

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.*

COLLECT

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. 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 Amos 8:4-7

A reading from the Prophet Amos.
Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, saying, 'When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, that we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and sell the chaff of the wheat?' The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: 'Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 113(112):1-2. 4-6. 7-8. R. cf. 1a. 7b

R: Praise the LORD, who raises the poor.

Or *Alleluia!*

1. Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD! May the name of the LORD be blest both now and for evermore! *R.*
2. High above all nations is the LORD, above the heavens his glory. Who is like the LORD, our God, who dwells on high, who lowers himself to look down upon heaven and earth? *R.*
3. From the dust he lifts up the lowly, from the ash heap he raises the poor, to set them in the company of princes, yes, with the princes of his people. *R.*

SECOND READING 1 Timothy 2:1-8

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

Beloved: First of all, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

For this I was appointed a preacher and an Apostle – I am telling the truth, I am not lying – a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarrelling.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL 2 Corinthians 8:9

R: Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus Christ, though he was rich,
yet for your sake he became poor,
so that you by his poverty might become rich.

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 16:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

(for shorter form read between > <)

> At that time: Jesus said to the disciples, <
'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager." And the manager said to himself, "What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.'" So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, "How much do you owe my master?" He said, "A hundred measures of oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty." Then he said to another, "And how much do you owe?" He said, "A hundred measures of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and write eighty." The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.'

> 'One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful with the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.' <

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray,
the offerings of your people,
that what they profess with devotion and faith
may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.*

Or

*I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Graciously raise up, O Lord,
those you renew with this Sacrament,
that we may come to possess your redemption
both in mystery and in the manner of our life.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

September 21st, 2025

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's gospel, Jesus sets out some unusual teachings on money, and how we should use it. The parable of the dishonest manager seems to be praising the manager's dishonesty rather than criticising it.



But this isn't quite what Jesus is saying. Yes, the manager's master in the parable does commend the manager for his shrewdness despite his dishonesty. But Jesus is really saying that the whole business of money is suspect. "You cannot serve God and money" is Jesus's conclusion. When we make money our main concern in life we inevitably end up compromising our moral judgments. The dishonest steward is using money against the very people to whom money is most important. He is getting them on his side by reducing their debts, and making them beholden to him. But Jesus tells us that this kind of power over others will fail. Since the dishonest manager was not faithful with unrighteous wealth, "who will entrust [him] with true riches?" The same will apply to us if we are dishonest in small things – if we can't be trusted with small matters, why should we be trusted with more important things?

Entrance Hymn

570 Stand up! Stand up for Jesus

Offertory Hymn

100 O for a heart to praise my God

Recessional

537 O Jesus, I have promised

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

22nd: Monday of Week 25 in Ordinary Time. No services in church; Offices said privately.

23rd: *St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association 1700.*

24th: Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700; Walsingham Festival at St Andrew Holborn 1900.

25th: Thursday of Week 25 in Ordinary Time.

Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700

26th: Friday of Week 25 in Ordinary Time. Offices said privately.

27th: *St Vincent de Paul, Priest. No services in church; Offices said privately.*

NEXT SUNDAY: Sunday 28th September: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Mass at 1000.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

Kathyan Fenton; Desiree Loderick; Mr & Mrs DeGale, Maggie, George Norwood, Oluwayemisi, Sean Brennan, and William. (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

21st: Peggy Harding, Glenys Phipps

22nd: Alexander Simpson

25th: Shelagh Boulter

26th: Ida Argent

27th: Annie Shuttle

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 August 2025, our income was £1,468.78, and our outgoings were £1,242.99. It's great to be able to report that we spent less than we received during the month, and we also received a very generous one-off donation of £1,000 for our reserve fund. However, with winter approaching and increased bills for heating, we can't be complacent, 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.

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