

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Collect

O God, who founded all the
commands of your sacred Law
upon love of you and of our
neighbour, grant that,
by keeping your precepts,
we may merit to attain eternal life.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

First reading: *Isalah 55:6-9*

Seek the Lord while he is still
to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who
will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your
thoughts, my ways not your ways
– it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as
my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 144:2-3,8-9,17-18*

R/. The Lord is close to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. *R/.*

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. *R/.*

3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. *R/.*

Second reading: *Philippians 1:20-24,27*

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death.
Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me some-
thing more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work
which is having good results-I do not know what I should choose. I am
caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which
would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a
more urgent need for your sake.
Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the

gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation [cf. Lk 19:38,2:14]

Allelula, allelula!
Blessings on the King who comes,
In the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven
and glory in the highest heavens!
Allelula!

Gospel: *Matthew 20:1-16*

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray, the offerings of your people,
that what they profess with devotion and faith may be theirs through
these heavenly mysteries.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon [Ps 118: 4-5]

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be
firm in keeping your statutes.

Prayer after Communion

Graciously raise up, O Lord,
those you renew with this
Sacrament, that we may come to possess your redemption both in
mystery and in the manner of our life. Through Christ our Lord.

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 24th September 2023

25th 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 25 year 1

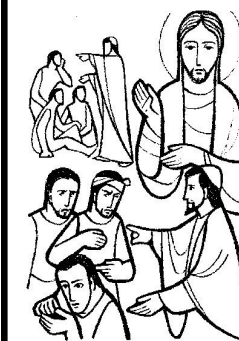
Divine Office
Week 25 psalms week 1

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

THIS WEEK

Sun 24 Sept 6.15pm (vigil) 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm	25th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Linda & Terence Brown RIP Andrew Rozario RIP Watts & Ledo families RIP Norah O'Toole RIP THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Mon 25 Sept 9.30am	feria Clara Ramos RIP
Tues 26 Sept 9.30am 11.00am	Ss. Cosmas & Damlan David Anthony Ints. FUNERAL MASS Henrietta Kalogroulis RIP
Weds 27 Sept 9.30am	S. Vincent de Paul Holy Souls
Thurs 28 Sept 9.30am 11.00am	S. Lawrence Ruiz & Comps. Lily Brosnan RIP (1st anniv.) FUNERAL MASS Luiza Maria Souza RIP
Fri 29 Sept 9.30am 11.00am	Ss. MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL, Archangels Therese Adcock RIP FUNERAL MASS Michael Mulvee RIP
Sat 30 Sept 9.30am	S. Jerome Remediana Fernandes (Thanksgiving)
Sun 1 Oct 6.15pm (vigil) 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm	26th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Pica Francisca Vendagne RIP Lily & Philip Crosby RIP Avril Isaacs RIP Richard O'Dwyer RIP (10th anniv.) THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

TODAY'S MASS



Today's parable reminds us that although God owes us nothing, he offers abundantly and equally. We are occasionally tempted to think that our own actions deserve more reward, more of God's abundant mercy, than the actions of others. But God's generosity cannot be quantified or partitioned into different amounts for different people.

When we think that way, we are trying to relate to God on our terms rather than to accept God's radically different ways.

First Reading: *Isalah 55:6-9*

God's ways are far beyond the ways of human beings.

Second Reading: *Philippians 1:20c-24,27a*
St Paul tells the Philippians to live for Christ.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 20:1-16*

In the parable of the workers in the vineyard, Jesus teaches about God's generous mercy.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Following after God is the desire of happiness; to reach God is happiness itself"

St. Augustine of Hippo

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Fr Mike Guthrie michaelguthrie@rcdow.org.uk
Catechetical Coordinator: Mr. Peter Kingsley peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk
Secretary: Mrs. Toni Miles sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
Director of Music: Mr. Scott Price scottprice@rcdow.org.uk
Hall Bookings: via the office or sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
Safeguarding Rep: Hanna Gorgis sudburysg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Tel 07751804978
Address: The Presbytery, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2QE
Telephone: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office/ SVF Information 3. Mgr Jeremy; 4. Fr. Mike; 5. Catechetical Coordinator.
Charity No: 233699
Email: sudbury@rcdow.org.uk **Website:** parish.rcdow.org.uk/sudbury

GOSPEL REFLECTION

DAILY MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm.

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday – Saturday 9.30am.

HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION: 9.30am, 8.00pm.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Friday 9.00-9.30am, Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.15pm -6.00pm. *and any time by appointment.*

DIVINE MERCY: Tuesday 10.30am.

