

# ***For All the Saints***

## *A Resource for the Commemorations of the Calendar*

### *Liturgical Version*

*edited by Ken Booth*

revised edition



## *Preface to the 1996 Edition*

I am happy to commend this publication to the church. Our gratitude goes to so many for their painstaking work in compiling the material, most notably Ken Booth and Margaret Wood. Their investment in this project has been immense from the outset, as Ken's introduction illustrates.

- a) Each commemoration includes a short biographical section, a "liturgical paragraph" suitable to be read out at a service, and the suggested Sentences, Prayers, and Readings for liturgical use.
- b) The Maori material was made available to the appropriate people in the respective tribal areas and not only were they checked by them but their approval was sought and obtained. The material may be the most straightforward source of information about both Maori and other commemorations from Aotearoa / New Zealand and the Pacific.
- c) The book effectively replaces *The New Zealand Calendar 1980* in relation to the sections called (i) Saints' Days and Other Commemorations (updated to fit the Calendar / Te Maramataka of *A New Zealand Prayer Book – He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*, (ii) Sentences, Prayers and Readings for Other Special Days (updated to reflect the Prayer Book, page 13, these are formularies), and (iii) Sentences, Prayers and Readings for Various Occasions (see *The New Zealand Calendar*, pages 54-63, 90). For useful resources to replace the weekday and seasonal sections for Advent, Lent, and Eastertide from *The New Zealand Calendar* (pages 64-89), refer Ken Booth's *Advent to Easter* (1992), The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia Liturgical Commission's publication, *From Ashes to Fire* (1990), or other Anglican or ecumenical resources.

Bishop George Connor  
Chair

Common Life Liturgical Commission

Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia



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## *Introduction to the 1996 Edition*

When the Provincial Commission on Prayer Book Revision, which produced *A New Zealand Prayer Book - He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*, disbanded on the completion of the Prayer Book, it left in an incomplete state some material intended to serve as a guide to the Calendar. Various members of the Commission had offered to produce the material on various commemorations, or had promised to persuade others to do so. Most of the entries in the Calendar had had some work done on them by the end of 1989. Some had been very carefully prepared, but quite a lot of the material was only in rough note form. Up to that point quite a number of people had been involved in the gathering of material.

The project then languished for a while. Eventually Margaret Wood and I offered to see it through to completion, and the Standing Committee of General Synod gave its approval. Margaret and I committed ourselves to providing a draft version of the work for use by the church during 1991. I undertook the editorial work and the commissioning of some of the remaining material from others, and Margaret saw to the data entry and printing of the hard copy. The incomplete state of the material we took over and the very tight production schedule meant that many of the entries had to be included without detailed checking. The work, published as *For All The Saints*, was very warmly welcomed by the church.

It had always been understood that in due course a thorough revision of the material would be done and a definitive publication arranged. Many of those who subscribed to the trial publication sent in corrections. This volume is the result of the work of checking and correcting the entries. The revision proved to be a very large task, as some of the material hastily put together for inclusion in *For All The*

*Saints* proved to be erroneous or incomplete. Nevertheless, some of the material prepared for the first edition was of a high standard and needed no modification beyond the requirements of stylistic consistency. While, therefore, I must take due responsibility for the final form of the work, including any remaining errors, and for the parts I wrote myself, I would not want anyone to think that all the work is my own. In the nature of the case, one element calling for original creative writing was the collects, and these owe their form to the particular individuals or groups who produced them. The task of compiling and editing this publication has been absorbing and rewarding. If at times the commitment required by the task seemed daunting, I have completed it with a profound sense of respect and admiration for the people commemorated by the church. They represent almost every century of the church's history and most corners of the world. Of particular interest are the commemorations marking the history of the church in New Zealand and the Pacific.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. *Hebrews 12:1,2*

## *Note to the Revised Edition*

The decision to make the publication available electronically has provided an opportunity to correct some minor mistakes in the text, make any changes to observances that had been adopted by General Synod/Te Hinota Whanui since the original publication, and to update the bibliographies where appropriate.

Ken Booth

Theology House

Christchurch

31 December 2005

This printing contains further updates from 2005 as approved by the General Synod / Te Hinota Whanui, and these limited printings by the Auckland Cathedral of the Holy Trinity have been made with copyright permission.

Lent 2014

## *Note about Further Reading*

No bibliographies are provided for most of the individual entries in this compilation. However, those interested in exploring further are invited to consult the following scholarly works, each of which provides additional bibliographical information.

On the Feasts and Holy Days of the Church Year:

- Paul F. Bradshaw, ed., *The New SCM Dictionary of Liturgy and Worship*, London, SCM, 2002.
- Cheslyn Jones, et al., *The Study of Liturgy*, revised edition, London, SPCK, 1992.
- A.G. Martimort, ed., *The Church at Prayer: An Introduction to the Liturgy*, vol. 4, *The Liturgy and Time*, Eng trans., Collegeville, The Liturgical Press, 1986.

On the saints of the world-wide church, including figures not formally canonised:

- Donald Attwater with Catherine Rachel John, *The Penguin Dictionary of Saints*, 3rd ed., Harmondsworth, Penguin, 1995.
- *Butler's Lives of the Saints*, new full edition, 12 vols, London, Burns & Oates, 1995-2000.
- F.L. Cross and E.A. Livingstone, *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, 3rd ed., London, OUP, 1997.
- D.H. Farmer, *The Oxford Dictionary of Saints*, 2nd ed., Oxford, OUP, 1987.
- *New Catholic Encyclopaedia*, 15 vols, New York, McGraw-Hill, 1967.
- *The New Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 15th ed., 32 vols, Chicago, Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc., 197.

## *Acknowledgements*

On the New Zealand Commemorations:

- *The Dictionary of New Zealand Biography*, Vol. one, 1769-1869. Wellington, Allen & Unwin/Dept. of Internal Affairs, 1990; Vol. two, 1870-1900. Wellington, Bridget Williams Books/Dept. of Internal Affairs, 1993; Vol. three, 1901-1920. Auckland, Auckland University Press/Dept. of Internal Affairs, 1996; Vol. four, 1921-1940. Auckland, Auckland University Press/Dept. of Internal Affairs, 1998; Vol. five, 1941-1960. Auckland, Auckland University Press/Dept. of Internal Affairs, 2000.

