

FIRST READING (Numbers 21:4-9)

A reading from the book of Numbers

The Israelites left Mount Hor by the road to the Sea of Suph to skirt the land of Edom. On the way people lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.' At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people and the Lord answered him 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard and if anyone was bitten by a serpent he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

This is the word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 77:1-2,34-38)

R/. Never forget the deeds of the Lord.

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past.

2. When he slew them then they would seek
him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember that God was their
rock,
God the Most High their redeemer.

3. But the words they spoke were mere
flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant.

4. Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave them their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have stirred up his rage.

SECOND READING (Philippians 2:6-11)

*A reading from S Paul's Letter to the
Philippians*

The state of Jesus was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord.

GOSPEL (John 3:13-17)

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to
John*

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord



Services this week

THE TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS

Sun 14th	9.00am Mass (St Aidan's)
	10.30am Mass
	6.30pm Evensong & Benediction
Mon 15th	Our Lady of Sorrows: no mass
Tue 16th	Ss Cornelius and Cyprian: 6.15pm mass
Wed 17th	10.30am mass (St Aidan's)
Thu 18th	6.15pm mass
Fri 19th	10.00am mass
Sat 20th	Ss Andrew Kim Taegon and Companions: no mass
25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
Sun 21st	9.00am Mass (St Aidan's)
	10.30am Mass

Love and respect of the Eucharist

Come to Mass on time, and participate actively.

On receiving the Eucharist frequently and mass attendance during the week:

The Church invites us to receive the Eucharist frequently. Consequently we should go to Mass not only on Sundays but also during the week if our schedule permits.

WELCOME to our worship today, whether at St Augustine's or St Aidan's. Join us in speaking praise to God: join us also in keeping silence before mass, in listening to the voice of the Lord.

Growing in the Faith We are running two courses to help us grow in our Christian faith, and understand more how it applies to our daily lives. We are looking at the Eucharist on Sundays at 4.00pm, and at what Christians believe on Wednesdays at 7.00pm. Fuller details are in the Parish Magazine (NB the Wednesday sessions are at **7.00pm**).

Harvest Thanksgiving Our Harvest Thanksgiving is on Sunday 28th September. Please bring fresh or packaged food, which will be donated to Bolton Urban Outreach. Toiletries will be donated to WinterWatch. Thank you for your generosity.

Advent Calendars Put your name on the list at the back of church to order the only Advent Calendar to include a 24-page Christmas story activity book. Made from fairly-traded chocolate, it's a great gift.

Singing God's praises! Whatever your singing prowess, join in with all the sung parts of the mass, including the hymns - it's much easier to sing normally than to try singing in a whisper. There are no "choir pieces" unless explicitly stated on the mass sheet.

Evensong and Benediction is this evening at 6.30pm.

Offertory If you would like to sponsor for £5 the elements used at mass one week, please have a word with Ruth Taylor.

Vitabu vya Misa kwa Kiswahili vinapatikana nyuma ya kanisa.

The Sick: Dawn Randle, Lynn Asker, Joan Millwall, Everine Buseke, Joan Brooks, Theresa Stott and Keith Schofield.

Departed: Paul Belcher, Doug Maydew.

Anniversaries:

- Mon 15th Gordon Binks, Kathleen Connor.
- Tue 16th Thomas Pollitt, Henry Partington, Annie Houghton, Samuel Crane.
- Wed 17th Irene Entwistle, John Shaw, William Bromilow, Kenneth Ramsden.
- Thu 18th Elizabeth Donaldson, Alice Knox, Stanley Howarth, George Butler, Mary Ogden, Joyce Hanna.
- Fri 19th Elsie Kirkman, Jessie Horrocks, Mary Stott.
- Sat 20th Percy Heys, William Bromley, Amy Greenhalgh, Edith Harthern.