

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.*

COLLECT

Look upon us, O God,
Creator and ruler of all things,
and, that we may feel the working of your mercy,
grant that we may serve you with all our heart.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Sirach 27:30 – 28:7

A reading from the Book of Sirach.
Anger and wrath, these are abominations,
and the sinful man will hold them fast.
The one who seeks vengeance will be paid vengeance from the Lord,
and he who keeps a record will have his own sins recorded.
Forgive your neighbour the wrong he has done,
and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray.
Does one person harbour anger against another
and yet seek for healing from the Lord?
Does he have no mercy towards someone like himself
and yet pray concerning his own sins?
If he himself, being flesh, maintains wrath,
who will make atonement for his sins?
Remember the end of your life and cease from enmity,
remember destruction and death
and be true to the commandments.
Remember the commandments
and do not be angry with your neighbour;
remember the covenant of the Most High
and overlook error.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 103(102):1-2. 3-4. 9-10. 11-12. R. 8

**R: The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

1. Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with mercy and compassion. **R.**
3. He will not always find fault;
nor persist in his anger for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so strong his mercy for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far from us does he remove our transgressions. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 14:7-9

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters: None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we

are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL John 13:34

R: Alleluia, alleluia.

A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord,
that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 18:21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time: Peter came up and said to Jesus, 'Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.'

'Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, "Pay what you owe." So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, "You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord,
and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings,
that what each has offered to the honour of your name
may serve the salvation of all.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

How precious is your mercy, O God!

The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

Or

*The chalice of blessing that we bless
is a communion in the Blood of Christ;
and the bread that we break
is a sharing in the Body of the Lord.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray,
take possession of our minds and bodies,
so that its effects, and not our own desires,
may always prevail in us.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

September 13th, 2026

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

It's very clear that the first reading and the gospel today have a single theme – that of forgiveness. As so often, St Peter asks the questions we don't dare to ask! Must I forgive as much as seven times? But Jesus insists that forgiveness is not a simple one-off action. He tells St Peter that he must forgive not just seven times, but seventy times seven! We must be prepared to forgive repeatedly. Both the passage from Sirach, and the gospel, emphasise that the forgiveness we may wish to receive from those we've hurt or angered by our behaviour or attitudes will be entirely dependent on how willing we are to forgive those who've hurt us. Sometimes people say, "I can forgive, but I can't forget!" But this is not what the bible teaches us. On the contrary, saying that we can't forget is the same thing as 'keeping a record'. And Sirach is unambiguous: "he who keeps a record will have his own sins recorded." We can't help what our memory stores, and if we've been badly hurt by someone we'll almost certainly carry the memory with us. But this isn't quite what "I can't forget" means. 'Can't forget' quickly becomes 'won't forget' unless we make a conscious effort to move beyond the hurts we've received. If we are prepared to lay down the burden of past hurts we will find that forgiving others is as liberating as being forgiven.

Entrance Hymn

508 Let us, with a gladsome mind

Offertory Hymn

555 Praise to the Holiest in the height – omit v5
(During this hymn the collection is taken. Please give as generously as you can.)

Recessional

505 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

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THIS WEEK (Year A[2]; Psalm week 4)

ALL MORNING PRAYER SERVICES EXCEPT ON THURSDAYS, AND ALL EVENING PRAYER SERVICES INCLUDING ON THURSDAYS, ARE NOW ONLINE. To attend these online services, visit www.stanselm.co.uk, select 'Services and events',



then 'Online Morning Prayer' or 'Online Evening Prayer' as appropriate, and click on 'MORE INFO'.

14th: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Morning Prayer 0900 online.

15th: *Our Lady of Sorrows. Morning Prayer 0900 online. Evening Prayer online 1700.*

16th: SS Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs. Online Morning Prayer 0900. Online Evening Prayer 1700.

17th: *Thursday of 24th week in Ordinary Time. NO Morning Prayer or Mass in church as Fr Stephen is in Germany with the Society of Mary. Evening Prayer online 1700.*

18th: Friday of 24th week in Ordinary Time. Morning Prayer 0900 online.

19th: *Saturday of 24th week in Ordinary Time.*

NEXT SUNDAY

20th September: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Mass at 1000 as usual.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

Eliz Asmar, Kathyan Fenton, Desiree Loderick, Mr & Mrs DeGale, Peter Wickham, Cora Freeman, David Couling and Shirley Thomas. (If you have a name for the list, please give the details to Fr Stephen.)

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

13th: Frank Llewelyn Barnes, Hugh Phelps

14th: William Dymond

15th: Sheila Kelly

16: Lydia Clapton, Bernard Banks

17th: Emily Shackle

19th: Frank Shadbolt, Prof Charles Nwachuku

YOUNG CHILDREN IN CHURCH: Don't worry if they make a noise or move about! Young visitors to the sanctuary are always welcome, so no drama if they go for a walk! We'll have a look at the children's work at the end of mass...

FINANCIAL POSITION: During August 2026 our income was £1,032.90, and our outgoings were £1,571.55.

Another poor month for our finances! Could you help us by making a small increase in your contribution to St Anselm?

Please flash this QR code to get started!



STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

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