This dictionary is also available on the web at

<http://www.dnzb.govt.nz/dnzb/>

Other Sources:

- There are a few entries for which no information is available in any of the above reference works. A note on relevant sources is given at the end of such entries.

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Quotations in Maori are from *Ko Te Paipera Tapu: Ara ko te Kawenata Tawhito me te Kawenata Hou*, copyright © by The Bible Society in New Zealand and used by permission.

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It is our hope that the information contained here will enable Anglicans and others to be informed of the ministry of this Church. The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia is a constitutionally autonomous member of the worldwide Anglican Communion. The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia encompasses the area described by its title. The 1992 Constitution of this Church provides for three partners to order their affairs within their own cultural context. Within Aotearoa New Zealand, Tikanga Pakeha comprises seven Dioceses, Tikanga Maori comprises five Hui Amorangi, the boundaries of which differ from those of the dioceses. Tikanga Pasefika encompasses Fiji, Tonga, Samoa and the Cook Islands, and is known as the Diocese of Polynesia. Publication: '*Anglican Taonga*' (Treasure) is a publication affirming the unity and diversity of the Anglican community in these islands.



*Saints' Days  
and Other Commemorations*

“Jesus” is a version of the Hebrew name Yeshua (Joshua), very common among Jews in antiquity. In the gospel story, the weight falls not on Jesus’ circumcision (the sign of the covenant) but on his naming. The name was thought to mean “The Lord saves”; Jesus is to “save his people from their sins”. The name “Jesus” occurs frequently in the New Testament, often, outside the Gospels, in combinations like “the Lord Jesus”, “Christ Jesus”, or “Jesus Christ”.

SENTENCE

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among us by which we must be saved.      *Acts 4: 12*

COLLECTS

We thank you, Lord God, for the gift of your Son  
whom you commanded to be called Jesus;  
grant that we may so honour his name on earth,  
that others may be led to him who alone is Lord and Saviour.

Praise to you, Christ our Redeemer  
for you were circumcised this day  
and given Jesus as your name.  
Praise to you, Jesus, well are you named  
for you save us from our sins.  
Hear this prayer for your name’s sake.

PSALMS                    25: 1-11                    98

READINGS

Isaiah 45: 15-23	A God who saves
<i>or</i> Philippians 2: 5-11	The name above every name
Luke 2: 15-21	He was called Jesus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their  
sins. *Matthew 1: 21*

*Seraphim of Sarov*  
*Mystic, Russia*

*January 2*

Seraphim was a monk and priest of the Russian Church who became, after many years in solitude, a remarkable spiritual director (staretz), with great gifts of healing and insight. He was born in 1759. His life, marked by a radiant joy, was centred on the “prayer of the heart”, or “Jesus prayer”, an unceasing communion with Jesus. He stressed the need to draw Jesus into one’s heart, and that “every soul is brought to life by the Holy Spirit.” The whole aim of the Christian life he defined as the “acquisition of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and of the Holy Spirit himself”. He died in 1833.

SENTENCE

Great is the might of the Lord; yet the Lord is glorified by the humble.  
*Ecclesiasticus 3: 20 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
you made your servant Seraphim  
an icon of prayer and self-denial;  
grant to all your people  
selfless love and commitment to others;  
through the image of God invisible,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Holy Spirit,  
lifeblood to the saints  
and to Seraphim the gentle Russian hermit,  
absorbed in his prayer,  
in his single-minded love for you;  
keep our devotion pure, we pray,  
and tender-hearted.

PSALMS                    119: 145-152      139: 1-18

READINGS

Numbers 6: 1-8	Dedicated to the Lord
Ephesians 5: 8-14	Living in the light
John 17: 20-26	To see God's glory

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

God has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of  
the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.                    *2 Corinthians 4: 6*

*Gladys Aylward*  
*Missionary, China*

*January 3*

Gladys Aylward was born in London in 1902. She spent her adult life as a missionary to the Chinese people, mainly in Yangcheng. She became a Chinese citizen, and was appointed by Chiang Kai-Shek to assist with the suppression of the custom of foot-binding. She is best remembered for her journey through the mountains in 1940 with Chinese children fleeing from the Japanese invaders. After 1957 she worked in Taiwan. She died there in 1970.

SENTENCE

God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord  
God is my strength and my might. *Isaiah 12: 2*

COLLECTS

Loving God,  
you gave your daughter Gladys Aylward  
audacity to go into the unknown  
and suffer hardship for your children's sake;  
give us willingness to face whatever is strange and terrifying;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus Christ, light of the east as of the west,  
you called Gladys the servant girl  
to bring your gospel to the end of the earth;  
use, we pray, the little that we have.

PSALMS                    31: 1-9                    71: 1-8

READINGS

Genesis 12: 1-4a	Leave your own country
2 Corinthians 11: 16, 23-31	Labours of an apostle
John 6: 16-21	Do not be afraid

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs  
into the midst of wolves." *Luke 10: 3*

Today sees the beginning of the end of the Christmas season. We in New Zealand tend to celebrate Christmas from the beginning of December till Christmas Day. Our European ancestors began their celebrations on Christmas Eve, and kept them up till the twelfth day after Christmas. The theme of Epiphany is manifestation or revelation: principally the revelation of God in Christ to the Gentiles.

SENTENCE

Light has dawned for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

*Psalm 97: 11*

COLLECTS

Gracious and loving God,  
the source of all true light,  
grant that the gospel of your Son  
may enlighten our hearts  
and banish the darkness of this world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of the unexpected,  
may we who welcome Christ's revelation  
never be threatened by what Christ may reveal.

PSALMS                    86: 8-12                    117

READINGS

Isaiah 49: 7-13

Titus 3: 4-7

John 8: 12-20

Rulers shall see God's chosen

Our Saviour has appeared

The light of the world

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

We have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of  
grace and truth.

*John 1: 14*

Epiphany commemorates the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles, particularly in the persons of the wise men from the east. The story reflects the church's major mission to the Gentiles. Like Balaam of old, these astrologers had seen the rising messianic star; the Jewish Scriptures (through Herod) led them to the place of the Jewish king's birth at Bethlehem. These Scriptures are fulfilled further in their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. They have also suggested that they were three kings who came first to worship our king.

SENTENCE

The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight is coming, says the Lord of hosts.

