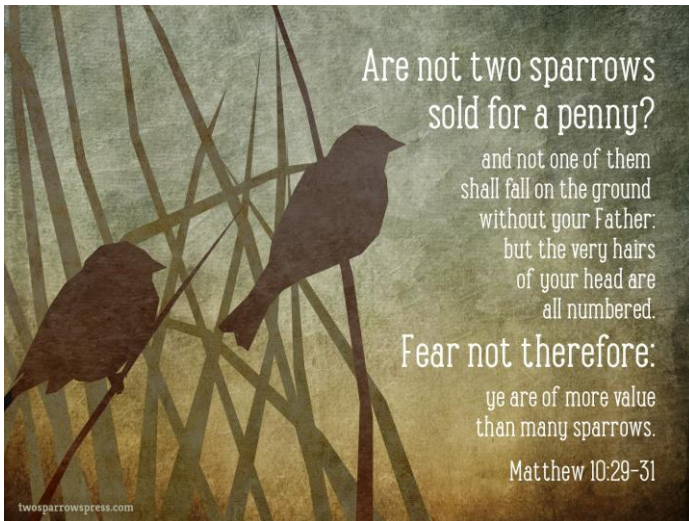


The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Third Sunday after Trinity

Proper 7 Year A



The Parish Mass

Sunday 21 June 2026

10.15 am

Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church



Safeguarding St Matthew's is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

If you have any safeguarding concern, or are worried about the safety or wellbeing of a child, young person, or adult, please speak to the Parish Safeguarding Officer, a member of the clergy, or a churchwarden.

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Ben Drouet safeguarding@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk 01604 791251

Diocese of Peterborough Safeguarding Team

safeguarding@peterborough-diocese.org.uk 01733 887040

If someone is in immediate danger or needs urgent medical attention, please call 999.

Live Streaming and Recording Please note that some services are live-streamed or recorded. Filming is limited as far as reasonably possible to those leading or assisting with the service, including clergy, readers/intercessors, musicians, choir members, and servers. Holy Communion is not filmed.

If you would prefer not to appear online, please sit in one of the side aisles or speak to a welcomer or churchwarden, who will be happy to help you find seating outside the filmed area.

Where appropriate, consent is obtained for individuals who are intentionally featured in livestreams, recordings, photographs, or other church media. Please speak to a churchwarden or welcomer if you would like further information about livestreaming arrangements.

Toilet and Baby Changing Facilities Toilet and baby changing facilities are available at the base of the church tower. A small servery is also available.

For Younger Children In the north aisle (nearest to Collingwood Road), a carpeted children's area with age-appropriate Christian resources is available. Please feel free to make use of these facilities during the service.



Welcome to our Parish Mass on this Third Sunday after Trinity.

It is a joy to welcome you as we gather in the presence of God to offer our worship, to hear his Word proclaimed, and to be nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ. In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks frankly to his disciples about the cost of following him. He calls them not to fear, but to trust in the loving providence of the Father who knows and treasures each one of his children. At the same time, he reminds them that discipleship demands courage, faithfulness, and a willingness to place him at the centre of their lives.

These challenging words are also words of hope. The One who calls us to follow him is the One who walks beside us. In a world often marked by uncertainty and division, Christ invites us to live as his faithful disciples, confident in his love and steadfast in his service.

As we celebrate these holy mysteries, may we be strengthened by God's grace, renewed in faith, and encouraged to bear witness to Christ in our daily lives.

Whether you are a regular member of the congregation or a visitor among us today, you are warmly welcome.

It is our custom to spend some time in quiet preparation before the liturgy begins, and save further conversation until we meet socially for refreshments afterwards. The following prayer, based on today's themes, may be found helpful:

A Celtic Prayer

I rise today with God's strength to direct me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eyes to look before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to uphold me,
God's pathway before me,
God's shield to protect me,
God's host to save me – from temptations,
from one man or many that seek to destroy me. Amen.

Setting

Mass of the Altar of Life (Gloria)
Communion Service in D

David Halls b. 1950
Kenneth Leighton 1929-1988

Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

§ *At the sound of the bell, **all stand***

Hymn

§ *The procession enters*

All **LORD of our life, and God of our salvation.
Star of our night, and hope of every nation.
Hear and receive thy Church's supplication,
Lord God almighty.**

**See round thine ark the hungry billows curling;
See how thy foes their banners are unfurling;
Lord, while their darts envenomed they are hurling,
Thou canst preserve us.**

**Lord, thou canst help when earthly armour faileth,
Lord, thou canst save when deadly sin assaileth;
Christ, o'er thy rock nor death nor hell prevai-leth;
Grant us thy peace, Lord.**

