



THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS,
NORTH HILLINGDON UB10 9BT
+
~SERVING THE LOCAL
COMMUNITY~
+
THE 33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME
(YEAR A)
+
15 NOVEMBER 2020

In accordance with the most recent Government regulations, our church is, once again, closed for public worship and must remain so until after Wednesday, 2 December. All Saints' is, however, allowed to be open for Private Prayer and our revised arrangements will reflect this.

You must wear a face-covering in church, please (unless you have a good reason for not wearing one).

Reflection for this Sunday: We must be very careful that the real point of to-day's first reading is not swept away in genuine concerns over what one can and cannot say about the responsibilities of spouses. This is *not*, in fact, a recipe for the perfect wife, but an illustration, from a particular age and time, of the virtue of fully employing the talents God gives us. Some things are timeless, such as holding out a hand to the poor, while other talents shift and change. The point is that all of us are gifted in varying ways and degrees: none of us should begrudge anyone else their talents, for fear that we overlook our own. We work wisely and well, looking forward to the master's return, when we can hand over to him not just what he gave us, but also the fruits that our labours have gained.

Introit: The Lord says: 'My plans for you are peace and not disaster; when you call to me, I will listen to you and I will bring you back to the place from which I exiled you.'

Collect: Let us pray (*that God will help us to be faithful*): Father of all that is good, keep us faithful in serving you, for to serve you is our lasting joy. We ask this 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. **AMEN.**

TO-DAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

A reading from the book of Proverbs (31:10-13, 19-20 & 30-31): *A perfect wife: who can find her?*

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have

worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The response in the Psalm (127) is: *O blessed are those who fear the Lord.*

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive around your table.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life!

O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of S Paul to the Thessalonians (5:1-6): *Let not the Day of the Lord overtake you like a thief.*

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is,' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! 'Make your home in me, as I make mine in you,' says the Lord. 'Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.'
Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (25:14-30): *You have been faithful in small things; come and join in your master's happiness.*

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad, who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 'Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small

things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." 'Next, the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." 'Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he, "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

We pray: for our parish and for its needs; for those currently seeking a new job; for the recently bereaved; for the homeless in Hillingdon; for all who presently use local food-banks; for the Church in Scotland; for wisdom in national government.

We commend to God our Father:
the sick, the housebound & others in trouble or need: Peter Bennett, Lesley Carrington, Ellie Cecil, John Corleatan, Helen Dey, Mike & Evelyn Kirby, Brian Measures, Phil Parris, Stephen Patrick, Rob Scoates, Pat Szymanski, Sarah Turk and Frank & Irene Wilkinson.

the recently departed: Jan Szymanski.
those whose anniversary falls at about this time: Les Bridgen, Percy du Fen, Norman Hucker, Kate Johnson, Kathleen Lattibeaudiere, Hubert Riley, Peggy Rushworth, Colin Watson, Jo(anna) Watson, Francis Weekes and Jesse White.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory!

We commend all that we have just prayed for, our families, our friends & those we love to the intercession of Mary (the mother of Jesus), S Joseph (her spouse), S Margaret (of Scotland), S Elizabeth (of Hungary) & all the saints. *Hail, Mary...*

FATHER DESMOND'S NOTES

1. **For your own sake and the sake of all of us, you must not come into church**, if you have (or have had within the last fourteen days) any symptoms of COVID-19. If you have been exposed (or think you may have been exposed) within the last fourteen days, you must also stay away from All Saints', even if you have no symptoms.
2. At the end of our time together in church, there is some cleaning to be done; please volunteer.

- We are always very grateful for your help.
3. Copies of the November edition of *Saints Alive!* are still available to-day. *Have you seen it yet?*
 4. I plan to review at the end of this month the list of those we pray for on Sundays. Please let me know of any names you wish to see added or retained *no later than 23 November*.

5. **The week ahead at ASH**
 - a. Wednesday, 18/11; 1000: **Private Prayer** (*Weekday in Ordinary Time*)
 - b. Thursday, 19/11; 1830: **Private Prayer** – especially for those who are busy during the day. (*Weekday in Ordinary Time*)

If there are other times, which would suit you better, please tell me.

NB: As happened earlier in the year, our periods of *Private Prayer* will last for forty minutes. You may wish to pray for the whole period, while others will leave after a few minutes. Either is entirely right and proper. Access to the church will be via the *North Door*. Hand-gel will be provided and social distancing is required. We also need to keep a record of who has been inside the church at these times.

6. **NEXT SUNDAY; 22/11: the Solemnity of Christ the King; 1000: Private Prayer**

7. We continue to plan the shape of **Covid-19 Christmas in 2020**. Details will be published in good time, once we have a better idea of what is permitted. But remember that we shall have to ask you to **pre-book** your seat in church this year. Further information to follow.

PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU AND USE IT AS A HELP WHEN YOU SAY YOUR PRAYERS THIS COMING WEEK.

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To enquire about **Banns of Marriage, Weddings, Baptisms or other items of parish business**, please come to Vestry Hour at 0930 on a Saturday. No appointment is needed. You can also e-mail or telephone Father Desmond at the Vicarage to arrange an alternative time.

Parish Website:

www.allsaintsnorthhilligdon.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ASHillingdon

Twitter: @ASHillingdon