COLLECTS

Jesus, as we travel far and fast,  
lead our minds back to the wise men following your star,  
and forward to the day  
when all will see your shining light.

Jesus, light of the world,  
let your bright star shine over the place  
where the poor have to live;  
lead our sages to wisdom and our rulers to reverence.

O God, by the leading of a star  
you revealed your Son Jesus Christ to the gentiles;  
grant that your Church may be a light to the nations,  
so that the whole world may come to see  
the splendour of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PSALMS            72

96

READINGS

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Romans 15: 5-13

Matthew 2: 1-12

Nations shall come to your light

The hope of the gentiles

Wise men from the east

Isaiah 49: 5-7

Ephesians 3: 1-12

Luke 13: 22-30

Kings shall see and arise

To preach to the Gentiles

From east and west

*Hilary*

*January 13*

*Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher of the Faith*

Hilary was born in Poitiers in the early fourth century and was elected bishop of the city by popular acclaim in 350. He became caught up in the controversies of the day over Jesus' relationship to God, himself defending the full divinity of Christ. He suffered exile for his stand between 356 and 360. His role as intermediary between eastern and western theologies, and his work, *On the Trinity*, gave him a significant place among early theologians. He died about 367.

SENTENCE

The Lord gives wisdom; and from the mouth of the Lord come knowledge and understanding. *Proverbs 2: 6 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
your servant Hilary stood firm in the faith  
and suffered exile for his integrity;  
grant that we may never waver from our faith,  
but abide steadfast in your Son,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit;  
for you are one God, now and for ever.

Jesus,  
harried by your claim to identify with God,  
glorified by Hilary who insisted on it,  
you are our Redeemer.

PSALMS                    119: 153-160      43

READINGS

Isaiah 28: 23-29

3 John 1-8

John 8: 31-36

Taught by God

Living truth

The truth sets free

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

We proclaim Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of  
God.

*1 Corinthians 1: 23, 24*

*Sava*

*January 14*

*Founder and First Archbishop of the Serbian Church*

Sava, a younger son of King Stephen I of Serbia, left home in his teens to become a monk on Mount Athos. There his father joined him a few years later. Together they founded the monastery of Chilandari, a centre of Serbian religion and culture, which continues to this day. About 1208, Sava returned to Serbia and helped consolidate the kingdom under his brother Stephen II. He also reformed and reorganised religious life. He established an autonomous Serbian church and became its first archbishop. Sava died in 1235. He is the patron saint of Serbia.

SENTENCE

I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, says the Lord.

*Jeremiah 23: 4*

COLLECTS

Loving God,  
you called your servant Sava  
to found and build the Serbian church;  
may we who are built on Christ's foundation  
be living stones,  
effective witnesses to the gospel;  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Jesus,  
you call on us to choose the better part;  
would that we always had the opportunity!  
Give us grace  
if you call us, as you called Sava,  
to sacrifice our peace.

PSALMS                    47                                    111

READINGS

Jeremiah 1: 4-9

1 Corinthians 9: 16-19

Matthew 4: 12-23

To whom I send you, you shall go

All for the sake of the gospel

Fishing for people

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

*Mark 12: 10*

*Antony of Egypt*  
*Abbot*

*January 17*

Antony was born about 251. As a young man, he chose to give away his possessions and live an ascetic life in the Egyptian desert. Solitude and manual work, poverty and self-denial, charity and prayer were the hallmarks of his life. He went through great spiritual struggles, which gave him the wisdom to offer rich and sensible counsel. Many came into the desert to model their lives on his and to discover through silence a purity of heart which leads to an ever greater love. Antony died in 356.

SENTENCE

The just shall flourish like a palm tree; planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God. *Psalm 92: 12, 13*

COLLECTS

Merciful God,  
the strength of all who commit themselves to you,  
you called Antony to renounce the world  
and to serve you in the solitude of the desert;  
give us grace to follow the way of perfection,  
that we may count all things as loss  
in the joy of knowing Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

God of the desert,  
we remember before you the thousands  
who went to seek you in solitude,  
and especially Antony the hermit;  
may we too overcome temptation  
and come to terms with our secret selves.

PSALMS            18: 31-37            91: 9-16

READINGS

1 Kings 17: 2-6

Elijah in the desert

1 Corinthians 9: 24-27

Self-discipline

Matthew 19: 16-26

Renouncing the world

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Be imitators of God as dear children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us.

*Ephesians 5: 1, 2*

*Agnes*  
*Child Martyr at Rome*

*January 21*

Agnes is one of the most famous of early Roman martyrs. She is remembered for her dedication to Christ and her willingness to face martyrdom at the age of thirteen in preference to breaking her vow of virginity in favour of marriage. Her wide-spread veneration points to the growing value placed on virginity in the fourth century. There is little historical information about her, and even the traditional year of her death, 304, is by no means certain.

SENTENCE

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. *Matthew 5: 8*

COLLECTS

Loving God,  
you choose what is weak in the world  
to shame the strong;  
grant us so to cherish the memory  
of your young martyr Agnes,  
that we may share her pure and steadfast faith  
in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus, you bless the pure in heart,  
and you blessed Agnes,  
who chose to be your lamb;  
may we share her innocence  
and become as little children.

PSALMS            45: 10-17            109: 1-4, 25-30

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 51: 1-3

1 Corinthians 1: 26-31

Matthew 18: 1-7

God is my deliverer

God uses what is weak

Like a child

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

I am small and of little account, but I do not forget your commandments.

*Psalms 119: 141*

*Vincent*

*January 22*

*Spanish Deacon and Martyr, Saragossa*

Vincent was born in Saragossa in Spain. During the persecution under Diocletian, he was arrested, persecuted, imprisoned and half-starved. Vincent died about 304 under tortures which, according to legend, included being roasted on a gridiron. Although facts are buried under legend, his widespread and early fame attests his veneration as a heroic witness to Christ.

SENTENCE

Deliverance for the righteous comes from the Lord; the Most High is their stronghold in time of trouble. *Psalm 37: 39*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
you gave your servant Vincent  
courage to endure suffering and death  
for the sake of the gospel;  
strengthen us by your Spirit,  
so that in all trials and difficulties  
we may remain firm in our faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of blood and sacrifice,  
may we be one with Vincent,  
who suffered unbelievable tortures and martyrdom  
with legendary fortitude.

