

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.*

COLLECT

God of might, giver of every good gift,
put into our hearts the love of your name,
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,
you may nurture in us what is good
and, by your watchful care,
keep safe what you have nurtured.
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 Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts. The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the might of the Lord; he is glorified by the humble. The affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of wickedness has taken root in him. The mind of the intelligent man will ponder a parable, and an attentive ear is the wise man's desire.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 68(67):4-5ac. 6-7b. 10-11.

R.cf. 11b

R: *In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.*

1. The upright shall rejoice at the presence of God;
they shall exult with glad rejoicing.
O sing to God; make music to his name.
The LORD is his name. **R.**
2. Father of orphans, defender of widows:
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the desolate a home to dwell in;
he leads the prisoners forth into prosperity. **R.**
3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain;
when your heritage languished, you restored it.
It was there that your flock began to dwell.
In your goodness, O God, you provided for the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Brothers and sisters: You have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them.

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL Matthew 11:29ab

R: *Alleluia, alleluia.*

Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord,
and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.

R: *Alleluia.*

GOSPEL Luke 14:1. 7-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully.

Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, "Give your place to this person", and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher." Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.'

He said also to the man who had invited him, 'When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends, or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this sacred offering, O Lord,
confer on us always the blessing of salvation,
that what it celebrates in mystery
it may accomplish in power.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.*

Or

*Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake
of righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the food of charity,
it may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

August 31st, 2025

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's first reading comes from the Book of Sirach – also known as Ecclesiasticus. It is from the part of the bible called the Apocrypha, which means 'hidden away'. Whether the books included in the Apocrypha should be regarded as having the same authority as the rest of the books in the old and new testaments has been the subject of much historical debate. However, most Christians today accept that these books have useful things to teach us, whether or not they have an equally authoritative place when compared with the other books of the bible. In today's passage from Sirach, there is a clear anticipation of Jesus's own teaching, in the gospel reading, on the importance of humility. Interestingly, while Jesus is clear that we should not think of



ourselves too highly, he also seems to recognise that the desire to be well thought of by those around us is not in itself wrong. When, through his vivid image of the seating arrangements at a wedding, he warns

of the humiliation that will be felt by a guest who has *over*-estimated their importance, he also suggests that part of the reward for *under*-estimating our importance will be the honour we receive when we're publicly moved up the pecking order afterwards! It's not wrong for us to want to be perceived fairly, but it is dangerous to be overly concerned with our own self-importance.

Entrance Hymn

337 Glory to thee, who safe hast kept

Offertory Hymn

549 O worship the King, all-glorious above

Recessional

467 Glorious things of thee are spoken

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THIS WEEK (Year C[1]; Psalm Week 2)

1st September: Monday of Week 22 in Ordinary Time. No services in church; Offices said privately.

2nd: Tuesday of Week 22 in Ordinary Time. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; NO Boys' Brigade

3rd: St Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700

4th: Thursday of Week 22 in Ordinary Time. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700

5th: Friday of Week 22 in Ordinary Time. Offices said privately.

6th: Saturday of Week 22 in Ordinary Time. No services in church; Offices said privately.

NEXT SUNDAY: Sunday 7th September: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Mass at 1000 as usual.

FUTURE DATES: Sunday 14th September: Feast of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The PCC will meet after mass.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

Kathyan Fenton; Desiree Loderick; Mr & Mrs DeGale, Anselm Charles, Jean Charnock, Maggie, George Norwood, Oluwayemisi, Sean Brennan, and Patrick Coleman. (If you have a name for the list, please give the details to Susan, Fr Josiah, or Fr Stephen.)

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Bobbi Cahill, Shiela Lashley Weekes

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

1st September: Albert Mills

2nd: Alice Bacon, Amelia Tansley

3rd: Nellie Robbins

5th: Vera Kelly, Elizabeth Isles, Hazle Morton, Zuheir David

6th: Roulston Franklin, Leslie Franklin

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 July 2025, our income was £1,028.78, and our outgoings were £1,303.47. Expenditure routinely continues to outstrip our income, and this clearly can't continue for ever. So, do please consider if you can increase your contributions to the church, preferably via the Parish Giving Scheme if you don't already use that service.

SPONSORING CANDLES, ETC.: Sanctuary lights cost £3.50; votive candles £1.00; 100 communion wafers £1.50. We'd be very grateful for your support.

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

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