**Peace in our hearts, our evil thoughts assuaging;
Peace in thy Church, where brothers are engaging;
Peace, when the world its busy war is waging:
Calm thy foes' raging.**

**Grant us thy help till backward they are driven,
Grant them thy truth, that they may be forgiven;
Grant peace on earth, and, after we have striven,
Peace in thy heaven.**

Words Philip Pusey 1799-1855
based on the German of
Matthäus Appelles von Löwenstern 1594-1648

Music Iste confessor (Poitiers)
Poitiers Antiphoner, 1746

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All **Amen.**

The Greeting

Welcome in the name of Christ.
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you
All **and also with you.**

The service is introduced

Invitation to Confession

Jesus asks us to be his witnesses in the world.
And he says to us what he said to his first disciples, 'Do not be afraid.'
Let us bring our fears to the Lord,
and ask his help in overcoming them.

Silence is kept

Confession

All **God of mercy,
we acknowledge that we are all sinners.
We turn from the wrong that we have thought
and said and done,
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.
For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past,
and help us to live each day in the light of Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Kyries

Lord Jesus, you give us strength when we are weak:
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

You give us courage when we are afraid:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

You give us new heart when we fail:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive † you your sins
and make you holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

All **Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
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.

All

Amen.

§ Sit

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Reader A reading from the prophecy of Jeremiah.

○ Lord, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughing-stock all day long;
everyone mocks me.
For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
For the word of the Lord has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
If I say, 'I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name',
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.

For I hear many whispering:
 'Terror is all around!
 Denounce him! Let us denounce him!'

All my close friends
 are watching for me to stumble.
 'Perhaps he can be enticed,
 and we can prevail against him,
 and take our revenge on him.'
 But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior;
 therefore my persecutors will stumble,
 and they will not prevail.
 They will be greatly shamed,
 for they will not succeed.
 Their eternal dishonour
 will never be forgotten.
 O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous,
 you see the heart and the mind;
 let me see your retribution upon them,
 for to you I have committed my cause.
 Sing to the Lord;
 praise the Lord!
 For he has delivered the life of the needy
 from the hands of evildoers.

Jeremiah 20.7-13

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Response

Richard Lloyd

The Lord lis-tens to the nee - dy* and his own he does not des - pise.

Choir But as for me, I make my prayer to you, O Lord;
 at an acceptable time, O God.
 Answer me, O God, in the abundance of your mercy
 and with your sure salvation. **Response**

Jesus said to his disciples, 'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

'So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

'Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

'Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.'

Matthew 10.24-39

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All

Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

§ Sit

The Nicene Creed

§ *Stand*

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

*All may
bow* ***For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.***

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Prayers of the Faithful

Priest Just as Jeremiah committed his cause to the Lord,
let us commit our needs and concerns to the Father,
who knows every detail of our lives.

§ *Kneel*

The response to each petition

Intercessor God, in your love and mercy,
All **hear us and help us.**

After the final petition

Priest God of power and love,
grant us in all our tasks your help,
in all our doubts your guidance,
in all our weaknesses your strength,
in all our sorrows your consolation,
and in all our dangers your protection.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

§ *Stand*

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

Let love be genuine. Never pay back evil for evil.
As far as it lies with you, live at peace with everyone.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Hymn

§ *A monetary collection is taken and placed under the nave altar.
For alternative ways of giving please refer to the front of this booklet.
Your generosity is much appreciated. Thank you.*

The Gifts are presented to the presiding priest and the altar is prepared

All

**PRAISE to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is
Thy health and salvation:
All ye who hear,
Brothers and sisters draw near,
Praise him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things
so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings,
yea, so gently sustaineth:
Hast thou not seen
All that is needful hath been
Granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper
thy work and defend thee;
Surely his goodness and mercy
here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew
All the Almighty can do,
He who with love doth befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, who, when tempests
their warfare are waging,
Who, when the elements madly
around thee are raging,
Biddeth them cease,
Turneth their fury to peace,
Whirlwinds and waters assuaging.**

**Praise to the Lord, who when darkness
of sin is abounding,
Who, when the godless do triumph,
all virtue confounding,
Sheddeth his light,
Chaseth the horrors of night,
Saints with his mercy surrounding.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that
is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath come now
with praises before him!
Let the Amen
Sound from his people again:
Gladly for ay we adore him.**

Words German, Joachim Neander 1650-1680
tr Catherine Winkworth 1827-1878 and others

Music Lobe den Herren
Melody in *Erneuten Gesangbuchs*, 1665
adapted by Joachim Neander 1650-1680

Invitation to Prayer

Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

All **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

O Lord, receive the sacrifice of conciliation and praise
and grant that, cleansed by its action,
we may make the offering of a pure heart pleasing to you.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

From sunrise to sunset this day is holy,
for Christ has risen from the tomb
and scattered the darkness of death with light that will not fade.
This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people,
unfolds for us your word,
and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread.
And though the night will overtake this day
you summon us to live in endless light,
the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord.

