

Sunday 2 August – Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Collect

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
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.

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts,
 come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
 come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
 without money and without price.
²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
 and your labour for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
 and delight yourselves in rich food.
³Incline your ear, and come to me;
 listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
 my steadfast, sure love for David.
⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
 a leader and commander for the peoples.
⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
 and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
 for he has glorified you.

Psalm 145:8-9, 15-end

- ⁸The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- ⁹The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.
- ¹⁵The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.
- ¹⁶You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.
- ¹⁷The Lord is just in all his ways,
and kind in all his doings.
- ¹⁸The Lord is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.
- ¹⁹He fulfils the desire of all who fear him;
he also hears their cry, and saves them.
- ²⁰The Lord watches over all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.
- ²¹My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,
and all flesh will bless his holy name for ever and ever.

Second Reading Romans 9:1-5

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ – I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit – ²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

¹³When Jesus heard that Herod had beheaded John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, ‘This is a

deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.’¹⁶ Jesus said to them, ‘They need not go away; you give them something to eat.’¹⁷ They replied, ‘We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.’¹⁸ And he said, ‘Bring them here to me.’¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.²⁰ And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.