

St Andrew's Church

First Sunday after Trinity

Newsletter for 6th June 2021

10.00am Mass in Church

Celebrant and Preacher; Father John

Collect

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading

1 Samuel 8; 4- 11

Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, "You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations." But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us." Samuel prayed to the LORD, and the LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them."

So Samuel reported all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots.

Gospel

Mark 3;20-end

The crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When Jesus' family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin" — for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please pray for people who are sick or in need of prayer: Sue Taylor, Viki Sidhu, Eileen, Pam Odam, Beverly Mitchell, Sasha Johnson, Mrs Baxter, Gloria, Vipam Braich, Pam Hyett.

Recently died: Dea-John , Nelson Masih,

Anniversary of Death: Eve Brown

Birthdays: Julian

Notices: There will be a short choir meeting after the service on Sunday to arrange a way forward. If you have not sung in the choir up to now, please join us – we would warmly welcome new members.

Prayer for those involved in Knife Crime

Dear Father, we pray for the families of those who have been victims of violent crime – and especially for the parents. We acknowledge their deep pain and grief, the loss of the hope they had cherished for their children's future, the loss of the sons and daughters they had loved and nurtured and prayed for through childhood.

We pray for the grief of parents whose children have turned to crime. We pray for those sons and daughters who have been led astray into violence and for all who get involved in wrongdoing. Turn their hearts, O God, and restore in them a sense of compassion and humanity. Help us to see that these young people are also lost and these families also bereaved.

Father we lament the wickedness that is rampant in our cities; we lament that violence and bloodshed, murder and crime are so commonplace, that the lives of people you have created are treated with such carelessness and contempt. We know you have good plans for every precious life that you have created; We uphold the value and dignity that you have placed within each of these young people, both those who have lost their lives and those who caused their deaths. We acknowledge the injustice of their deaths. Father we ask that you stir up the hearts of your people, black and white, old and young, to care, to care deeply, to care enough to take action. Father, give wisdom. Show us how to pray, how to take action. Open up doors of opportunity, doors of inspiration, doors of connection and resources.

We ask these things in Jesus' name. **Amen.**