

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.*

Or

*When I prove my holiness among you,
I will gather you from all the foreign lands;
and I will pour clean water upon you
and cleanse you from all your impurities,
and I will give you a new spirit, says the Lord.*

COLLECT

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness,
who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving
have shown us a remedy for sin,
look graciously on this confession of our lowliness,
that we, who are bowed down by our conscience,
may always be lifted up by your mercy.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Exodus 3:1-8a. 13-15

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

In those days: Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, 'I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.' When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' And he said, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, 'I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey.'

Then Moses said to God, 'If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you", and they ask me, "What is his name?" what shall I say to them?' God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.' And he said, 'Say this to the people of Israel: "I AM has sent me to you."' God also said to Moses, 'Say this to the people of Israel: "The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for ever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 103(102):1-2. 3-4. 6-7. 8. 11. R. 8a

R: The LORD is compassionate and gracious.

1. Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits. **R.**
2. It is the LORD who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with mercy and compassion. **R.**
3. The LORD does deeds of justice,
gives full justice to all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses,
and his deeds to the children of Israel. **R.**

4. The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so strong his mercy for those who fear him. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 10:1-6. 10-12

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL Matthew 4:17

R: Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

Repent, says the Lord,
for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

R: Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

GOSPEL Luke 13:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

There were some present at that very time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, 'Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.'

And he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vine dresser, "Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?" And he answered him, "Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig round it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings,
and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins,
may take care to forgive our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we receive the pledge
of things yet hidden in heaven
and are nourished while still on earth
with the Bread that comes from on high,
we humbly entreat you, O Lord,
that what is being brought about in us in mystery
may come to true completion.

Amen.

The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

March 23rd, 2025

The Third Sunday of Lent



In the gospel today, Jesus teaches his followers about the relationship between virtue, sinfulness, and the things that happen in our lives. And the lesson we must learn is perhaps not the one we expected, or the one we might have wanted. Jesus is clear that there is no relationship between these things whatsoever. Bad things happen to good people and good things happen to bad people just as much as the other way around. We'll be thinking about this more during the homily.

After mass we will move straight from the Angelus to the Stations of the Cross. If you are able, please gather round the first station, and then follow as we move around the church accompanying Jesus on his way to Calvary and to his death on the cross.

Entrance Hymn

484 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

Offertory Hymn

562 Rock of ages, cleft for me

Recessional

489 In the cross of Christ I glory

THIS WEEK

24th: Monday of 3rd week of Lent. No services in church; Offices said privately.

25th: *The Annunciation of the Lord. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Boys' Brigade meeting 1700*

26th: Wednesday of 3rd week of Lent. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Warm Centre 1100-1400; Evening Prayer 1700; Lent Course third session 1830 at church, or on Zoom.

27th: *Thursday of 3rd week of Lent. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Stations of the Cross 1030; Evening Prayer 1700*

28th: Friday of 3rd week of Lent. No services in church; Offices said privately.

29th: *Saturday of 3rd week of Lent. Offices said privately.*

NEXT SUNDAY: Sunday 30th March: 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday and Mothering Sunday). Mass at 1000 as usual, followed by Stations of the Cross.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

Kathyan Fenton; Desiree Loderick; Adeline and Leila; Tom Shipman

(If you wish a name to be on the list, please give the details to Susan, Fr Josiah, or Fr Stephen.)

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Twilight Bae; Bonnie Macey

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

24th: William Henry Smith, John Livy, Eileen Jones, Derek Holman

25th: Kath Mark

26th: Clive Pearce (priest), George Richard Hearne

27th: Anthony Burge (priest)

28th: Ivy Bailey, Indra Hinds, Betty Patricia Hodgkins

29th: Henry Hawkins

SPECIAL BLESSINGS: Please let one of the sidespeople or a churchwarden know before mass begins if you'd like a special blessing. If you have requested a blessing, please come up to the chancel step after the intercessions.

YOUNG CHILDREN IN CHURCH: Don't worry if they make a noise or move about! Young visitors to the sanctuary are always welcome, so no drama if they go for a walk! We'll have a look at the children's work after mass...

FINANCIAL POSITION: During February 2025, our income was £696.21, but our outgoings were £3,195.70. It is now clear that part of this problem was due to not being able to pay money into the bank for several weeks. So, things are not quite as bad as they seemed, but we are still spending more each month than we are receiving. Please consider if you can increase your contributions to the church or set up a regular donation through the Parish Giving Scheme if you don't already do so.

SPONSORING CANDLES, ETC.: If you would like to help us by sponsoring votive candles, sanctuary lights, incense, or wafers for communion, please do sign up! A sanctuary light costs £3.50, votive candles (next to the statues of the saints) are £1.00 each, and 100 communion wafers are £1.50. Please talk to one of the clergy or to Susan. We'll be delighted to receive your sponsorship.

ELECTORAL ROLL: Please join the roll as it determines how our parish is perceived, and how much support we get from the deanery and the diocese!

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Fr Stephen: fr.stephen@stanselm.co.uk; 020 4603 7795

Fr Josiah: fr.josiah@stanselm.co.uk; 07597 701878

Susan: susan@stanselm.co.uk

EASTER CONFESSIONS: During Holy Week (April 14th-18th), Frs Stephen and Josiah will be available to hear confessions, by appointment. Please speak to them or use above contact details.

PLEASE JOIN US IN THE HALL AFTER MASS FOR TEA AND COFFEE, AND BISCUITS OR CAKE!