

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

HOLY BAPTISM

Sunday 19th September 2021

COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 11: 18-20

It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

SECOND READING

JAMES 3: 13-4.3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

GOSPEL READING

MARK 9: 30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another

who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord. . **Amen**



Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in response to God's love. For all involved, particularly Sadee but also parents, godparents and sponsors, it is a joyful moment when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ.

The wider community of the local church and friends welcome Sadee, promising support and prayer for her future.

Hearing and doing these things provides an opportunity to remember our own baptism and to reflect on the progress made on that journey, which is now to be shared with this new member of the Church.

COMMUNITY BLESSING

(Said by all turning to face the west door)

God's blessing on our town and our surrounding villages.

God's blessing on the families, the children,
on those who live alone.

God's blessing on our nursing and care homes.

God's blessing on the schools, the businesses, the farms,
the shops, on all who live, work or visit here.

God's blessing on the poor and vulnerable,
on the strong and the weak.

God's blessing on those who are ill, on those who mourn.

The blessing of the Father who loves us.

The blessing of the Son who died for us.

The blessing of the Spirit who comforts and leads us.

The blessing of Almighty God be on our community, and
on the parish of St Paul's Grange, today and always.

Amen