



Proud to be, is the national theme for **Black History Month (BHM) 2021**. As we celebrate BHM this October, let us use the wonderful

opportunities provided to be part of the national celebrations and events, to honour the too-often unheralded accomplishments of Black Britons in every area of endeavour, throughout our history.

A Collect for Black History Month

Compassionate God, who sent Jesus Christ to deliver us from all manner of injustices and inequalities,

create in us new hearts and enlarged visions, to see the image of God in every person irrespective of background, race and ethnicity.

May we be generous in our love of others as we work towards ending misunderstanding, racism and injustice; creating communities of human flourishing, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

This month, we are reminded of the Church of England's commitment to the task of anti-racism and the prevalence of the idolatry of racism that intentionally and unintentionally privileges certain peoples and groups over others.

The Church has immense formative power within the wider community and such power begins in our worship of God.

Racism is at root, an issue of power, the limiting of the capacity of certain people and groups to act whilst privileging and promoting the capacity of others, solely on the grounds of racial characterisation. Our worship and the life of the Church are not free from these dynamics.

Genesis 1.27 states 'So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them...' When we apply this simple yet powerful verse to our everyday lives, it means that each one of us is made in God's image. We are all loved by God, who wants us all to grow and flourish. As Jesus is clear, 'I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.'

God does not distinguish between us based on the colour of our skin or the country in which we are born, yet today we live in a society that is fractured by the differential treatment of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups. Racism denies the reconciling work of Jesus Christ that was achieved for all people. Racism denies our common humanity in creation and our belief that all are made in God's image.

As the fourth Mark of Mission reminds us, we are called 'To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation'. Far from being a mere act of individual piety or internalized spirituality, liturgy invites the faithful to experience what a real community is in church and to live it out in the world.

Welcome to the United Benefice of South Norwood Holy Innocents and St. Mark

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



10th October 2021

Vicar: The Revd. Canon Roxanne F. Eversley
Asst. Priest: Mother Susan Wheeler-Kiley
Reader: Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds

Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity Harvest Festival

10.00am Parish Mass

President and Preacher, Mother Roxanne

*Amos 5.6-7, 10-15 * Psalm 90.13-17 * Hebrews 4.12-16* Mark 10.17-31*

Access online worship via

www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood

This week's diary

Thursday 14 th October	Feria	Holy Innocents: 10.00am Said Mass
Sunday 17 th October	20 th Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP Mass 10am Parish Mass

CHURCH NOTICES

Pastoral Care: Mother Roxanne is available on Tel. 020 8916 1830 or 07723 038215 or mtrroxanne@gmail.com She is not available on Mondays or Mother Susan (07890 780572) on Fridays.

We pray: for Archbishops Justin and Stephen; Bishops Christopher, Jonathan, Richard and Karowei in this Diocese; and the Bishops in our link Dioceses in Zimbabwe.

For St Christopher, Walworth (Pembroke College Mission) Ellen Eames (PiC); Joseph Moore (AsstC); Charles Turner (Reader)
Pray for the staff and volunteers of Pembroke House.

World Mental Health Day
For the Bishops, priests & people of the Church of the Province of West Africa.

For the sick: Richard, Helen, Jennifer & Reuben, Marie-Gabrielle, Amanda, Rose, Caroline, Sigi, Michael, Anecka, Monica, Shirley, Lynn, Joanne, Ronald, Tommy, Ena, Adeline, Akos, Peggy, Rudolph, Stephanie, Pamela, Barry, Marlise, Dennis, Linda, Greta, David, Oslene.

For the bereaved: Beverley, Nathan and the Brown family; Pauline Domingo and the Blackwood family.

For the recently departed: Olive Brown, Miriam Blackwood. **Years mind.**

Dates for your Diaries

Saturday, 23rd October – We set off on the Deanery's COP (walking) Pilgrimage to Southwark Cathedral from St. John the Evangelist, Sylvan Road, Upper Norwood at 11am. The 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) takes place at the Scottish Event Campus (SEC) in Glasgow from 31 October – 12 November 2021.

COLLECT

O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Amos 5:6-7. 10-15

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

Seek the LORD and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground! They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins – you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

PSALM Psalm 90:13-17

R *We shall rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.*

or

R *O Lord, be gracious to your servants.*

Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry?

be gracious to your servants.

Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life. **R**

Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us and the years in which we suffered adversity. Show your servants your works and your splendour to their children. **R**

May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork. **R**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 4:12-16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

GOSPEL Mark 10:17-31

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother.'" He said to Jesus, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus,

looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age – houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields – but with persecutions – and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

POST COMMUNION

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.