

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*O God, come to my assistance;  
O Lord, make haste to help me!  
You are my rescuer, my help;  
O Lord, do not delay.*

### COLLECT

Draw near to your servants, O Lord,  
and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness,  
that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide,  
you may restore what you have created  
and keep safe what you have restored.  
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 Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes.

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

Sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge  
and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did  
not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What has a man  
from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the  
sun? For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation.  
Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 90 (89):3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 14, 17. R.1

**R: O Lord, you have been our refuge,  
from generation to generation.**

1. You turn man back to dust,  
and say, 'Return, O children of Adam.'  
To your eyes a thousand years  
are like yesterday, come and gone,  
or like a watch in the night. **R.**
2. You sweep them away like a dream,  
like grass which is fresh in the morning.  
In the morning it sprouts and is fresh;  
by evening it withers and fades. **R.**
3. Then teach us to number our days,  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Turn back, O LORD! How long?  
Show pity to your servants. **R.**
4. At dawn, fill us with your merciful love;  
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.  
Let the favour of the LORD our God be upon us;  
give success to the work of our hands.  
O give success to the work of our hands. **R.**

### SECOND READING Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians.

Brothers and sisters: If you have been raised with Christ, seek the  
things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand  
of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things  
that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with

Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you  
also will appear with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, what is  
earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and  
covetousness, which is idolatry. Do not lie to one another, seeing  
that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on  
the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image  
of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and  
uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all,  
and in all.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL Matthew 5:3

**R: Alleluia, alleluia.**

Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**R: Alleluia.**

### GOSPEL Luke 12:13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

At that time: Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Teacher, tell my  
brother to divide the inheritance with me.' But he said to him, 'Man,  
who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?' And he said to them,  
'Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's  
life does not consist in the abundance of one's possessions.' And  
he told them a parable, saying, 'The land of a rich man produced  
plentifully, and he thought to himself, "What shall I do, for I have  
nowhere to store my crops?" And he said, "I will do this: I will tear  
down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my  
grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample  
goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God  
said to him, "Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the  
things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So is the one who  
lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich towards God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Graciously sanctify these gifts, O Lord, we pray,  
and, accepting the oblation of this spiritual sacrifice,  
make of us an eternal offering to you.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,  
endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.*

Or

*I am the bread of life, says the Lord;  
whoever comes to me will not hunger  
and whoever believes in me will not thirst.*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Accompany with constant protection, O Lord,  
those you renew with these heavenly gifts  
and, in your never-failing care for them,  
make them worthy of eternal redemption.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



## The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

PLEASE JOIN US AFTER MASS FOR OUR PARISH  
BARBECUE!



"All is vanity."  
So writes the  
author of the  
Book of  
Ecclesiastes in  
our first  
reading this  
morning. The  
Hebrew word  
translated as  
'vanity' means  
literally a 'puff  
of wind'. The  
message of

Ecclesiastes is that nothing in our lives has permanence, and that nothing ultimately profits us. What we think of as our security is in fact just like a puff of wind, insubstantial and fragile. Whatever we may gain in this life cannot be taken with us after death. This theme is dramatically taken up by Jesus in the gospel reading today. "Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" And, in between the first reading and the gospel, the second reading has Paul writing to the Colossians with the same message. "Seek the things that are above, where Christ is" and "put to death, therefore, what is earthly in you." All this insistence on the temporary nature of our lives, and the futility of the things we often see as being the most important and central purposes of our existence – money, success, happiness – might seem to be a very depressing and negative message. But, in fact, the exact opposite is the case. It's a message not of pessimism, but of liberation. When we let go of all these temporary and insignificant concerns, we are free to live the lives that we were created for in the beginning – to be "where Christ is."

### Entrance Hymn

339 Christ, whose glory fills the skies

### Offertory Hymn

511 Light's abode, celestial Salem

### Recessional

478 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

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

4<sup>th</sup>: St John Mary Vianney. No services in church;  
Offices said privately.

5<sup>th</sup>: Tuesday of Week 18 in Ordinary Time. Morning  
Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; NO Boys' Brigade

6<sup>th</sup>: Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord.

Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer  
1700

7<sup>th</sup>: Thursday of Week 18 in Ordinary Time. Morning  
Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700

8<sup>th</sup>: St Dominic, Priest. No services in church; Offices  
said privately.

9<sup>th</sup>: St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and  
Martyr. No services in church; Offices said privately.

NEXT SUNDAY: Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August: 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in  
Ordinary Time. Mass at 1000 as usual.

### PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

Fr Gwyn Clement SSC, Kathyan Fenton; Desiree  
Loderick; Mr & Mrs DeGale, Anselm Charles, Jean  
Charnock, Maggie, George Norwood, Oluwayemisi,  
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

Hertence Trim

### ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

4<sup>th</sup>: Rhydwen Williams, Julian Charles

5<sup>th</sup>: Harold James Harker, Jean Gwillim-Jones

6<sup>th</sup>: Owen Sears, Charles Howse, Rachel Keen

7<sup>th</sup>: Elizabeth Bunce

8<sup>th</sup>: Ernest Clapton, Geoffrey Mothersole, Joseph  
Kilminster

**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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