ROSARY: Daily after Mass.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: *Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, SMR, Christopher Browne, Noel Gill, Dee Auriol, Allan Noronha, Fiona Power, Aaran Thayaparan, Jocalyn Almeida, John, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Anne McShine-Jones, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Martha Conway, Jean Lurshay, Patrick, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Edward Granger, Chris Sweeney, Marjorie Ho-reau, Catherine Corcoran, Barbara Gill.*

RECENTLY BAPTISED:

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Michael Mulvee, Luiza Maria Souza, Henrietta Kalogroulis, Roland Watts, Frances Sequeira*

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: *Lily Brosnan (1st), Norah O'Toole, Therese Adcock, Brendan Byrne.*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
Mary—Private Intentions

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
Birthday & good health intentions

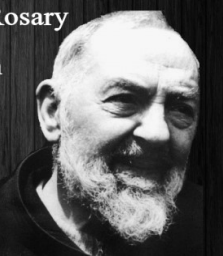
POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS for September 2023
For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Love our Lady
& make her loved

Always recite the Rosary
and recite it as often
as possible.

- St. Pio of Pietrelcina



Is this Gospel about fairness or generosity? I have heard some people observe, just as those in the parable who worked all day, the landowner in this parable is not being fair to most of the workers. After all, does Jesus say in Luke 10; *“the Labourer is worth his wage”?* It could seem unfair if we look at it through the lens of this world that at times sees fairness as being more important than generosity. Even though the landowner paid those who worked all day the just and agreed upon wage, they grumbled when he paid those who worked only an hour the same amount. The line in the landowner's response to their grumbling that strikes at the root of the problem is this, “are you envious because I am generous?”

There are some things in the parable that indicate that landowner was using this generosity to teach a lesson. He sent four groups of workers to his fields at different times. The landowner had a heart that didn't want to see someone willing to be out of work. At five when he saw some people not working he asked them; “Why do you stand here idle all day?” Their response was simple and to the point, “because no one has hired us.” He seemed moved by their situation and sent them to work, if only for an hour. When it was time to pay the workers the landowner did something unusual. Rather than start with the first group and end with the last group, he started with the last group. This meant that all the others who had been working throughout the day saw this group who only worked an hour getting a full day's wage. It also meant that the others thought that they would get more, but they didn't. All received the same daily wage.

When this is applied to the ways of our world it could seem that the landowner was unfair or unjust. After all many people meticulously keep track of their work hours, fill out time sheets. The claim of being generous would be lost in the midst of our bureaucratic ways let alone in the ill feelings of those who worked all day, or most of the day. However, when applied to God's relationship to us, it takes on a whole different meaning. The person who lives an almost saintly life and the person who lives a life of sinfulness with no regard for God, who repents late in life or on the death bed, both receive the same reward – Heaven. The landowner mirrors the generosity of God with how he dealt with the workers with a true generosity out of love. It is certainly a challenge for us to look at others regardless of the amount of time, the length of living their faith and have the same love and concern for them. This might mean putting aside any feelings of jealousy toward those who seem to be making it into heaven with a “fire escape’ prayer, while we have worked and sacrificed all our lives to be faithful members of the church.

Conversions late in life to the Catholic Faith, and death bed conversions happen in our day, and they are something to behold with joy. The message for us is to welcome with joy the repentant sinner, regardless of how long it takes them to repent. It is a lesson for us not to worry about the length of time one has faithfully served, but rather to rejoice in all who have served, regardless of how long.



NEWS UPDATE



WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 6th OCTOBER around 10.00am (after the morning Mass). This has always been an enjoyable and successful event, so lets keep it so. In order to do this we need contributions of raffle prizes, cakes, scones, jams, chutneys— anything that would be appropriate. Also we could do stalls with bric a brac, books etc. **CAN YOU HELP? I am sure you can!!**
ENTRANCE FEE £3.00

WELCOME to all at Mass today and a big welcome to anyone who is new or a visitor.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? It always helps us to get to know you and also your family if you register with us. We can then send you information about the parish and opportunities. Registration forms can be found at the back of Church (underneath the picture of Pope Francis).

FUNERAL MASS of Henrietta Kalogroulis on Tuesday 26th September at 11.00am followed by cremation at Breakspear crematorium. May she rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of Luiza Maria Souza—on Thursday 28th September at 11.00am. May she rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of Michael Mulvee on Friday 29th September at 11.00am followed burial at St Mary's Cemetery. May he rest in peace.

IT IS WITH SADNESS that we have learnt of the recent deaths of Roland Watts and Frances Sequeira. More news on the dates and times of their Funeral Masses as their families come to get them organised. May they both rest in peace.

THANK YOU to all who supported our Parish SVP last weekend.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023-24 - Thank you to all those Parents/Carers who joined us for the 'Handling on our Faith' Session last week. This coming Tuesday there is a meeting just for FHC Catechists. **Children, Parents/Carers, Catechists & Helpers** are reminded to please attend the **FHC Enrolment Mass** taking place at the Parish on **Sunday 1st October at 9.45am**. Please note enrolment on this year's Programme is now closed.