PSALMS                    31: 10-22                    57

READINGS

2 Chronicles 24: 17-22

Hebrews 10: 32-36

Matthew 10: 24-36

The death of Zechariah

Patience under hardship

Every hair has been counted

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Those who lose their life for my sake, and for sake of the  
gospel, will save it." *Mark 8: 35*

The conversion of Saul, the zealous Jewish Pharisee of Tarsus, into Paul, the passionate apostle to the Gentiles, occurred on the road to Damascus. Saul was on an expedition to hunt out and arrest all those he could find in the synagogues who believed in Jesus. A blinding light and a voice from heaven stopped him in his tracks and convinced him that the message of the good news of Jesus Christ was indeed from God, and that henceforth he must proclaim Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God.

SENTENCE

I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what he has entrusted to me.

*2 Timothy 1: 12*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
you have caused the light of the gospel  
to shine throughout the world  
through the preaching of your servant Paul;  
grant that we who remember his wonderful conversion  
may follow him in bearing witness to your truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Convert us,  
Jesus the persecuted,  
as you converted Paul  
and sent him as apostle to the world.  
May our love, our prayers, our suffering  
carry your gospel at whatever cost  
to all who wait to hear it.  
Hear this prayer for your name's sake.



*Timothy and Titus*  
*Companions of St Paul*

*January 26*

Timothy, half Greek and half Jewish, and Titus, wholly Greek, were two of Paul's most loyal and devoted companions. Timothy was the co-sender (always with Paul and often with Silas as well) of several letters, and Timothy and Titus were Paul's representatives on special missions. We remember them today, the day after the feast of the Conversion of St Paul, as his hardworking and much-travelled companions and helpers. They remind us that loyal and devoted support plays an important part in any leader's mission.

SENTENCE

Because they have set their love upon me, I will deliver them, says the Lord; I will uphold them because they know my name.

*Psalm 91: 14*

COLLECTS

Loving God,  
your servants Timothy and Titus went with Paul  
and shared his labours for the spread of the gospel;  
grant that we, like them, may be ready  
to bear witness and to suffer in your service;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

God of Timothy and Titus,  
Paul's companions,  
who went where he could not go,  
may there always be people  
willing to go where you send them.

PSALMS            112                            119: 9-16

READINGS

Exodus 18: 17-20, 24-26	Help for a leader
2 Timothy 1: 1-8	To Timothy
or Titus 1: 1-4	To Titus
Matthews 24: 42-47	Good stewards

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Through us God spreads in every place the fragrance that comes  
from knowing Christ. *2 Corinthians 2: 14*

*John Chrysostom*  
*Bishop of Constantinople*  
*Teacher of the Faith*

*January 27*

Born in Antioch in 347, John earned his nick-name, “the golden-mouthed” (Chrysostom), for his brilliant preaching. He was much attracted to the ascetic tradition, which became popular in the fourth century, and preached vigorously on the need for a disciplined Christian lifestyle. He was made patriarch of Constantinople in 398 against his will. His crusading moral zeal gained him enemies in church and state, who succeeded in having him exiled to Armenia, where he died in 407.

SENTENCE

How sweet are your words to my taste; sweeter than honey in my mouth. *Psalm 119: 103*

COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
you gave to your servant John Chrysostom  
eloquence of speech and courage to bear reproach for you;  
give us clarity in our proclamation of the gospel  
and steadfastness in time of trial;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Living Word of God,  
true word for John,  
the preacher with the golden tongue,  
in this world grant us knowledge of your truth,  
and in the world to come to see your glory.

PSALMS                    101                    119: 49-56

READINGS

Proverbs 25: 11-15

Colossians 4: 2-6

Luke 21: 12-15

A word fitly spoken

Let your speech be gracious

I will give you words and wisdom

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Let the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

*Psalms 19: 14*

*Thomas Aquinas*  
*Teacher of the Faith*

*January 28*

Thomas Aquinas was the greatest thinker and teacher of the medieval church. He was born in 1225 and became a Dominican. He offered the church a deep theological understanding of the physical world as conveying divine truth, even though faith is needed for other aspects of God's truth. His profound thought and gentle spirit earned him the title "the angelic doctor". Some of his eucharistic hymns are still sung. He died in 1274.

SENTENCE

Happy is the person who meditates on wisdom and reasons intelligently.  
*Ecclesiasticus 14: 20*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
you have greatly enriched your church  
through the holy learning of Thomas Aquinas;  
enlighten us more and more  
by the work of scholars and believers  
and deepen our devotion by the example of saintly lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God,  
you give us all our wisdom, all our knowledge;  
we thank you for Thomas,  
for his supreme discovery  
that everything he thought, everything he wrote was straw  
compared with your inexpressible riches.

PSALMS                    19: 7-14                    119: 97-104

READINGS

Wisdom 7: 7-16	The gift of knowledge
Hebrews 5: 11 - 6: 3	Mature teaching
John 17: 6, 13-19	Consecration to the truth

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

All of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.                    *2 Corinthians 3: 18*

King Charles, born in 1600, succeeded to the throne of England in 1625. He staunchly resisted the rising power of Parliament and incorporated in his resistance a strong adherence to episcopal control of the church. He promoted an Anglicanism more traditionally Catholic than the prevailing Calvinism. Opposition between king and Parliament erupted in civil war. The king was eventually executed by the army in 1649. Although a man of high moral character and piety, Charles was a victim of his political ineptitude.

SENTENCE

Your kingdom, O Lord, is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures from age to age. *Psalm 145: 13*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
ruler and sustainer of all things in heaven and earth,  
you gave to King Charles of England  
courage patiently to endure to the end for his beliefs;  
grant us a like willingness to suffer for the truth,  
to the glory of your name;  
through Jesus Christ, our king and our Redeemer.

Eternal God,  
we remember before you Charles,  
King of England;  
may we prize the authority you give us  
and use it wisely

PSALMS                    20                    21

READINGS

Wisdom 6: 1-11	Responsible authority
1 Peter 2: 13-17	Respect your rulers
Matthew 20: 20-28	True leadership

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to you O Lord, for  
you are the ruler over the nations.                    *Psalm 22: 27, 28*

*Brigid of Ireland*  
*Abbess*

*February 1*

Brigid was the abbess of Kildare and second only to Patrick in significance as a saint to the Irish people. Little reliable information is available on her life, but the legends and stories about her portray her as holy and compassionate, with a deep love of the poor. She died about 525.

