

If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

For your prayers:

Those who are ill: Rachel Harrington, Austin Platten, Hannah Rae, Alison Hird, Richard Shepherd, Jean Kennedy, Tracey Llewellyn,

Those who have died recently especially: Peter Stevens, Michael Holmsten

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Patrick Roche, Margaret Ramadan

Offertory hymn: 426 O Praise the Lord, ye Servants of the Lord

Anthem: With verdure clad - Haydn

Thanksgiving hymn: 456 Teach me my God and King

Readings next Sunday, Trinity 9

Jeremiah 23: 23-29, Hebrews 11: 29-12:2, Luke 12: 49-56

Diary

15 th August	12.15pm	Feast of the Assumption
1 st September	9.45am	Parish Breakfast

St Vedast-alias-Foster

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11th August, Trinity 8

Celebrant: Fr Jonathan Herapath

Setting: Missa Dominicalis -Viadana

Hymn: 362 Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

Collect

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the inity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Genesis 15.1-6

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' The Lord brought Abraham outside and said, 'Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Psalm: 33: 12-22

R: Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own!

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! happy the people he has chosen to be his own! The Lord looks down from heaven, and beholds all the people in the world. From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze on all who dwell on the earth. **R**

He fathoms all the hearts of them and understands all their works. There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; the strong are not delivered by great strength. The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; for all its strength it cannot save. **R**

Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him, on those who wait upon his love, to pluck their lives from death, and to feed them in time of famine. **R**

Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, for in his holy name we put our trust. Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, as we have put our trust in you. **R**

Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old - and Sarah herself was barren - because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.' All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Luke 12.32-40

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them.