CONFIRMATION 2024 - Those in Year 10 & above, who are registered & regularly attend Mass at this Parish will be welcome to attend the **Confirmation Information Evening** with a Parent/Carer in the Parish Centre on **Monday 8th January at 7.30pm** when registration documents will be provided to those wishing to be confirmed. Please note that a copy of one's **Baptism Certificate** (and a translation if it is not in English) is also required for registration.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND - A Marriage En-

counter Weekend is taking place in the Parish Centre on Saturday 30th September and Sunday 1st October. Why not experience a weekend and make your “good” marriage even better. Some places still available. See insert in newsletter for details - wwme.org.uk

SIGNING OF CERTIFICATES OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE: Mgr Jeremy and Fr Mike will be signing these very soon for Primary, Secondary Grammar School Admissions. There will be a couple of designated evenings so **WATCH OUT FOR THE DATES**. So what is **A CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE**? It confirms, for the purposes of a Catholic school application, that a family are regular at Mass, as practising Catholics. Certificates can be requested by Catholic families whose children are Baptised. This is an important document, but please do not embarrass the priests by requesting a certificate, if you are not attending Mass here regularly. If you happen to have recently moved into the area, your previous parish priest can provide certification. Applications for children who are not Catholic or non practising, can still be made for Catholic schools without a certificate, under different admission criteria. Full details on eligibility at: [Admissions-Guidance - Diocese of Westminster Education Service \(rcdow.org.uk\)](http://Admissions-Guidance-Diocese-of-Westminster-Education-Service/rcdow.org.uk)

FLOWERS IN CHURCH Thank you, as always, to our excellent group that arranges flowers so beautifully. If you want to help with the flower arranging (please see Margaret) or purchase some flowers in memory of a loved one on a special day there are envelopes at the back of church.

ADVENT FAIR Do you remember our rather successful Advent Fair last year? We hope, incidentally to have another one this year. Could you help? Could you run a stall? Please get thinking now!

MORE PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE. We have to do a bit of work on the church roof where some tiles have become dislodged and also on the flat roof where the offices are situated. And also over the café/bar All overdue maintenance! A more complex work are the windows of the presbytery which have probably not been attended to since it was built in 1927. During the summer one window fell out! Another project in the pipeline is a new confessional for the church. This will be modelled with the architectural features of the church in mind and will be placed exactly where the old one used to exist before it was removed. It will have all mod-cons (kneeling/sitting, hard of hearing headphones, covid/flu secure, and above all safety for everyone and proper anonymity)

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY in 2024 the trip is now full and thank you to all who have put down deposits. If anyone would like to be considered on a “waiting list” please do let Mgr. Jeremy know.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY HELPERS AT 9.45 FAMILY MASS - We are seeking new volunteers to help the younger children (4-7yr) reflect on Sunday's Gospel during Mass in a fun, creative & simple way. If you might consider helping once every six weeks, joining an established group of experienced Catechists, please contact Una Moran una@bfmconsult.co.uk. Thank you.

OVER 60'S GROUP: meets 1.00pm on Tuesdays in the Café/Bar. All welcome!

WE NEED YOUR HELP for Welcomers (6.15pm Vigil Mass, 9.45am and 5.30pm) and Collectors (6.15pm and 5.30pm). If you could help, please let us know.

CHILDRENS LITURGY on Sunday at the 9.45am Mass.

MUSIC at the 9.45am Mass and the 11.15am has now resumed after the summer. Could you help with the singing or even playing a musical instrument at 9.45am

ROSARY AT HOME If you'd like to be part of our prayer network, or know more please simply contact Cheryl on 07941002161.

CHURCH LAMPS: If you would like to sponsor the blessed sacrament lamp or the lamp by the altar of Our Lady of Walsingham with a particular intention, the cost is £10 for the week - Please see Toni in the Parish Office.

THE FRIENDS OF JESUS Programme takes place during Term-Times on Fridays from 5.30-6.30pm providing a little Religious Education to children of primary-school age who are not attending a Catholic school and have not yet received their First Holy Communion. If you would like further information, or our keen for your child to attend this Programme from September onwards, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Mr. Peter Kingsley, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.

A DAY WITH MARY has been booked for St George's. On Saturday 21 October. Again more details nearer the time

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND 19-27 NOVEMBER: The annual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land will take place from Sunday 19th Nov to Monday 27th Nov, led by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP. You can book online at <http://www.tangney-tours.com/WHL> or call Gill at Tangney Tours 01732 886666 or Elizabeth at the Pilgrimage office 0207 798 9173it will include visits to Galilee, Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Flights will be from Heathrow. Costs are £2265 per person sharing, £682 single room supplement; travel insurance essential.

SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS/EVENINGS for Year 7 (First Form pupils): Gunnersbury Catholic School, Sacred Heart Language College, Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School - please visit their websites for further information.

TO LET: Single room. Walking distance to Church, near all amenities, bus routes. Please contact 07717124517

OFF TO UNI? Are you a student at one of the universities or colleges in London, or in Hatfield? Our Catholic Chaplaincy is for you! It's based at Newman House, 111 Gower Street, WC1E 6AR. We have Sunday Masses for students and regular events during the week. And in many of the universities and colleges we also have campus-based Catholic societies and activities. Go to: www.universitycatholic.net to find out more. You will be made very welcome at our Catholic community here, a “home from home.” If you are heading to a university outside London, then why not take a look at <https://www.catholicSATuniversity.org.uk/> to identify the Catholic chaplaincy in your place of study.