

Reflection for All Saints – Matthew 5 :1-12

Jesus sets out this teaching at the start of his public ministry and they have become known as The Beatitudes. They read today almost like a blueprint for becoming a saint, though we should also remember from the accounts of many saints' lives that they were not always the easiest people to live with.

Our two other readings provide a bit of help too: from the Book of Wisdom is the sense that while human death is always sad, we move closer to a God who loves us very much; from the Revelation of St John, there is a cosmic level picture, which perhaps this image below captures to some extent.

Fr David





NEXT SUNDAY 10.11.2024 Remembrance Sunday
10.50am in the Churchyard and then into the Church for the regular Eucharist

 **READINGS:** NT Jonah 3: 1-5, 10
OT Hebrews 9: 24-28
GOSPEL Mark 1: 14-20

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St Thomas, Exeter

3rd November 2024

All Saints' Sunday

10.30am in Church

Today

10.30am Sung Eucharist

Hymn Numbers

134 For all the Saints

368 O happy band of pilgrims

473 The Church's one foundation

4pm All Souls service

Tuesday 5th November

7.30pm House Group at Helen's house.

Wednesday 6th November

10am All Souls Requiem Mass

10.30am St Thomas Charities meeting.

Thursday 7th November

9.30-11am St Thomas Tots

10.30-12noon Knit & Natter. 19 Maple Rd

Details from Jenny. 01392 498725

3-5pm Warm Space in the Hall

Friday 8th November

9.30am Morning Prayer

10am Staff Meeting

Saturday 9th November

9am Men's Breakfast in the Sawyers

Collect

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; 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**

Wisdom 3: 1-9

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them for ever. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

Revelation 21: 1-6a

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.'

Matthew 5: 1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.'

Post Communion

God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things: may we who have shared at this table as strangers and pilgrims here on earth be welcomed with all your saints to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

NOTICES

TALKWORKS can help! If you are feeling stressed, anxious, are experiencing ongoing low mood, or are having difficulty sleeping,

NHS TALKWORKS is a free, confidential, talking therapies service helping you to feel better and giving you the tools and techniques to improve your mental well-being.

0300 555 3344 Give us a call and see how we can support you. www.talkworks.dpt.nhs.uk

The House Group meets fortnightly in someone's house to speak about our faith. Please speak to Ian, Helen or Mic if you would like to come and find out more.

Support for Pensions on Low Incomes

An estimated 880,000 low-income pensioner households eligible for pension credit currently fail to claim it and a deadline is approaching. The government says it is worth an average £3,900 a year, but it is also a gateway to other financial support such as winter fuel payments. If you know a pensioner on a low income, please encourage them to check if they could be eligible for pension credit. This can be done online through www.gov.uk/pension-credit:calculator or people can get advice via phone on weekdays 0800 99 1234

Soul of the City Gospel Choir will be performing a concert on **Friday 8th November** at St Thomas Methodist Church at 7pm. Tickets cost £15 available from Age UK. **Proceeds in aid of Age UK.**

Warm Space returns from this Thursday, 6th November, from 3pm in the Hall. Tea, coffee and biscuits and a chance to meet other people. **Also more spaces for people to volunteer. See Carys or Ian**

