# Twelfth Sunday after Trinity 7th September 2025

#### **Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of 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.

# Old Testament Reading (Deuteronomy 30.15-20)

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

# Psalm (Psalm 1)



Response: Happy are those who trust the Lord.

Happy indeed are those who follow not the counsel of the wicked, nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners. **R** 

But whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night. **R** 

He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade. **R** 

# New Testament Reading (Philemon 1-21)

A reading of Paul's Letter to Philemon.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love--and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without

your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brotherespecially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

# Gospel Reading (Luke 14.25-33)

Hear the Holy Gospel according to Luke. Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, "This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

God of all mercy,

in this Eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing:

grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Amen.

## For your prayers

### In our Prayers:

Tommy Lacken, Martin Fletcher, Terry Folan, Sheila Hoppenbrouwers, Eamon Irvine, Fr Michael Shier, Carol Martin, Philomena Sorrenti, Maggie Stevenson, Hope Oram, Sherry Lacken, Doug Williams, Neville Thomas, Lynn Williamson, Juan Carlos Mandich, Nancy Mandich, Eliane Ferreira Batista, Joanne Dack, Jaqueline Ives, Joan Rivellini, Tommy Naylor, Shirley, Stephen Winfield

### Among the departed:

Andrew Miller, Vlasta Curejove

#### **Anniversaries of Death:**

Peter Jermyn (Pr), Kathy Hughes, Norman Haines, Marsden Whelpton (Pr), Florence Coke-Burnett, Constance Grace, Cyril Furnell, Henry James Connor, Mary Doell, Cecil James Vincent, (Pr), Ron Lyons In our parish:

Franck House, Katial house, Blackwell House and Pankhurst Terrace

#### In the wider world:

We pray for the Middle East and a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Gaza and between Israel and Iran. We pray for all those suffering in those conflicts.

#### **Notices**

This week in church...

Wednesday Open Church: 10am-1pm 11-12am Study Group

Parables of Jesus

12.30pm Mass

Next Sunday Holy Cross Day 10.30am Sung Mass

#### **Autumn Fair**

# Saturday 4th October 11am

Come and help us raise funds for the Heating Project. Donations welcome! Details to follow.

### **King Square Coffee**

Community Room, Blackwell House (between President House and Rahere House) Tuesday afternoons 1.30-3.30pm Friday afternoons12.30-2pm A chance to chat with your neighbour and catch up over coffee, tea, soup and sweet treats. Everyone welcome!