

Trinity Two, 21st June 2020



The Lighting of a Candle

We light this candle to remind us that the love of God is like a light in our darkness.
As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.
Amen.

See what love the Father has given us,
that we should be called the children of God.

You are my sons and daughters,
this day I have begotten you.

See what love the Father has given us.

As many as received him,
to them he gave power to become the children of God.

See what love the Father has given us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

**See what love the Father has given us,
that we should be called the children of God.**

We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

**Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.
Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayer of Penitence

God our Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.
For turning away from you,
and ignoring your will for our lives;

Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For behaving just as we wish,
without thinking of you;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For failing you by what we do
and think and say;
Father forgive us:
save us and help us.

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you
by temptations in the world about us;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

May the God of Love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Blessed is the Lord
for he has heard the voice of our prayer;
therefore shall our hearts dance for joy
and in our song we will praise our God.

The Collect for the day

Lord, you have taught us
that all our doings without love are nothing worth:
send your Holy Spirit
and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love,
the true bond of peace and of all virtues,
without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.
Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Hearing and responding to the Word of God

(We encourage you to look at the readings in your own time and will continue with the Gospel)

First Reading: Genesis 21.8-21

⁸Isaac grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. ⁹But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. ¹⁰So she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.' ¹¹The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. ¹²But God said to Abraham, 'Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named after you. ¹³As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.' ¹⁴So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

¹⁵When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. ¹⁶Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, 'Do not let me look on the death of the child.' And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. ¹⁷And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, 'What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. ¹⁸Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.' ¹⁹Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

²⁰God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. ²¹He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Psalm 86. 1-10,16-17

1 Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me,
for I am poor and in misery.

2 Preserve my soul, for I am faithful;
save your servant, for I put my trust in you.

3 Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God;
I call upon you all the day long.

4 Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

5 For you, Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

6 Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer
and listen to the voice of my supplication.

7 In the day of my distress I will call upon you,
for you will answer me.

8 Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord,
nor any works like yours.

9 All nations you have made shall come and worship you, O Lord, and shall
glorify your name.

10 For you are great and do wonderful things;
you alone are God.

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me;
give your strength to your servant
and save the child of your handmaid.

17 Show me a token of your favour,
that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed;
because you, O Lord, have helped and comforted me.

Second Reading: Romans 6.1b-11

¹Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be

enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel: Matthew 10.24-39

Jesus summoned the twelve and sent them out with the following instruction: ²⁴A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶and one's foes will be members of one's own household. ³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Reflection

Prayers of Intercession

Prayers for Father's Day

Loving God,
we come together on this Father's Day,
reminded not just of our earthly fathers but of you.
You tell us that all who believe in you
shall be called your children,
and you invite us to address you simply as "Our Father."
For the wonder of your love,
we praise you.

We praise you that, despite all our weakness and disobedience,
you view us not as subjects,
or as servants,
but as children.
And we rejoice that you want us to see you
not as some deity remote in splendour,
nor as a jealous God demanding our homage,
but as a father, watching over us
with infinite care and tenderness.
For the wonder of your love,
we praise you.

Loving Father,
teach us not simply to say "Our Father,"
but to mean it –
to recognize that you love us as deeply,
as dependably,
and as devotedly as any human father,
and infinitely more besides.
For the wonder of your love,
we praise you.

Teach us that we matter to you,
that you are concerned for our welfare,
that you delight to bless us,
that we need only to ask and you are there.
For the wonder of your love,
we praise you.

Teach us that it is because you care so much
that you instruct us,
discipline us,
and correct us.

For the wonder of your love,
we praise you.

Teach us that however far we stray from you,
however much we may reject your love
or ignore your guidance,
still you go on reaching out,
longing to draw us close once more.
For the wonder of your love,
we praise you.

Loving God,
You are "Our Father" and we praise you.
Teach us to be your children,
in the name of Christ.
Amen.

Prayer for Coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

Benefice Prayer

God who made everyone and who may be found in every place, bless our parishes and
Benefice, prosper our attempts to be faithful to you and to draw others to you.
Inspire us by the power of your Holy Spirit that we may be a caring people, the true
community of the body of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.
Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.**
Amen.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

As you go from here, remember this:
Because of the work of the Holy Spirit within us,
we are sons and daughters of God.
We have been adopted into his family;
God is truly our Father.
And if we are God's children,
we are His heirs, and fellow heirs with Christ.

So go in peace and confidence,
knowing that the love of God, our Father,
the grace of Jesus Christ,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
goes with us.

Amen

Let us bless the Lord:
thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all now and evermore. Amen.