SENTENCE

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. *Matthew 5: 16*

COLLECTS

Creator of life and light,  
you call your people  
to holiness of life and a compassionate spirit;  
grant that like Brigid of Kildare  
we may show your love to the poor and the hungry  
and follow with zeal and devotion the way  
of your Son Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

Blessed are you holy God  
in Brigid, abbess of Kildare,  
who in her time  
kept alive the church's prayer;  
may we in our time do the same.

PSALMS            66: 1-11            119: 129-136

READINGS

Job 28: 20-28	Fear of the Lord is wisdom
James 1: 22-27	Pure and faultless religion
Luke 12: 22-31	God's care for all

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.    *Matthew 5: 7*

*The Presentation  
of Jesus in the Temple*

*February 2*

The story of the presentation of Jesus in the Temple is told only by Luke. Luke's main interest is not in the rites of purification, nor in the presentation of the first-born to God. Rather, in the Temple, the centre of Jewish worship, obedience to the Law and the hopes expressed by the prophets find their fulfilment in Jesus. The coming of God's chosen one, however, will also bring division. Anna the prophetess reiterates the theme of the promise of God "to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem".

SENTENCE

Be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new nature, created after the likeness of God in righteousness and true holiness.

*Ephesians 4: 23-24*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
your Son Jesus Christ was presented as a child in the temple  
to be the hope of your people;  
grant us pure hearts and minds  
that we may be transformed into his likeness,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever.

Holy God,  
they brought the little Christ to his Father's house,  
with peasant gifts, to consecrate him;  
grant to us, little or great,  
that consecration;  
for he is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever.

PSALMS                    118: 19-26                    122

READINGS

1 Samuel 1: 20-28

A child lent to the Lord

Romans 12: 1-8

Presentation and transformation

Luke 2: 22-40

The presentation of the child Jesus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

We have called to mind your steadfast love O God in the midst of your temple. As your name is great O God, so is your praise to the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with victory.

*Psalm 48: 9-10*

*Anskar*

*February 3*

*Archbishop of Hamburg,*

*Missionary to Denmark and Sweden*

Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, who lived from 801 until 865, was a missionary to Denmark and Sweden. He was invited to Denmark by King Harold in 826. He founded schools and preached widely and was famous for his charity to the poor. Anskar saw no great results from his work, especially in Sweden, but he is the patron saint of Denmark.

SENTENCE

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, says the Lord.

*Jeremiah 31: 8*

COLLECTS

Gracious and eternal God,  
your servant Anskar laid the foundations  
for the gospel among the people of Scandinavia,  
but did not see the results of his labours;  
give us patience and keep us from all discouragement,  
knowing that you will surely bring to completion  
the work that you have begun;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We praise you, God, for Anskar,  
who took the gospel to the Danes  
and, when they did not want it, to the Swedes,  
and then back to the Danes;  
so thousands heard the gospel from him  
and rejoiced.

PSALMS                    65: 1-8                    100

READINGS

Jeremiah 16: 19-21

Acts 1: 6-8

Mark 6: 7-13

The nations shall come

To the end of the earth

They went out and preached

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus sent out the twelve to proclaim the kingdom of God and to  
heal.

*Luke 9: 2*

In 1597 twenty-six Christians (some priests or monks, but mostly lay folk, including three altar boys) were put to death near Nagasaki as part of a persecution aimed at wiping out Christianity in Japan. Subsequently, many more Christian converts were put to death. The teaching of Christianity was proscribed until the middle of the nineteenth century. But when missionaries were allowed into Japan in the 1850s, they discovered that there were several thousand Christians, who, though without priests and teachers for over two hundred years, had preserved and practised the faith in secret.

SENTENCE

From the rising of the sun to its setting my name is great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.  
*Malachi 1: 11*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
the source of strength for all your saints,  
you upheld the martyrs of Japan in the way of the cross;  
grant that, encouraged by their example,  
we may hold fast the faith we profess,  
even to death itself;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus,  
we remember before you  
the martyrs of Japan,  
crucified for you;  
and when we remember Nagasaki,  
may the dust and ashes  
lead to resurrection.

PSALMS                    27: 1-8                    116: 1-9

READINGS

Wisdom 5: 1-6	God's own children
2 Corinthians 4: 1-6	Let light shine out of darkness
Mark 8: 34-38	Life lost for the gospel

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit."

*John 12: 24*

SENTENCE

Ano te pai, ano te ahuareka o te nohoanga o nga teina o nga tuakana i runga i te whakaaro kotahi. *Waiaata 133: 1*

How good and pleasant a thing it is when God's people live together in unity. *Psalm 133: 1*

COLLECTS

E te Ariki o nga ariki,  
i mea koe  
ki te u koutou ki roto ki ahau  
ka u ano aku kupu ki roto ki a koutou.  
E pupuri tonu nei matou  
i nga kupu o te kawenata o te Tiriti o Waitangi  
i hainatia e nga Maori me nga Pakeha  
i te tau kotahi mano e waru rau e wha tekau.  
Meinga enei kupu i poua nei e ratou  
hei maramatanga mo nga ra kei mua i a matou  
e haere tika ai tenei iwi o Aotearoa. Amine.

God, the sovereign of all,  
your word is law in every quarter.  
Speak your words again;  
hold before us the words of Waitangi,  
signed by Maori and Pakeha alike  
to seal their covenant;  
make the treaty they established in Aotearoa  
a beacon light for the days ahead;  
through Christ, our guide, our way.

God of our nation,  
you have called us to care for one another;  
cleanse our eyes to see each other clearly;  
open our hearts to know our own mistakes;  
build in us respect for each other's taonga;  
help us to do justice to one another  
and to hope together.

God of covenant and calling,  
you bind us together;  
keep us faithful to our calling  
and true to our promises.

PSALMS                    133                    119: 73-80                    147

#### READINGS

1 Kings 8: 55-61	Turn your hearts to God
<i>or</i> Isaiah 42: 1-9	God's justice
Ephesians 2: 13-18	Breaking down the walls
<i>or</i> Acts 10: 34-43	God has no favourites
Luke 2: 9-14	Te hari nui
<i>or</i> Matthew 18: 21-35	Forgiven and forgiving

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Ka whakatikatika e ia i o tatou waewae ki te huarahi o te rangimarie.

