

What's in a Name? The Mass

The word 'Mass' comes from the Latin words of the dismissal: 'Ite missa est', or in English 'Go forth the Mass is ended.'

It helps us to remember that at the end of each Mass we are sent out into the world to proclaim the good news of the Gospel. The implication is that the Mass is the source from which we gain the strength and guidance to undertake the mission of the Church. The sending out at the end of Mass is not the end of, but rather the beginning of, our work.

When we receive the Body and Blood of Christ, we are strengthened to do the work of the God and to seek to build up his Kingdom in the world. That is why the Mass is so important; it is at the centre of the mission of the church and so we need to make sure we are regular in our attendance at Mass.

So, when you attend Mass, please think about what you are going to do for the mission of the Church as you are sent out into the world to proclaim, 'Thy will be done'.

The month of August

August is the month in which we celebrate the Assumption into heaven of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Indeed, the entire month is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. So, in this month of August we pray for increased devotion to Mary among all Christians and for those places of pilgrimage in which we encounter Mary so closely, including Walsingham and Lourdes.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Sunday 24th August 2025
10th Sunday after Trinity
or 21st in Ordinary Time
Gospel: Luke 13: 22 – 30



'There's a wideness in God's mercy,' as Father Faber's well-loved hymn reminds us. Yet, in today's Gospel, it seems that not everyone is ready to hear that message. Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem, teaching as he goes, and responds to the question, 'Will there be only a few saved?' There is a tension it seems for God's chosen people, in accepting that the same God who chose them, will choose to draw others to Him. This is a scriptural promise that will be fulfilled through the death and resurrection of Jesus. For some this is so intolerable that they will grind their teeth, and yet the first shall be last and the last first.

We are firmly rooted and grounded in Him, yet we too should never assume that we do not need God's guidance, for nothing is impossible with God.