

**St Clement's Church,
King Square
2nd Sunday of Epiphany
14th January 2024**



Collect

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature
by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
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.**

First Reading (I Samuel 3.1-10)

A reading from the First Book of Samuel.
Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.
At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down;

and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening." So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Psalm (Psalm 139)



How won-der-ful are your works, O Lord.

Response: How wonderful are your works, O Lord.

O Lord, you search me and you know me,
you know my resting and my rising.
You mark when I walk or lie down,
all my ways lie open to you. **R**

O where can I go from your spirit,
or where can I flee from your face?
If I climb the heavens, you are there.
If I lie in the grave, you are there. **R**

If I take the wings of the dawn
and dwell at the sea's furthest end,
even there your hand would lead me,
your right hand would hold me fast. **R**

Second Reading (Revelation 5.1-10)

A reading from the Revelation to John.
Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals; and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song:

"You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth."

Gospel (John 1.43-51)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John. The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Post Communion

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

For your prayers

In our Prayers:

Hugh, Josh, Diane Rankin, Lloyd Whitney, Diane, Trevor, Vera, Chris Hall, Tommy Lacken, Christine & Tony, Sue, Kathy, Maria Amparo Garcia, Maria, Nicky Young, Lenny Shaw, Roger Shaw, Adele Skinner, Pat, Martin Fletcher, Mary-Rose Sinn, Vanessa, Enoch Amo-Owusu, Jill Hetherington, Justine, Ian and Martyn.
Fr Colin Oxenforth

Among the departed:

Margie Ives, Rosario Leona

Anniversaries of Death:

Charles Todd, Zoe Scott, Ron Hughes,
May Bruce Barnard, Rafaela Catena,
Fr William Burling, Fr Craig Barber,
Fr Frederick Wallace, Frederick Burtum

In the Parish:

We pray for those who work in the gyms and leisure centres, especially the Ironmonger Row Swimming Baths and the Finsbury Leisure Centre.

In the wider world:

We continue to pray for the people of the Holy Land, Israeli and Palestinian, Christian, Muslim and Jew; for peace and reconciliation; for all those injured, bereaved or forced from their homes.

Notices

This week in church...

There will be no Open Church on Wednesday this week.

Next Sunday 21st

The Third Sunday of Epiphany

10.30am Parish Mass

Lent Study

Lent is an opportunity for all of us to pray and study, alone and together. Would you like to be a part of a Lent Group this year? If you're interested, please let me know which daytimes or evenings during the week are best for you.

Father David

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