, but it overflows for the benefit of all.

SPRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Actions speak louder than words. Let your words teach and your actions speak."
S. Anthony of Padua

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SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon Ps 84 (83): 10-11

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within
your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Collect

O God, who have prepared for those who love you
good things which no eye can see,
fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love,
so that, loving you in all things and above all things,
we may attain your promises,
which surpass every human desire.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and
reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1.6-7

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity,
for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to
serve him and to love his name and be his servants - all who
observe the Sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant -
these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful
in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will
be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of
prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm: ps.66

Response: *Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.*

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon the earth
and all nations learn your saving help. R./
2. Let the nations be glad and exult,
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. R./
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. R./

Second Reading: Romans 11:13-15.29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans
as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose
of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in

this way save some of them.. Since their rejection meant
the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission
will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God
never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now
enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are
disobedient now - and only because of the mercy shown to you -
will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in
their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel acclamation

Allelula, allelula!

*I am the living bread which came down from heaven, says
the Lord; if any one eats of this bread, he will live for ever.*

Allelula!

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and
Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and
started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter
is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his
disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,'
they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply,
'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But
the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,'
she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's
food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir;
but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's
table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith.
Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter
was well again.

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive our oblation, O Lord,
by which is brought about a glorious exchange, that, by offering
what you have given, we may merit to receive your very self.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon Ps 130 (129): 7

With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.

Prayer after Communion

Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments, we
humbly implore your mercy, Lord, that, conformed to his image
on earth, we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven. Who
lives and reigns for ever and ever.