

Here's a text if you've only a minute ...

The word is very near to you ... it is in your mouth and in your heart.

First Reading

Lord, answer, for your mercy is kind;
in your great compassion, turn toward me.

Psalm

Father, let the light of your truth
guide us to your kingdom
through a world filled with lights contrary to your own.
Christian is the name and the gospel we glory in.
May your love make us what you have called us to be.

Old Opening Prayer

This week's texts if you want to explore further:
Deuteronomy 30: 10–14; Ps. 68 (69); Colossians 1: 15–20; Luke 10: 25–37



'Truly helping
someone means
being willing to feel
the weight of
another's pain.'

Pope Leo XIV:
General Audience,
28 May 2025

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ST BEUNO'S OUTREACH IN THE DIOCESE OF WREXHAM



PREGO LEAFLET

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C, 13th July 2025

'Who is my neighbour?'

Today's readings call us to love and serve others with compassion, and to care especially for those most in need.

The **First Reading** teaches us that God's word is not beyond our reach. It is already in our hearts; it is there for us to proclaim and live out with all our heart and soul.

The **Psalm** celebrates the compassion and kindness of God, who hears and revives the hearts of those in need, and acts to save them.

In the **Gospel**, a lawyer asks Jesus, 'Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus uses the familiar parable of the Good Samaritan to answer both this and the lawyer's second question, 'Who is my neighbour?' Regardless of who that person is, we must put their needs before our own. Just as Jesus shows compassion and mercy to us through his saving love, so must we try to do the same for others.

St Paul (**Second Reading**) reminds us that Christ is the One who shows us God. Through him everything is created and held together. Christ leads the Church, reconciling all things by his death on the cross.

As **Pilgrims of Hope** in this Jubilee year, we pray that our relationships may be truer and richer in compassion, reflected both in our attitudes and our loving action. We may like to pray especially this week for those suffering through war and violence.



Opening Prayer

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray,
so that they may return to the right path,
give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians
the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ
and to strive after all that does it honour.

Second Reading Colossians 1: 15–20

Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation.

For by him all things were created,
in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities –
all things were created through him and for him.

And he is before all things,
and in him all things hold together.

And he is the head of the body, the Church.

He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
that in everything he might be pre-eminent.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him to reconcile to himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
making peace by the blood of his cross.

I settle into my quiet space, and take time to become comfortable.

Then I consciously place myself in the Lord's presence.

God is already waiting for me, delighted that I have arrived.

How am I today? Whatever I bring with me, and whatever my greatest need, I trust in the Lord's infinite love for me.

For a few moments I let the Lord look at me and sense the warmth and tenderness of his gaze. I remind myself (as in today's First Reading and on the back page) that God's word is already in my heart.

When ready, I turn to the Colossians text, reading and re-reading it prayerfully. I pause at anything that touches me.

Perhaps words such as 'dominions' ... 'authorities' ... 'rulers' ... 'thrones' ... make me feel uncomfortable?

Or maybe I'm drawn to phrases like 'hold together' ... 'fullness of God' ... 'dwell' ... 'reconcile' ... 'peace' ...? I ponder this.

Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God. I, too, am formed in God's image: I am God's work of art, created anew in Christ.

How do I feel about this? What am I noticing within myself now?

I speak to Jesus from my heart.

In time, I close my prayer slowly, giving thanks for the wonder of creation, and that I belong to the body of Christ's Church. *Glory be ...*

Gospel Luke 10: 25–37

At that time: Behold, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, 'Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'What is written in the Law? How do you read it?' And 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 Jesus said to him, 'You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.' But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?'

Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, 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, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, "Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back." Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbour to the man who fell among the robbers?' The lawyer said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' And Jesus said to him, 'You go, and do likewise.'

After becoming still and aware of the Lord's presence with me, I invite the Holy Spirit to guide me.

Even if this parable is very familiar to me, I read its words carefully, noticing where I'm drawn. I may find it helpful to enter the scene, perhaps imagining myself as the person left in the ditch.

What stirs within me as the priest and the Levite go past?

Perhaps they feel some sadness, but hastily excuse themselves from acting?

What am I thinking as the Samaritan approaches? How do I feel as he comes to my aid, going 'above and beyond' to care for me? What do I say to him?

As I reflect on my own life, I give thanks for any 'good Samaritan' who has shown me compassion and come to my aid.

I ask the Lord for the graces I need to 'go and do likewise'.

I end my prayer slowly with words of my choice, grateful for God's infinite compassion and love.