



AMDG
10TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
10TH JUNE 2018



With the Lord, there is mercy and redemption

OPENING PRAYER

O God, from whom all good things come,
grant that we, who call on you in our need,
may at your prompting discern what is right,
and by your guidance, do it.

The readings for this Sunday show us both the alienation brought about by sin, and the merciful love and power of our Lord, who forgives, redeems and brings us to eternal glory.

We hear of the story of Adam and Eve's sin of disobedience and unbelief, and how it separates them from God, from their home with God, and from one another (*First Reading*).

But St Paul tells us that, for those who believe in him, Jesus's rising from the dead becomes the way to eternal life with him, restoring the relationship of humankind with God (*Second Reading*).

The *Psalms* is the plea for mercy of a sinner who knows he or she can rely on the Lord, who reveres the Lord for his forgiveness and love.

In the *Gospel* we see that what Jesus says and does confounds the expectations of the people around him. He may also disconcert us.

This week we pray to grasp, deep in our hearts, the love and forgiving mercy of God. We ask for openness, and a willingness to be surprised, as we seek to do all that God wants of us.

PSALM 129 (130)

R./ With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.

Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption.
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity.

After coming slowly to stillness in the presence of God, I notice how I am today.
I ask the Holy Spirit to help me to pray.

I read this psalm line by line, taking my time, pausing whenever a word or phrase
draws my attention. I savour its meaning for me.

Perhaps I am deeply aware of my sinfulness and need of God's mercy.
I may listen to the confidence of the psalmist as he calls on the Lord and speaks
of God's forgiveness.

Or maybe I am full of joy, waiting and longing for the Lord.
I may share the hope of the psalmist as he speaks of the promise of redemption,
of how he can rely on the Lord.

However I am thinking and feeling, I share with the Lord.
I listen for whatever our Lord might have to say to me.

I end my prayer with thanksgiving that the Lord is with me:
“*With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.*”

GOSPEL MARK 3: 20–35 (SHORTENED)

Jesus went home with his disciples, and such a crowd collected that they could not even have a meal. When his relatives heard of this, they set out to take charge of him, convinced he was out of his mind. The scribes who had come down from Jerusalem were saying, “Beelzebul is in him,” and, “It is through the prince of devils that he casts devils out.” So he called them to him and spoke to them: “How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot last. Now if Satan has rebelled against himself and is divided, he cannot stand either – it is the end of him. But no one can make his way into a strong man’s house and burgle his property unless he has tied up the strong man first. Only then can he burgle his house.” “I tell you solemnly, all sins will be forgiven and all blasphemies; but let anyone blaspheme against the Holy Spirit and that one will never have forgiveness but be guilty of an eternal sin.” This was because they were saying, “An unclean spirit is in him.”

His mother and brothers now arrived and, standing outside, sent in a message. The message was passed to him, “Your mother and brothers and sisters are outside asking for you.” He replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” And looking round at those sitting in a circle about him, he said, “Here are my mother and brothers. Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother.”

Even if I have only a little time in which to pray, I do not rush.

I come slowly to quietness in the presence of God.

When I am ready, I ask the Holy Spirit to help me in my prayer.

As I read this Gospel passage, I listen to the expectations and judgements of those with whom Jesus comes in contact: the disciples, the crowds, his relatives, the scribes. What do I notice?

Then I watch and listen to Jesus.

What strikes me about his responses to those around him?

I talk with Jesus about what is in my mind and heart.

I may like to ponder: what are my expectations as I come to the Lord today?

Am I willing to let the Lord surprise me?

How is the Lord calling me to respond by doing the will of God within my own particular setting? I wait and listen.

I share with the Lord and ask for whatever grace I need.

As I end my time of prayer, I give thanks to God.

Here's a text if you've only got a minute ...

... the more grace is multiplied among people,
the more thanksgiving there will be, to the glory of God.

Second Reading

Jesus said, "Anyone who does the will of God,
that person is my brother and sister and mother."

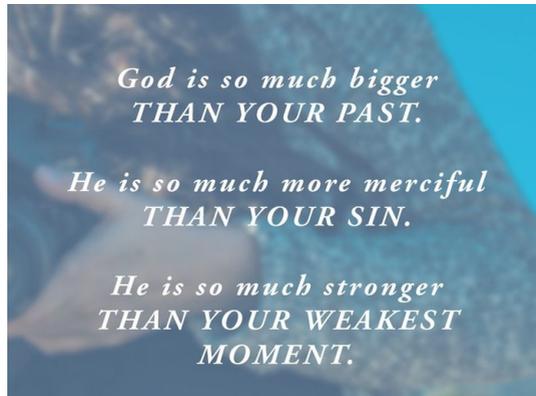
Gospel

Do not be afraid of holiness. It will take away none of your
energy, vitality or joy. On the contrary, you will become what the
Father had in mind when he created you, and you will be faithful
to your deepest self.

Pope Francis, *Gaudete et Exsultate* 1: 32

This week's texts if you want to reflect further:

Genesis 3: 9–15; Psalm 129 (130); 2 Cor. 4: 13–5: 1; Mark 3: 20–35



ST BEUNO'S OUTREACH
IN THE DIOCESE OF WREXHAM

JESUIT
Ministries



Prepared by St Beuno's Outreach in the Diocese of Wrexham

LDS