*Ruka 1: 79*

God will guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Luke 1: 79 (adapted)*

*Cyril and Methodius*  
*Missionaries to the Slavs*

*February 14*

Cyril and Methodius were brothers from Thessalonica, who because of their ability with languages were sent in 862 to establish the church in Moravia, in answer to an appeal from the prince there. They did much to foster Slavonic literature and an indigenous church, but became involved in disputes with the church in the Frankish Empire in the west over “civilised” Latin versus “barbaric” Slavonic as an appropriate language for the church’s message. Cyril died in 869. Methodius became Archbishop of Sirmium and died in 885.

SENTENCE

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation.

*Isaiah 52: 7*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
by the power of your Spirit,  
Cyril and his brother Methodius,  
in the face of hostility,  
brought the light of the gospel to the Slavic people;  
give us courage when our way seems hard,  
and strengthen us to proclaim your gospel in our day;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed are you, Jesus,  
in Cyril and Methodius,  
who went in love to preach to the Slavs;  
may we have a love like this  
for those entrusted to our care.

PSALMS                    24                    113

READINGS

Isaiah 49: 1-6

Ephesians 3: 1-7

Luke 9: 1-6

news

A light to the nations

The Gentiles included

Sent out to proclaim the good

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God  
with boldness.

*Acts 4: 31*

The birth of Jesus was accompanied by violence, just as the Israelites had suffered violence in Egypt. The baby Jesus had to flee for his life, and in his place Herod the Great, Jewish ruler for 37 years under the Romans, put to death male children two and under in and around Bethlehem. Although we have no other evidence of this massacre, it is consistent with some other acts of Herod. Because these children suffered for Jesus' sake, the church has regarded them as martyrs.

SENTENCE

I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.

*Jeremiah 31: 13*

COLLECTS

Holy Father,  
your Son was saved from the slaughter of infants  
at the hand of Herod;  
grant that we may never be indifferent  
to the sufferings of your children,  
but may bring them help and compassion  
in your unfailing love;  
for he is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever.

Loving Jesus, let the tears of Rachel express our desolation,  
let her weep for battered babies and clinical deformity,  
weep for human cruelty and ignorance and arrogance.  
Loving Jesus, may we weep with her,  
may we see what we are doing,  
what is happening to us;  
help us repair it soon.  
Praise to you our God; you answer prayer.

PSALMS                    131                    8

#### READINGS

Jeremiah 31: 15-17	Hope in sorrow
1 Corinthians 1: 26-29	The weakness of God
Matthew 2: 13-18	The murder of the innocents

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes; these have been redeemed from humanity as first fruits for God and the Lamb.

*Revelation 14: 4*

*Janani Luwum*  
*Archbishop, Martyr of Uganda*

*February 17*

Janani Luwum was born in 1922 and became Bishop of Northern Uganda in 1969 and Archbishop of the Church of Uganda in 1974. He was murdered on the orders of President Idi Amin on 16 February 1977. His death was a direct result of protests made by the Ugandan bishops about the abuse of human rights under Amin's regime. With great courage he had carried a personal protest to the president on behalf of the Church of Uganda, knowing that in doing so he was probably signing his own death warrant.

SENTENCE

Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who upholds my life.

*Psalm 54: 4*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
you gave to Janani Luwum  
an infectious enthusiasm for your gospel  
and courage to proclaim a prophet's word  
at the cost of his life;  
give us zeal in your service  
and hope in the face of adversity;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

God of the martyrs,  
glorified by Janani,  
Archbishop of Uganda;  
should danger come to us  
may we be faithful.

PSALMS                    119: 41-48                    119: 161-168

READINGS

1 Kings 22: 6-9, 15-18, 26-28	A persecuted prophet
2 Timothy 4: 1-8	Preach the word boldly
Luke 21: 12-19	Witness before rulers

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world, will keep it for eternal life."                    *John 12: 25*

*Martin Luther  
and other Reformers of the Church*

*February 18*

Martin Luther was born in 1483 and became an Augustinian Hermit. His personal discovery that salvation rests solely on the grace of God led him to oppose the church's medieval system that gave the church significant control over the assurance of salvation. He sought a debate by posting his ninety-five theses on the church door in Wittenberg in 1517. He rested his case on the authority of Scripture alone. Luther's work let loose a wide-ranging movement of reform in the church, that was carried on by others in many cities in Europe. Luther died in 1546.

SENTENCE

Be to me a rock of refuge, O Lord, a fortress where I may find safety,  
for you are my rock and my stronghold. *Psalm 71: 3*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
you called Martin Luther and others to reform your church  
and to teach that we should trust in you alone;  
give us boldness to proclaim the faith in our day,  
and keep your church true to you at all times;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

God our righteousness,  
may we share Martin's rediscovery  
that every single one of us  
must come to your forgiveness  
and receive the faith which you alone can give.



The church in Africa has had many martyrs, from those in early centuries who refused the state's demand that they deny their faith, to those in Kenya in the 1950s who refused to take the Mau Mau oath of racial hatred, and to Archbishop Luwum who died on the orders of Idi Amin in 1977. We commemorate the unnamed saints, whose simple faith, zeal in evangelism, and loving service have caused the church to grow rapidly in Tropical Africa. We remember the courageous witness of Christian minorities in North Africa and those who in Southern Africa struggled against the injustice of apartheid.

SENTENCE

I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, says the Lord, to give drink to my chosen people, so that they might declare my praise. *Isaiah 43: 20, 21*

COLLECTS

Living God,  
from the sands of the Sahara to the rain forests of Rwanda,  
your word has been proclaimed and your glory revealed  
in the lives of your saints and martyrs;  
bless Africa,  
guard her children,  
guide her rulers,  
give her peace,  
and bring all her people to glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Creator God,  
we praise you for the great renewing church of Africa,  
for its growth and its leadership;  
give us grace to listen and to learn.

