



Great St Mary's

THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH CAMBRIDGE



The Flight into Egypt



Midday Prayer
14th - 20th June 2021



**Refugee
Week**

Preparation

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.

Let us recognize his presence with us.

Silence is kept.

As God's people we have gathered:

let us worship him together.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Praise

When I needed a neighbour.

The Word of God

The officiant reads a short passage from the Bible.

Monday 14th June 2021

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.' *Luke 10. 25 - 27*

Tuesday 15th June 2021

But wanting to justify himself, the lawyer asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

Luke 10. 28 - 37

Wednesday 16th June 2021

Now after the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.'

Matthew 2. 13- 15

Thursday 17th June 2021

For if you truly amend your ways and your doings, if you truly act justly one with another, if you do not oppress the alien, the orphan, and the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own hurt, then I will dwell with you in this place,

Jeremiah 7. 5 - 7

Friday 18th June 2021

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

Matthew 11. 27 - 28

Saturday 19th June 2021

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured.

Hebrews 13. 1 - 3

The Response

Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily.
Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me.

Psalms 31. 2

Testimony

Pre-recorded contributions from those who have been refugees, migrants and asylum-seekers

Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy will be done.

We pray for fugitives from injustice, from famine, from warfare...

who deserve sanctuary,

inviolable refuge

from persecution or oppression.

Each given welcome and fair hearing.

A moment of silence

And as those bloodied feet in ancient times fled along safety-seeking roads,

we pray for those who flee to sanctuary today

the desperation-driven refugee

suffering the suffocating darkness of the ship's hold

or bearing the battering in the hidden depths of the lorry's load.

A moment of silence

And then arrival!

We pray for those bent and bowed figures –

hungry, thirsty, bewildered, frightened and with

nothing

but a hope, a dream

that things might be better here!

A moment of silence

No room at the inn of the city –

We pray, O Christ, for those hearing those words after such journeying

– but we have a place round the back, a stable, a room...

Help us to see the humanity in all who seek our hospitality.

A moment of silence

O God, help us to make our city

our community, our church, our homes, places of refuge and justice.

It's the least we can do in Jesus' name.

His cruciform arms embrace

every asylum seeker, every refugee, every migrant

and there is room for everyone.

A moment of silence

A Prayer for Refugees

Almighty and merciful God,
whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own;
look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger,
homeless and hungry.
Bless those who work to bring them relief;
inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;
and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your
Kingdom of justice and of peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

Conclusion

We saw a stranger yesterday.
We put food in the eating place,
Drink in the drinking place,
Music in the listening place
And in the sacred name of the triune God
He blessed us and our house,
Our cattle and our dear ones.
As the lark says in her song:
Often, often, often goes Christ in the stranger's guise.
Amen.

Celtic Rune of Hospitality