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SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

Sunday 2nd February 2025

*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. Give some thought to the presentation of our meal as a meditation on the importance of the time we are setting aside for worship, let us define the occasion by adding something special to our table. If you are celebrating this meal alone please be aware that **God Is With You**.



In a Synagogue Jesus had just read from Isaiah about the Messiah coming to bring healing and hope to the underprivileged. He then says today this scripture has been fulfilled in Him. He reminds those there that because of their hard hearts, God healed foreigners instead of them. The religious leaders instant reaction was to kill Jesus. He revealed their true nature.



True faith in God is to reflect His love, show His mercy and grace and be His peace. Yet, its taken centuries for the mainstream church to actually get it. Tied up with so many rules and regulations it smothered the sweetest thing we could be, God's loving example.

. 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.**

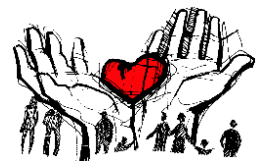
Here, and throughout the world,

**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.

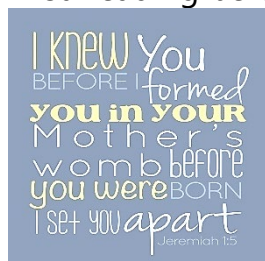
Bless all who gather at your table, both seen and unseen,

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen



Let us read and reflect on our cycle of readings.

First Reading Jeremiah Chapter 1 verses 4-10



Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you, Do not be afraid

of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord." Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant." Hear the word of the Lord.

Psalms 71:1-6 — A.P.B.A. page 293

To you Lord have I come for shelter:

let me never be put to shame.

In your righteousness rescue and deliver me:

incline your ear to me and save me.

Be for me a rock of refuge a fortress to defend me:

for you are my high rock and my stronghold.

Rescue me O my God from the hand of the wicked:

from the grasp of the pitiless and unjust.

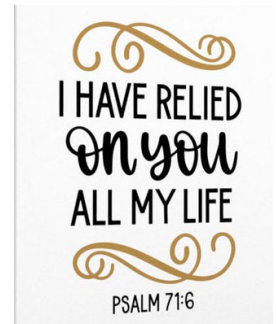
For you Lord are my hope:

you are my confidence O God from my youth upward.

On you have I leaned since my birth:

you are he that brought me out of my mother's womb

and my praise is of you continually.



Second Reading 1 Corinthians Chapter 13 verses 1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the



partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. Hear the word of the Lord.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke Chapter 4 v 21-30

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there



were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sentence

Now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. 1 Corinthians 13.14

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.

**When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage.
and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing.**



1 Corinthians 13 is known as the love chapter. It is also a rebuke to those who put on a fake robe of righteousness. Without love, God's love, that robe might as well be a filthy rag. People may proclaim themselves as peace makers, or voices for justice or bearers of God's gifts. If there is no love entwined in these things, then the fruits of their work will fall off the tree rotten and unpalatable. Compassion, kindness and caring for one another, especially the down trodden, is not hard. It comes knowing, that despite Christ's love for us being

undeserved, we can be complete in it. It is then that loving others can be truly life changing.

prayer-time 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.



Loving God, thank you for your great love for us, love which is patient, kind, protecting and forever. Help us to take your love out with us this week and show it to those who feel they are outside of your family. Give us your heart for those who don't yet know you. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

Father God, we pray for our world today. For all those recovering from natural disasters, war, famine and loss we pray for safe shelters and provision and protection for those affected and for those still in the path of danger. We give thanks for the ongoing peace in Gaza and pray for those being returned to their families.

We pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer, Barbara W , Sue Mc, Griselda, Patrusca, Lorraine, Rachel (Bill *& Margaret's daughter), Steve (Fr Dennis and Mary son), Ebony (Peter and Heather's daughter in law) Deryn recovering from surgery, Jean T 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

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Prayer of the Day

Righteous God,
you confound the world's wisdom
by giving your blessing to the lowly and pure in heart:
give us such a hunger and thirst for
or justice and perseverance in striving for peace,
that in our words and deeds the
world may see the promise of your kingdom,
which has been revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. 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 them know of the hope God gives them as they journey through the year: a time of new beginnings with the promise of God's unconditional love and blessing for us all.

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.....

