

St. Francis of Assisi, Isleworth
www.stfrancis-isleworth.org

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity:
Sunday October 20th, 2019

Hymns: 573, 45, 149, 249



Today's Gospel reading from Luke presents us with the parable of the persistent widow. Is God really like that? Needing to be moaned at until he responds? No, rather we have a point of comparison – God, who is just, will not ignore us. What do we ask from God? What do we yearn for?

For your prayers

For our church and parish

For the wider Church especially Justin our archbishop, Sarah our bishop, and Graham our area bishop

For the needs of the world and for the needs of this land

For the Government and Parliament during challenging times

For our local community

For the sick and the suffering

For the departed especially those whom we have known and loved

Collect

Lord, tireless guardian of your people, always ready to hear the cries of your chosen ones, teach us to rely, day and night, on your care.

Support our prayer lest we grow weary.

Impel us to seek your enduring justice and your ever-present help.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

First Reading

Genesis 32.22-31

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 121

R Our help is in the name of the Lord.

I lift up my eyes to the mountains;
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth. R

He will keep your foot from stumbling.
Your guard will never slumber.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard. R

The LORD your guard, the LORD your shade
at your right hand.
By day the sun shall not smite you,
nor the moon in the night. R

The LORD will guard you from evil;
he will guard your soul.
The LORD will guard your going and coming,
both now and forever. R

Second Reading *2 Timothy 3.14-4.5*

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Gospel Reading *Luke 18.1-8*

Jesus told the crowd a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "Grant me justice against my opponent." For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming." ' And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'

Notices

Refreshments after worship do come into the church hall for tea or coffee after the service.

Thursday Eucharist at 10am.

All Souls' Day is Saturday November 2nd. There will be a eucharist that day at 10am when the names of the departed will be read out. If you would like someone to be remembered at the service, please write their names on the list at the back of the church.

Remembrance Sunday is November 10th. Please note that the service will begin earlier that day at 10.50am so we have the Two Minutes Silence at 11am.

Archdeacon Stephan A thanksgiving service is being held on Friday 22 November at 7pm at St Paul's, Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith, to mark the retirement of Stephan Welch, Archdeacon of Middlesex.

New sound system Hopefully by the new year, we will have a new sound system. They are not cheap, and we have some money already put side, but we have a £6,000 gap! So this is an appeal to church members to ask if anyone is in the position of being able to make a one-off donation to help bridge the gap? Any contribution very welcome, and remember, if you are a UK taxpayer you can Gift Aid your contribution and we can increase your gift by 25%. Please speak to Fr. Peter or Jane if you can help.

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