

**Monday-Saturday, 23rd—28th August 2021**

**21st Week in Ordinary Time - Year 1**

**MONDAY**

*Mass of the Day*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

**READING:** 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8-10

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction. And you observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

**PSALM:** The Lord takes delight in his people.

**ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** *Matthew 23:13-22*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said: 'Alas for you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You who shut up the kingdom of heaven in men's faces, neither going in yourselves nor allowing others to go in who want to.

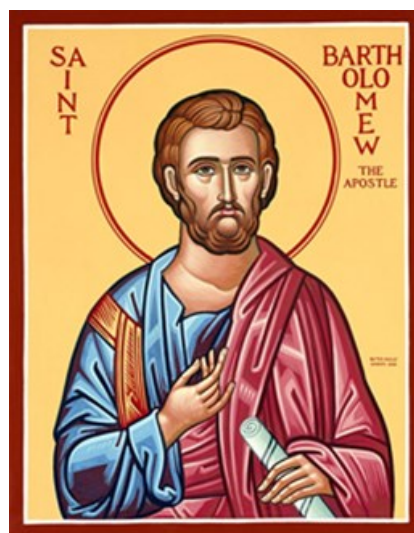
'Alas for you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You who travel over sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when you have him you make him twice as fit for hell as you are.

'Alas for you, blind guides! You who say, "If a man swears by the Temple, it has no force; but if a man swears by the gold of the Temple, he is bound." Fools and blind! For which is of greater worth, the gold or the Temple that makes the gold sacred? Or else, "If a man swears by the altar it has no force; but if a man swears by the offering that is on the altar, he is bound." You blind men! For which is of greater worth, the offering or the altar that makes the offering sacred? Therefore, when a man swears by the altar he is swearing by that and by everything on it. And when a man swears by the Temple he is swearing by that and by the One who dwells in it. And when a man swears by heaven he is swearing by the throne of God and by the One who is seated there.'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

**TUESDAY**

*St Bartholomew*



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Proclaim the salvation of God day by day; tell among the nations his glory. The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

## WEDNESDAY

### *Mass of the Day*

#### READING: Rv 21:9-14

The angel came to speak to me, and said, 'Come here and I will show you the bride that the Lamb has married.' In the spirit, he took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

**PSALM: Your friends tell the glory of your kingship, Lord.**

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!  
Master, you are the Son of God, you are the king of Israel. Alleluia!**

#### GOSPEL: *John 1:45-51*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, the one about whom the prophets wrote: he is Jesus son of Joseph, from Nazareth.' 'From Nazareth?' said Nathanael. 'Can anything good come from that place?' 'Come and see,' replied Philip. When Jesus saw Nathanael coming he said of him, 'There is an Israelite who deserves the name, incapable of deceit.' 'How do you know me?' said Nathanael. 'Before Philip came to call you,' said Jesus 'I saw you under the fig tree.' Nathanael answered, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are the King of Israel.' Jesus replied, 'You believe that just because I said: I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.' And then he added, 'I tell you most solemnly, you will see heaven laid open and, above the Son of Man, the angels of God ascending and descending.'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I confer a kingdom on you, just as my Father has conferred one on me, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, says the Lord.**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.**

#### READING: *1 Thes 2:9-13*

Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you. You are witnesses, and so is God, that our treatment of you, since you became believers, has been impeccably right and fair. You can remember how we treated every one of you as a father treats his children, teaching you what was right, encouraging you and appealing to you to live a life worthy of God, who is calling you to share the glory of his kingdom. Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

**PSALM: You have searched me and you know me, Lord.**

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!  
Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God. Alleluia!**

#### GOSPEL: *Matthew 23:27-32*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said, 'Alas for you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You who are like whitewashed tombs that look handsome on the outside, but inside are full of dead men's bones and every kind of corruption. In the same way you appear to people on the outside like good honest men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

'Alas for you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You who build the sepulchres of the prophets and decorate the tombs of holy men, saying, "We would never have joined in shedding the blood of the prophets, had we lived in our fathers' day." So! Your own evidence tells against you! You are the sons of those who murdered the prophets! Very well then, finish off the work that your fathers began.'

