



THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, NORTH
HILLINGDON UB10 9BT
+
~SERVING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY~
+
THE 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(YEAR B)
+
14 FEBRUARY 2021

Welcome to All Saints' on this Sunday before the start of

Lent. Please observe the following this morning:

- a) Take very **great** care, by maintaining **social-distancing** both inside and outside All Saints.
- b) Wear a face-covering in church, unless you are exempt.
- c) Sit on your own or with members of your household/bubble.
- d) Stay in your place throughout; Holy Communion will be brought to you.
- e) Say (not sing) the congregational responses and texts in a normal conversational tone, not in a loud voice.

A thought for this Sunday: Thankfully and mercifully, we very rarely encounter leprosy in our culture (though it was very definitely part of life in England during the Middle Ages). It can, therefore, be difficult to enter into the real depth of to-day's Bible readings. We have to understand that leprosy meant exclusion, rejection and the end of any kind of normal life (so even worse than in the present pandemic!). For your leprosy to be cured would be like being given a second chance at life. What is the cause of exclusion and rejection in our society – or even in the Church? Who are those who must live apart? And how can we put into effect in our own day those most touching of the words of Jesus, when asked if he wants to cure the leper: "Of course I want to!"? Contemplating exclusion and rejection in our world is hard work: Saint Paul guides our way when he writes that the Christian path is not to work for my own benefit, but for the benefit of everybody else.

Introit: Lord, be my rock of safety, the stronghold that saves me. For the honour of your name, lead me and guide me.

Collect: Let us pray (*that everything we do will be guided by God's law of love*): God our Father, you have promised to remain for ever with those who do what is just and right. Help us to live in your presence. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

TO-DAY'S BIBLE READINGS

A reading from the Book of Leviticus (13:1-2 & 45-46): *In the Old Testament, people were so concerned about outward purity, that, in their zeal, they excluded people with serious skin*

infections from the worshipping community. Jesus Christ reminds us that inward purity is, in the end, more important.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons. 'The man is leprosy: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart: he must live outside the camp.'

At 8 o'clock only the response in the Psalm (30/31) is: *You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.*

A reading from the first letter of S Paul to the Corinthians (10:31-11:1): *Paul insists that Christ has set people free from excessive regulation of the Old Law. Christians should let charity prevail, where some do not yet understand this freedom.*

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved. Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (1:40-45): *As far as Jesus is concerned, lepers and sinners are no longer outcasts, but people to be loved and to be restored in the love of God to the community.*

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the



offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

Prayer



AT THE INTERCESSIONS

Intercessor: Wonderful God:

All: reveal in us your glory.

We pray: for our parish and for its needs; for Father Dioynisious our Curate (unable to be with us, as he is currently working on an Intensive Care Ward at Hammersmith Hospital) and his family; for engaged couples in Hillingdon; for our keeping of a good Lent; for all in North Hillingdon, who are presently unemployed; for teachers of the Faith in our own day; for the Church in Scandinavia; for any we know, who have just come out of hospital.

We commend to God our Father the sick, the housebound and others in any kind of trouble or need: Peter Bennett, Lesley Carrington, Helen Dey, Mike & Evelyn Kirby, Brian Measures, Phil Parris, Rob Scoates, Neil & Laura Thompson, Sarah Turk, Frank & Irene Wilkinson.

the recently departed: Raymond George Rose. **those whose anniversary falls at about this time:** Angela Anderson, Mary Baker, 'Bill' Coleman, Gwen Gibson, Peter Glover, Thomas Mayer, Arthur Wheatley. **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 Valentine, S Coleman (of Lindisfarne), S Sigfrid (of Sweden) & all the saints. *Hail, Mary...*

FATHER DESMOND'S NOTES THIS WEEK

1. For your sake (and all our sakes), you must not come into church, if you have (or have had within the last ten days) any symptoms of COVID-19. If you have been exposed (or think you may have been exposed) within the last ten days, you must also stay away from All Saints', even if you have no symptoms.

2. There are still available to-day copies of the February edition of *Saints Alive!* Items for the March edition need to be received by Monday, 22/2. Thank you.

3. This Tuesday, 16/2; 1930: Meeting of the PCC, *via Zoom.*



4. I commend to you two possible Lent books this year: (a) *Rooted in Love; Lent Reflections on Life in Christ*, assembled by the London College of Bishops. *It consists of forty short sections, one for each day of Lent.* (b) *Candles in the Dark; Faith, Hope & Love in a Time of Pandemic*, by Bishop Rowan Williams. Both are obtainable through *Amazon*. If you would like me to get for you a copy of either of these books, please let me know.

5. The Eucharist this week at ASH

a. Wednesday, 17/2; **Ash Wednesday**, the first day of Lent; the Eucharist will be celebrated at 1000 & 1930. *Given the present circumstances, only the priest will receive the ashes (on behalf of all of us).*

b. Thursday, 18/2; 1830: Thursday after Ash Wednesday

c. Saturday, 20/2; 1800: Vigil Eucharist of the Sunday

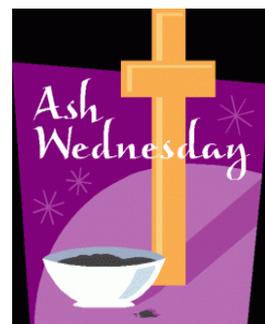
6. Friday, 19/2; 1800: (Socially-distanced) Stations of the Cross

7. At the end of our time together in church, there is always some cleaning to be done; please volunteer.

8. NEXT SUNDAY, 21/2: Lent I & our 'Third' Sunday

a. 0800: Said Eucharist

b. 1000: Parish Eucharist



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*To enquire about **Banns of Marriage, Weddings, Baptisms or other items of parish business**, please come along to Vestry Hour on Saturday morning from 0930. No appointment is necessary. Alternatively, e-mail or telephone Father Desmond at the Vicarage.*

Parish Website:

www.allsaintsnorthhilligdon.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ASHillingdon

Twitter: @ASHillingdon