

ARCH Group's aim: *"To show our love for God and You"*

Weekly Notices

7th March 2021

Third Sunday of Lent

Today's Collect

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

For Prayer

Lord of the universe, we pray for our world broken by persecution, warfare and strife. We commend to you the Uighur people in China, the people of Myanmar, the people of Yemen. You desire harmony within and between nations; you yearn for everyone to know security and safety. Lord of the world and the church: bring healing and peace.

Lord of the poor and the rich, we pray for those who live and labour in developing countries paid less than the amount they need to survive. We commend to your tender love those who are exploited, children who are paid pennies, those who work in sweatshops. You desire justice for all people; you yearn for all people to be treated fairly and equitably. Lord of the world and the church: bring healing and peace.

Lord of the doctor and the patient, we pray for our world at this time of pandemic. We commend to you those who are suffering as a result of Covid-19; those who are working to combat the Brazilian mutation;

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those who are frightened and stressed out. You desire wholeness and health for all people; you yearn for an end to the pandemic. Lord of the world and the church:
bring healing and peace.

Lord of the chapel and the cathedral, we pray for all places of worship throughout the world. We commend to you caretakers and cleaners, treasurers and guides You desire holiness in your children and in the places in which they worship. Lord of the world and the church:
bring healing and peace.

Lord of all in need, we bring to you the prayers of our hearts. We commend to you those about whom we are especially concerned, praying for..... You desire that your children care for one another. Lord of the world and the church:
bring healing and peace.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

This Week's First Reading: *Exodus 20:1-17*

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labour and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter,

Exodus 20:1-17 continued

your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

¹⁷**You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.**

This Week's Psalm: *Psalm 19:7-14*

7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

8 The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter also than honey, dripping from the honeycomb.

11 By them also is your servant taught and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can tell how often they offend? O cleanse me from my secret faults!

13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins lest they get dominion over me; so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

This Week's Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 1:18-25*

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹**For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'** ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵**For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.**

This Week's Gospel Reading: *John 2:13-22*

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶**He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!'** ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' ¹⁹Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' ²⁰They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.