

For your prayers:

Those who are ill: Richard Hamilton, David McClure, Lois Paine, Tracey Llewellyn

Those who have died recently: Graeme Watson

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Gerald McClure

Offertory hymn: 263 All creatures of our God and King

Communion

All baptised communicant Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion at this service. Alternatively, please come forward for a Blessing. If you have difficulty kneeling, it is perfectly acceptable for you to remain standing to receive Holy Communion.

Anthem: Song of devotion - Beck

Thanksgiving hymn: 413 Now thank we all our God

Readings next Sunday, 2nd Before Lent

Genesis 1: 1-2:3, Romans 8: 18-25, Matthew 5: 17-37

The church is open for quiet thought or prayer
from 8am – 5.30pm Monday – Friday,
11am – 4pm on Saturdays.
Monday – Friday there will be daily mass at 12.15pm.
Monday 1.05pm Mediation group.
On Sunday there is a Sung Eucharist at 11am.

St Vedast-alias-Foster

Peace and contemplation at the heart of the City
vedast.org.uk

 St Vedast-Alias-Foster  @stvedast  @stvedastaliasfoster

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9 February, 3rd Sunday before Lent

Celebrant: Fr Paul Kennedy

Setting: Missa in Simplicate -Langlais

Hymn: 296 Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour

Collect

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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.

Isaiah 58.1-9a

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?

' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

Psalm: 112

R: Light shines in the darkness for the upright

Alleluia! Happy are they who fear the Lord and have great delight in his commandments! Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last for ever. **R**

Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion. It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice. For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance. **R**

They will not be afraid of any evil rumours; their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord. Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies. **R**

They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up their head with honour. The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish. **R**

1 Corinthians 2.1-12

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to

know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him' - these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Matthew 5.13-20

Jesus said to the crowds, 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.'