PSALMS                    87                    127

READINGS

Isaiah 61: 4-9

Renowned among the nations

Hebrews 11: 32-12: 2

A cloud of witnesses

John 17: 18-23

For their sake I consecrate myself

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

The one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

*Philippians 1: 6*

Today we celebrate Peter and his confession of faith, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” Peter, the impulsive and rash, trying and failing to walk on the water; denying his master before the crucifixion, yet risking imprisonment and death after Pentecost; baptising the Roman centurion Cornelius, yet failing in charity to Gentile Christians at Antioch and being rebuked by Paul. The tradition of his martyrdom in Rome is early, and the site of his burial under St Peter’s is highly probable.

SENTENCE

God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God.

*1 John 4: 15*

COLLECTS

Gracious and eternal God,  
you inspired Simon Peter to confess Jesus  
as Messiah and Son of the living God;  
keep your church firm on the rock of this faith,  
that in unity and peace  
we may proclaim the truth of your gospel,  
to the glory of your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God our light,  
yours was the flash of brilliance  
that awakened Peter to see  
that Jesus is the Christ;  
help us to exult in that light.

PSALMS                    22: 22-31                    95: 1-7

READINGS

Ezekiel 3: 4-11	A prophet's mandate
Acts 4: 8-13	Peter's testimony
Matthew 16: 13-19	Peter's great confession

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

*Romans 10: 19*

*Polycarp*  
*Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr*

*February 23*

Polycarp was Bishop of Smyrna in Asia Minor for over fifty years. He was born about 70 CE, knew St John in Ephesus, and provides an important link from the apostles to the later church. The refusal of Polycarp and others to take the religious oath to the emperor led to their execution in 156. Urged to curse Christ, Polycarp said, "For eighty-six years I have been his servant, and he has done me no wrong. How can I blaspheme against my king and saviour?"

SENTENCE

Love the Lord all you servants of the Lord; for the Lord preserves those who are faithful.

*Psalms 31: 26*

COLLECTS

Faithful and everlasting God,  
you gave your servant Polycarp  
boldness to confess Jesus as his Lord and Saviour  
and courage to die for his faith;  
give us grace to share the cup of Christ  
and in all our trials to praise your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Praise to you Jesus Christ,  
Saviour of old and young alike;  
praise to you for Polycarp;  
may your church still have power  
to destroy the false and empty gods  
that people worship.

PSALMS                    34: 1-10                    116: 10-18

READINGS

Wisdom 5: 15-20	The righteous live for ever
Revelation 2: 8-11	To the church at Smyrna
John 15: 1-8	Bearing much fruit

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit."

*John 12: 24*

*George Herbert  
and All Sainly Parish Priests*

*February 27*

George Herbert was a classical scholar and gifted musician who gave up a promising career to study for the priesthood. He was born in 1593 and died in 1633. His collection of poems includes such well-known hymns as “Teach me, my God and King”, “The God of love my shepherd is”, and “Let all the world in every corner sing”. In his other writings, Herbert presented a vision of the clergy which became a model for future generations. Although he had fewer than three years in his own parish, his life was such that his name continues to be remembered as a shining example of faithful ministry.

SENTENCE

I have stilled and made quiet my soul, like a weaned child nestling to its mother; so like a child, my soul is quieted within me.

*Psalms 131: 2*

COLLECTS

Our God and King,  
you called George Herbert  
to be a pastor, a poet, and a priest in your temple;  
give us grace joyfully to perform  
the tasks you give us to do,  
and teach us to see you in all things;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Loving God,  
we thank you for George the parish priest,  
who left us a pattern to follow;  
may we see you in everything,  
and, whatever we do,  
may we do it for your sake.

PSALMS                    1                    23

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 4: 11-14	The Lord blesses the wise
1 Peter 5: 1-4	An example to the flock
John 10: 11-16	A good shepherd

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. *Colossians 3: 15*

*David*  
*Bishop, Patron Saint of Wales*

*March 1*

When a young man, David founded a monastery at his birthplace in south-west Wales, where the present Cathedral of St David stands today. David built many churches and founded twelve monasteries. He and his monks lived a life of strict austerity. At his death (about 601) the whole of Wales mourned the passing of one whom they regarded as the spiritual father of the nation.

SENTENCE

“I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down,” says the Lord God.

*Ezekiel 34: 15*

COLLECTS

Loving God,  
you gave your servant David grace  
to be a wise and faithful leader  
of your church in Wales;  
give us perseverance and unwearied devotion  
that we may be your faithful people now and always;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God who madest earth and heaven  
and the church in Wales,  
we thank you for David,  
evangelist, leader, archbishop;  
may the gospel music  
swell to a mighty song for all the world.

PSALMS                    25: 1-9                    119: 73-80

READINGS

1 Samuel 16: 4-13	God's choice of a leader
1 Thessalonians 2: 3-12	Preaching the good news
Mark 4: 26-32	Ready for harvest

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last."                    *John 15: 16*

*Carl Sylvius Völkner, Priest  
and Mokomoko, Rangatira, Opotiki  
Symbols for Reconciliation*

*March 2*

Carl Sylvius Völkner is remembered as the CMS missionary working amongst Te Whakatohea in the Bay of Plenty who was killed by Maori on 2 March 1865. He was born in 1819 and came to New Zealand in 1849 as a Lutheran missionary. He joined the Church Missionary Society in 1852 and was ordained priest in 1861 by Bishop Selwyn. The Te Whakatohea chief, Mokomoko, was executed for Völkner's death, but Maori oral tradition as well as historical research prove his execution was unjust. Völkner was killed by Maori for several reasons, including passing on information about Maori troop movements in the New Zealand Wars to Governor Grey.

E nga mate, haere, haere, haere.

SENTENCE

Kia pai, e Ihowa, ki te whakaora i ahau; e Ihowa, horohoro ki te awhina i ahau.

*Waiaata 40: 13*

Be pleased O Lord to deliver me; O Lord make haste to help me.

*Psalm 40: 13*

COLLECTS

E te Kaihanga, e te Kai Homai i te Ora.  
E hui nei nga awa o Waioweka, o Otara;  
tenei hoki koe te whakahui i o iwi i raro i tou maru o te aroha.  
I karekare nga wai i mua; nau i whakahora te marino;  
e maumahara ana matou ki a te Wakena raua ko Mokomoko.  
I te ra nei kua whakakotahi mai matou  
i te mea he Atua aroha koe,  
he Atua atawhai koe, he Atua mana mutunga kore.  
Kororia ki tou Ingoa Tapu. Amine.

