

**St Clement's Church,
King Square
Twentieth Sunday after Trinity
22nd October 2023**

Collect Prayer

God, the giver of life,
whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church:
by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel
of Christ and make us eager to do your will,
that we may share with the whole
creation the joys of eternal life;
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 (Isaiah 45.1-7)

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him--
and the gates shall not be closed:
I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.
I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
so that they may know,
from the rising of the sun
and from the west,
that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Psalm 96



Response: Give the Lord glory and power

O sing a new song to the Lord
Sing to the Lord all the earth
Tell among the nations his glory
And his wonders among all the peoples. **R/**

The Lord is great and worthy of praise,
To be feared above all gods;
The gods of the heathens are naught,
It was the Lord who made the heavens. **R/**

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
Give the Lord glory and power,
Give the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts. **R/**

Second Reading (I Thessalonians 1.1-10)

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.
We always give thanks to God for all of you and
mention you in our prayers, constantly
remembering before our God and Father your
work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness
of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know,
brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has
chosen you, because our message of the gospel
came to you not in word only, but also in power
and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just
as you know what kind of persons we proved to be
among you for your sake. And you became
imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of
persecution you received the word with joy
inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an
example to all the believers in Macedonia and in
Achaia.
For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from
you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every
place your faith in God has become known, so that
we have no need to speak about it. For the people
of those regions report about us what kind of
welcome we had among you, and how you turned
to God from idols, to serve a living and true God,
and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he
raised from the dead--Jesus, who rescues us from
the wrath that is coming.

Gospel (Matthew 22:15-22)

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father,
whose Son, the light unfailing,
has come from heaven to deliver the world from
the darkness of ignorance:
let these holy mysteries open the eyes of our
understanding
that we may know the way of life,
and walk in it without stumbling;
through 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, Margie Ives, Kathy, Maria Amparo Garcia, Maria, Nicky Young, Lenny Shaw, Roger Shaw, Matthew and Lucy and family, Fr Peter Rabin, Adele Skinner, Nigel Fletcher, Pat, Martin Fletcher, Mary-Rose Sinn, Vanessa, Catherine Weir, Bonnie Drewery, Leanne Killingback, Enoch Amo-Owusu

Recently departed:

Bishop Keith Riglin, Brian Hammond,
Jackie Monte Columbo

Anniversaries of Death:

Catherine Dunn, Albert Edward Neal, Essex Digby Berkeley, Alice Bessie Cackett, James Terence Crowley, William John Hosken, Margaret Watson, Hannah Ingram, Inez Zaccarini, Fr John Nelson Burrows, Albert James Geary, Saverio Sabatino

In the Parish:

We pray for the police and emergency services, for all who protect us and keep us safe.

In the wider world: We pray for the people of the Holy Land, Jew, Muslim and Christian, Israel and Palestinian, and pray for peace.

Notices

This week in church...

Wednesday 25th 10am-2pm Open Church
10.30 Exploring Sunday
sermons (with plenty of tea, coffee and cake)
12.30pm Mass

Next Sunday Last Sunday after Trinity
10.30am Sung Mass

Farewell for Vicki

On All Saints' Sunday **Sunday 5th November** we'll be saying farewell to Vicki as she prepares to take up her new role as Priest-in-Charge of Christchurch with St Mark's in Watford. If you would like to contribute to a leaving gift for her please give your donations to Father David or one of the churchwardens. Details of her welcome service at Christchurch on **21st November** will follow soon.

St. Clement's Church is very grateful for all donations to our work. To donate now please scan the QR code below. You can use debit or credit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay. Many thanks!

