



SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

Sunday 3rd November 2024

*Let us sit and watch Songs of Praise
together on the ABC*



Setting our table for our Sunday lunch service.

Sometimes we eat, in front of the TV either together or alone; we eat on the run; we eat out in restaurants or even in our car; but today we sit at a table that we have set for our Sunday lunch meal. It is our everyday altar of life-giving food.

Prayerful and intentional preparation for a meal

As we celebrate today let us define the occasion by adding something special to our table, Give some thought to the presentation of our meal as a meditation on the importance of the time we are setting aside for worship.



If you are celebrating this meal without people physically present, please be aware that **God Is With You.**



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To love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Needs to be responsive or it would be impossible to do so. Like the kind of love Ruth had for Naomi. But how do we respond in such a way? This requires us to know that we are first loved by God beyond measure. But how does this knowing come about? The way is expressed in Hebrews. Jesus makes this possible. He paid the price once and for all to complete God's new bond of love offered to us. It is coming into this love through Jesus actions, that we can know and love God in return. Not only to God but this overflows to others with the same compassion.

opening prayer — consciously drawing together in our mind our Parish community around our table.

Be still and silent.

Visualise in your mind, those whom you invited to share with you.

Pray:

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Here, and throughout the world,

**We adore you O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross
you have redeemed the world. Amen**

Bless this food, both physical and spiritual.

Bless all who gather at your table, both seen and unseen,

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen



Let us read and reflect on our cycle of readings.

A reading from the book of Ruth 1:1-18

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he, and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name

of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband. Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had considered his people and given them food. So, she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me." Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. So, she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die— there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!" When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her. Hear the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

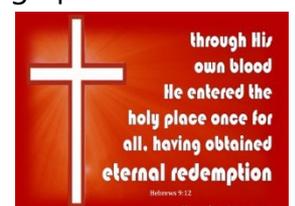


Psalm 146 — A.P.B.A. Page 377

- 1 Praise the Lord praise the Lord O my soul: while I live I will praise the Lord.
- 2 While I have any being: I will sing praises to my God.
- 3 Put not your trust in princes: nor in flesh and blood which cannot save.
- 4 For when their breath goes from them they return again to the earth:
and on that day all their thoughts perish.
- 5 Blessed are those who help is the God of Jacob:
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
- 6 The God who made heaven and earth: the sea and all that is in them,
- 7 Who keeps faith for ever:
who deals justice to those that are oppressed.
- 8 The Lord gives food to the hungry: and sets the captives free.
- 9 The Lord gives sight to the blind:
the Lord lifts up those that are bowed down.
- 10 The Lord loves the righteous: the Lord cares for the stranger in the land.
- 11 He upholds the widow and the fatherless: as for the way of the wicked he turns it upside down.
- 12 The Lord shall be king for ever: your God O Zion shall reign through all generations Praise the Lord.



A reading from the letter to the Hebrews . 9:11-15 But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the



sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God! For this reason he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, because a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant.

Hear the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 12:13-17, 28-34

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Then they sent to him some Pharisees and some Herodians to trap him in what he said. And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?" But knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why are you putting me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me see it." And they brought one. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Jesus said to them, "Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." And they were utterly amazed at him. One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?"

Jesus answered, Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength, and you shall love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these. Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbour as oneself,'— this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sentence

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength, and you shall love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

Mark 12.29-31

Let us now engage in some quiet reflection, or conversation and sharing, responding to the Gospel passage. We may like to write down some key thoughts for further reflection.

Mark 22:34 You are not far from the kingdom of God."

Hebrews 9:12 He entered once for all into the holy place, with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

It is not simply that a man died on a cross for us. Many have died to save others. Jesus was no ordinary man. Jesus as a human-being held everything that God is. So that God Himself was present in humanity. God felt our pain and for the evil that stains us all, He took on the consequences. Physical death was only part, but spiritual death was



humanities real curse. This was the sacrifice He took onto Himself to break this curse. Only something perfect, only God could heal humanity once and for all. This is the perfect love He calls us into. This is the absolute love we can respond to with everything we have.

prayer-time We pray for family; for members of the parish and wider community, for the life and ministry of the Church, for encouragement in our journey of faith. We offer our prayers for those in need, those looking for peace and reconciliation.

We pray for all those suffering from the effects of natural disasters remembering especially the people of Spain as they overcome the results of the flash floods in various regions, for all those affected by conflicts and violence; all who seek refuge in far off places; all who suffer from the result of war. Merciful God, Help us to listen to your voice, and to respond with faith and obedience. Help us to see your face, and to reflect your love and compassion. Help us to follow your will, and to serve your purpose. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**



We pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer, Rachel (Bill *& Margarets daughter), Steve (Fr Dennis and Mary son), Ebony (Peter and Heather's daughter in law) Deryn recovering from surgery, Pat, Jean, Nicole, David, Takoohi , Glenda, Margaret, Wendy, Gweneth, Jo and Ginne ,Joyce and Ted, Matthew, Ann , Kathryn and Keiran, Ruth, Jean N, Colin , Georgia (Sunaras Mum). Pat V, Brenda, Joanie, Jo, Jan, Joy I, Jac Bishop; Eileen Cook; Ursula Pridham; Barbara Webber; Tom Arnold; Nicholas & Ben; Sue & Frank Gordon; Emily and her family; Trish Simon; Christina and any others we wish to remember, either silently or aloud.

Let us say the Lord's Prayer Together.

Our Father



Prayer of the Day

O God,
whom to follow is to risk our whole lives:
as Ruth and Naomi loved and held to one another,
abandoning the ways of the past, so may we also not be divided,
but travel together into that strange land where you will lead us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Conclude the meal with the following prayer together.

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be amongst us and remain with us always.
Amen.**

intentional connection beyond your home After our Table Service spend some time reaching out to others, a member of your family, or someone who does not have family, or a friend, someone in your community who may be alone and would welcome a call or message from you. , Let God guide you to the person or persons with whom you should connect. Contact them. Start a conversation: 'I was thinking of you.....' Or What did you think of.....