And so, with choirs of angels
and with all the heavenly host,
we proclaim your glory
and join their unending song of praise:

Choir Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All



Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world,
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Mary the Virgin Mother of God,
St Matthew and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung

§ *Kneel*

The Lord's Prayer

We are more precious to God than all the sparrows in the world.
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

My flesh is food indeed,
and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.
All **Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood
dwell in me and I in them.**

Agnus Dei

Choir O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Giving of Communion

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food
in due season.

§ *Baptised persons who are communicant members of other Churches
are warmly invited to receive Holy Communion.*

*Alternatively, if you wish to receive a blessing, please bring this booklet
with you as a sign.*

Spiritual Communion – *for those at home*

Act of Reception

All In union, blessed Jesus,
with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church
where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,

(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)

I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,
for creation and all the blessings of this life,
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,
and resurrection,
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,
my soul, and my mind.
Let nothing separate me from you;
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.
Amen.

Motet

Oh! For a closer walk with God *Charles Villiers Stanford 1852-1924*

Hymn

All **BLESS to me O Lord, the earth beneath my feet.
Bless to me O Lord, the sun that lights my way.**

**Bless to me O Lord, the labour of my hands.
Bless to me O Lord, the winding path of life.**

**Bless to me O Lord, my use of time and place.
Bless to me O Lord, your gifts that flow from grace.**

**Bless to me O Lord, the saints I now embrace.
Bless to me O Lord, the strangers I may face.**

**Bless to me O Lord, the youngest and the least.
Bless to me O Lord, all those who share this feast.**

**Bless to me O Lord, the gift of unity.
Bless to me O Lord, and make your home in me.**

Words Colin Sutton b. 1951
Melody Colin Sutton b. 1951
Harmony by Gavin Hibbs b. 1952

Music Tylgoed

§ *We sit for a time of personal reflection and thanksgiving*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

§ *Stand*

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining
and whose power we cannot comprehend:
show us your glory as far as we can grasp it,
and shield us from knowing more than we can bear
until we may look upon you without fear;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All **Amen.**

**Merciful God,
you have called us to your table
and fed us with the bread of life.
Draw us and all people to serve your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Hymn

All

**WHEN all thy mercies, O my God,
My rising soul surveys,
Transported with the view, I'm lost
In wonder, love, and praise.**

**Unnumbered comforts to my soul
Thy tender care bestowed,
Before my infant heart conceived
From whom those comforts flowed.**

**When in the slippery paths of youth
With heedless steps I ran,
Thine arm unseen conveyed me safe,
And led me up to man.**

**When worn with sickness oft hast thou
With health renewed my face;
And when in sins and sorrows sunk,
Revived my soul with grace.**

**Through every period of my life
Thy goodness I'll pursue,
And after death in distant worlds
The glorious theme renew.**

**Through all eternity to thee
A joyful song I'll raise;
For O eternity's too short
To utter all thy praise.**

Words Joseph Addison 1672-1719

Music Contemplation
Frederick Arthur Gore Ouseley 1825-1889

Notices for the Community

§ Sit

¶ Sending Out

§ Stand

All The Lord be with you.
and also with you.

Solemn Blessing

All May the Lord be within you to strengthen you,
and outside you to protect you.
Amen.

All May the Lord be above you to watch over you,
and beneath you to uphold you.
Amen.

All May the Lord be before you to guide you,
and behind you to keep you from straying.
Amen.

All And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

All The Mass is ended, go in peace.
Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary

Boléro de concert

Alfred Lefébure-Wély 1817-1869

- § *Please remain standing until the procession has departed*
- § *Those leaving immediately are asked to be aware of those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary*
- § *Refreshments are served in church, please do join us*
- § *If you are a newcomer to the parish or area, please introduce yourself to one of the clergy or speak to a member of our Welcome Team.*

This evening at 5.30 pm

Choral Evensong and Benediction

This evening at c.6.30 pm

Organ Recital

given by Stephen Moore (Llandaff Cathedral)

Our thanks are due to Mandy and Mark Ludlow
who have generously financed
the production of this week's service booklet.

**Please take this booklet home
as an aid to prayer and reflection during the week,
and then re-cycle it.**

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