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.**

## THURSDAY

### *Mass of the Day*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

**READING:** *1 Thes 3:7-13*

Brothers, your faith has been a great comfort to us in the middle of our own troubles and sorrows; now we can breathe again, as you are still holding firm in the Lord. How can we thank God enough for you, for all the joy we feel before our God on your account? We are earnestly praying night and day to be able to see you face to face again and make up any shortcomings in your faith.

May God our Father himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, make it easy for us to come to you. May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

**PSALM:** Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

**ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia!

**Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL:** *Matthew 24:42-51*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

'What sort of servant, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you solemnly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the dishonest servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time," and sets about beating his fellow servants and eating and drinking with drunkards, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

**The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.**

## FRIDAY

### *St Monica*



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

**The woman who fears the Lord will herself be praised. Her children have called her most blessed, her husband has sung her praises.**

**READING:** *Sir 26:1-4. 13-16*

Happy the husband of a really good wife; the number of his days will be doubled. A perfect wife is the joy of her husband, he will live out the years of his life in peace. A good wife is the best of portions, reserved for those who fear the Lord; rich or poor, they will be glad of heart, cheerful of face, whatever the season. The grace of a wife will charm her husband, her accomplishment will make him the stronger. A silent wife is a gift from the Lord, no price can be put on a well-trained character. A modest wife is a boon twice over, a chaste character cannot be weighed on scales. Like the sun rising over the mountains of the Lord is the beauty of a good wife in a well-kept house.

**PSALM:** In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

**ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia!

**I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: *Luke 7:11-17*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

She bore me in the arms of her prayer that you might say to the son of the widow: Young man, I command you – rise up.

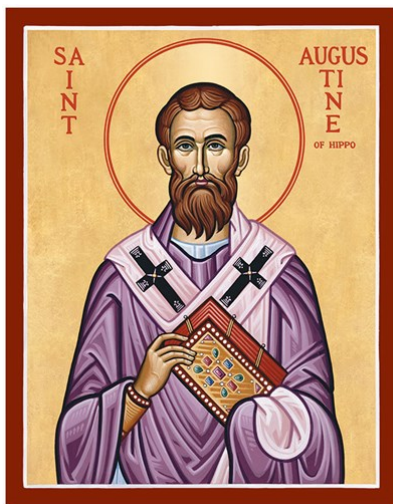
Jesus went to a town called Nain, accompanied by his disciples and a great number of people. When he was near the gate of the town it happened that a dead man was being carried out for burial, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a considerable number of the townspeople were with her. When the Lord saw her he felt sorry for her. 'Do not cry,' he said. Then he went up and put his hand on the bier and the bearers stood still, and he said, 'Young man, I tell you to get up.' And the dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Everyone was filled with awe and praised God saying, 'A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.' And this opinion of him spread throughout Judaea and all over the countryside.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**The Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant who travels in search of fine pearls and who, on finding one of great price, sold everything and bought it.**

**SATURDAY**

*St Augustine*



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

**In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth, and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding and clothed him in a robe of glory.**

READING: *1 John 4:7-16*

My dear people,  
let us love one another  
since love comes from God  
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.

Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love.

God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean:

not our love for God,  
but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

My dear people,  
since God has loved us so much,  
we too should love one another.

No one has ever seen God;  
but as long as we love one another  
God will live in us

and his love will be complete in us.  
We can know that we are living in him  
and he is living in us

because he lets us share his Spirit.  
We ourselves saw and we testify

that the Father sent his Son  
as saviour of the world.

If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God,  
God lives in him, and he in God.

We ourselves have known and put our faith in  
God's love towards ourselves.

God is love  
and anyone who lives in love lives in God,  
and God lives in him.

PSALM: **Lord, teach me your decrees.**

ACCLAMATION: **Alleluia, alleluia!**

**You have one Father, your Father in heaven;  
you have one teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ!  
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: *Matthew 23:8-12*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**Thus says the Lord: You have but one teacher, the Christ, and you are all brothers.**