

**T**he Collect

O merciful God, who gave thine only-begotten Son to die for us while we were yet sinners: deliver us from an unforgiving spirit, that we may be free to love and serve one another, to thy honour and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**T**he Old Testament Reading is taken from the Book of Genesis, beginning to read in Chapter 50 at the 15<sup>th</sup> verse.

50:15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil which we did to him."

16 So they sent a message to Joseph, saying,

"Your father gave this command before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph, Forgive, I pray you, the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, we pray you, forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father."

Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

18 His brothers also came and fell down before him, and said, "Behold, we are your servants."

19 But Joseph said to them, "Fear not, for am I in the place of God?"

20 As for you, you meant evil against me;

but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.

21 So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones."

Thus he reassured them and comforted them.

The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

**T**he New Testament Reading is taken from the Epistle of St Paul to the Colossians, beginning to read in Chapter 3 at the 12<sup>th</sup> verse.

3:12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience,

13 forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

**P**salm appointed 112:1-6

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

**H**ear the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.  
Glory to you, O Lord.

18:21 Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

23 “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.

24 When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; 25 and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.

26 So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’

27 And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.

28 But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’

29 So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’

30 He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt.

31 When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; 33 and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’

34 And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. 35 So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Postcommunion Collect

**P**O Lord, who hast vouchsafed to bestow upon us the sustenance of everlasting life: we humbly beseech thee that those things which we have received with our outward lips, we may ever inwardly seek in purity of heart. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who livest and reignest with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end. Amen.