



The FIFTH SUNDAY after TRINITY

12th July 2020

Welcome to St Mary's for our 10 am online service on this Fifth Sunday after Trinity. Our president today is Fr Andrew and preacher is Fr Mike.

Please join us online at: <https://bit.ly/StMarysKT>

This is a new link to different software than in our previous services, so you may be asked to download Zoom when you click on it.

You may follow the service by phone by calling **020 8080 6591** and, when prompted, keying in the **Meeting ID: 981 5467 9178** and **Password: 254560**.

This service will be recorded and made available afterwards for viewing online. The link will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

PUBLIC WORSHIP at ST MARY'S

The church is now open for individual prayer and reflection on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 1pm. Also, as some of you will have seen, we are now broadcasting the Sunday services from the church.

We hope to return to public worship at St Mary's next Sunday, 19th July, but also plan to continue with the recording of our services, so that people who are unable to attend in person can still join in our worship.

We are grateful for people's additional support during these difficult months when our events income, lets, and casual giving have fallen significantly. Thank you to everyone who has generously contributed to our survival.

If you are able to help St Mary's during this time of crisis, donations can be made direct to our bank account:

St Marys Church Kemp Town – Sort Code: 20-12-75 Acct: 50672734

Or via our JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/stmarys-brighton>

In these difficult times, please direct any concerns to the Vicar, Fr Andrew Woodward, on phone: 01273 698601 or via email: ruraldeanbrighton@gmail.com

www.stmaryschurchbrighton.org.uk

www.facebook.com/brightonstmary

OLD TESTAMENT READING (Genesis 25, verses 19–34)

Reader: Katherine Prior

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the LORD. And the LORD said to her,

'Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger.'

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?' Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

This is the word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119, verses 105–112

Refrain

O deal with your servant according to your faithful love.

Your word is a lantern to my feet
and a light upon my path.

I have sworn and will fulfil it,
to keep your righteous judgements.

I am troubled above measure;
give me life, O Lord, according to your word.
Accept the freewill offering of my mouth, O Lord,
and teach me your judgements.

O deal with your servant according to your faithful love.

My soul is ever in my hand,
yet I do not forget your law.
The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I have not strayed from your commandments.
Your testimonies have I claimed as my heritage for ever;
for they are the very joy of my heart.
I have applied my heart to fulfil your statutes:
always, even to the end.

O deal with your servant according to your faithful love.

THE EPISTLE (Romans 8, verses 1–11)

Reader: Lissy Mason

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

This is the word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL (Matthew 13, verses 1–9, 18–23)

Reader: Jo Gordon-Hall

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!'

'Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

This is the Gospel of The Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The **HOMILY**, by Fr Mike Fudger

The **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**, led by Gladys Mundowa

The **LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**
