

# WELCOME

Good morning/ evening, and welcome to St Mary's Parish.

Jesus instructs the Twelve about whom they should fear and whom they should not fear. Though the greater danger may seem to be from those who can kill them for acknowledging Jesus, in fact denying Jesus has more dire consequences: God can destroy the faithless in Gehenna. But have confidence: the same God who condemns the unfaithful also protects the faithful. Be not afraid!

Please say "hello" to those next to you, and if you do not know those seated near you, introduce yourself and say "hello."

We now keep in mind our sick brothers and sisters, especially those in our newsletter.

Our presider this morning/evening is -

Please join us as we begin with the Processional Hymn.

## First Reading

Jeremiah 20:10-13 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

**He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.**

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me,

"Terror from every side!"

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!

All those who used to be my friends

watched for my downfall,

'Perhaps he will be seduced into error.

Then we will master him and take our revenge!'

But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;

my opponents will stumble, mastered,

confounded by their failure;

everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.

But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice,

who scrutinise the loins and heart,

let me see the vengeance you will take on them,

for I have committed my cause to you.

Sing to the Lord,

praise the Lord,

for he has delivered the soul of the needy

from the hands of evil men.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 68:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 (JB)

**R.** Lord, in your great love, answer me.

It is for you that I suffer taunts,  
that shame covers my face,  
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,  
an alien to my own mother's sons.

I burn with zeal for your house  
and taunts against you fall on me. **R.**

This is my prayer to you,  
my prayer for your favour.  
In your great love, answer me, O God,  
with your help that never fails:  
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;  
in your compassion, turn towards me. **R.**

The poor when they see it will be glad  
and God-seeking hearts will revive;  
for the Lord listens to the needs  
and does not spurn servants in their chains.  
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,  
the sea and all its living creatures. **R.**

## Second Reading

Romans 5:12-15 (JB)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

**God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.**

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

John 15:26, 27 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord,  
and you also will be my witnesses.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 10:26-33 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**Do not fear those who can kill the body.**

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## General Intercessions

**Celebrant:** With faith in God's love manifested in our lives, we pray:

**Reader:**

1. Let us pray for the leaders of the world to search honestly for peace and justice for all people, (Pause) We pray to the Lord.
2. Let us pray for courage for Christians to proclaim the gospel in the midst of trials and suffering, (Pause) We pray to the Lord.
3. Let us pray for courage for Christians to proclaim the gospel in the midst of trials and suffering, (Pause) We pray to the Lord.
4. Let us pray for all who care for the earth - farmers, gardeners, rangers and ecologists, (Pause) We pray to the Lord.
5. Let us pray for each of us here to claim our discipleship in following Christ with lives of commitment, (Pause) We pray to the Lord.
6. Let us pray for our loved ones who are ill or dying, and for those who care for them, (Pause) We pray to the Lord.
7. Let us pray for those who have passed into eternal life, and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time. We also pray for those who have no one to remember them in their prayers. May they find eternal rest and comfort within God's own life and love. *Together we pray* (All) Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord! And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. (Pause) We pray to the Lord.

**Celebrant:** Loving God, be with us as we proclaim from the housetops our desire to be faithful disciples of your Son, Jesus, who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.