Merciful God,  
you call us in Christ  
to serve your gospel;  
may Mokomoko and Carl Völkner  
be for us symbols for reconciliation,  
that your aroha may grow  
in the hearts of all your people;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus, prince of peace,  
we remember your servant Carl,  
hanged and dishonoured;  
we remember also Mokomoko, unjustly condemned,  
and the oppression devastating the land;  
now may Maori and Pakeha  
live together in aroha.

PSALMS                      62                      85

READINGS

Jeremiah 31: 31-34	Hope of a new covenant
Ephesians 4: 31-5: 2	Forgive as God forgives
Luke 22: 39-46	Prayer in time of trial

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Ko te Karaiti hoki to tatou maunga rongo, nana i mea nga mea e rua kia kotahi, whakahoroa iho e ia te patu e arai ana i waenga.

*Epeha 2: 14*

Christ is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.

*Ephesians 2: 14*

*John Wesley, Preacher*  
*Charles Wesley, Poet*

*March 3*

John and Charles Wesley were born in the early eighteenth century and were strictly educated by their mother. They carried this strict discipline into the “methodical” religion of the “Holy Club” at Oxford University. In 1738 each discovered the assurance of God’s free grace for sinners. Their message received little welcome in churches, so they began speaking in the open air. Charles’ great contribution was a copious supply of hymns to be sung by their followers. Charles died in 1788 and John in 1791. Mainly for practical reasons and through lack of contact and understanding, Methodism eventually separated from the Church of England.

SENTENCE

You, O Lord, put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

*Psalm 40: 3*

COLLECTS

God of love,  
you inspired your servants John and Charles Wesley  
with zeal for holiness of life  
and gave them eloquence in speech and song;  
grant that with heartfelt conviction like theirs  
we may find joy in your service;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus Christ, light for everyone who lives,  
we praise you for John and Charles,  
who prayed and preached and sang  
with people whom their church ignored;  
like them, may we  
be ministers to all.

PSALMS            33: 1-8            40: 1-13

READINGS

Ezekiel 2: 1-5	Speak to the people
Romans 3: 21-28	Justified by grace through faith
Mark 6: 30-34	Compassion for the crowd

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

I the Lord have put my words in your mouth, and hidden you in the shadow of my hand. *Isaiah 51: 16*

*Perpetua and her Companions  
Martyrs at Carthage*

*March 7*

Perpetua, a young woman of twenty-two, her slave Felicity, and three men, all recently baptised, were thrown to the beasts in the arena in Carthage in 203. A contemporary diary details the events of their sufferings and witnesses to their willingness to die in order to fulfil their following of Jesus. The totalitarian empire, loyalty to which was more and more symbolised by worship of the emperor, tried to suppress Christianity, but the courage of Perpetua and her companions and others like them bore witness to the power of the gospel.

SENTENCE

These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

*Revelation 7: 14*

COLLECTS

Good and gracious God,  
you are the strength of those who suffer  
and the reward of those who endure;  
we praise you for the steadfast courage of Perpetua,  
Felicity and their friends;  
like them may we rise above pain and suffering, and endure  
because we know you, the invisible God;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus Christ, your glory shines  
through pain and brutality;  
we praise you for Perpetua and her four companions  
who chose baptism  
and therefore to be mauled by beasts and killed;  
may we choose baptism,  
wherever it may lead.



*Gregory the Great*  
*Bishop of Rome, Teacher of the Faith*

*March 12*

Gregory was born about 540 and became pope in a turbulent era. He used his great ability as an organiser to defend Italy against the Lombard invasions and to arrange extensive relief for the poor. He was responsible for sending Augustine to Britain, and wrote a text-book for the episcopate on pastoral care. Gregory also promoted monasticism as a vigorous outreach of the church. He died in 604.

SENTENCE

My heart is steadfast O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and make melody.

*Psalm 57: 7*

COLLECTS

Gracious and eternal God,  
you called Gregory of Rome  
to be a persistent servant and pastor of your people;  
keep your church in the faith that he taught  
and unwavering in its mission in the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We praise you God  
for Gregory and all his labours  
to save the church from northern invaders  
and make them friends,  
for his writing, his ransoming prisoners,  
and his mission to the Angles;  
give us strength  
to be servants of the servants of God.

PSALMS                    92: 1-5, 12-15    100

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 47: 8-11	The praise of God
1 Corinthians 1: 18-25	God's wisdom for all
Mark 10: 42-45	Servant of all

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

We do not proclaim ourselves, we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.                    *2 Corinthians 4: 5*

*Kereopa and Manihera of Taranaki  
Martyrs at Turangi*

*March 12*

Te Manihera and Kereopa were martyred at Turangi in 1847. The story of their early missionary work in the Hawera area and their subsequent dedication to set out on a dangerous preaching mission has long been remembered. They died after being shot as they approached the village of a tribal enemy. No utu was sought, and later their former adversaries created a mission base where many became Christians. The blood of the martyrs was the seed of the church.

SENTENCE

Ka mea a Ihu, “Ki te whai hoki tetahi kia ora, ka mate ia: otira ki te mate tetahi, mona i whakaaro ki ahau, ka ora ia”. *Ruka 9: 24*

Jesus said, “Those who want to save their life will lose it; and those who lose their life for my sake will save it.” *Luke 9: 24*

COLLECTS

E te Ariki, e Ihu  
i mate a Kereopa raua ko Te Manihera  
i a raua e kawea ana  
i te Rongopai o te maungarongo  
ki te iwi Maori,  
pera hoki to matou kaha  
ki te kauwhau i to ingoa  
ki nga iwi katoa o Aotearoa,  
hei whakakororia i te Atua Matua. Amine.

Everloving God,  
your servants Kereopa and Te Manihera  
laid down their lives  
to bring the gospel to the Maori people;  
may we make you known  
to all the peoples of Aotearoa,  
whatever the cost;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Prince of peace,  
you gave such great love to Kereopa and Te Manihera  
that they laid down their lives  
to bring your gospel to their neighbours;  
may your reconciling Spirit  
embrace today all the peoples in our land.

PSALMS                      94: 12-19                      98

#### READINGS

Isaiah 2: 2-4              The ways of the Lord  
Romans 5: 1-5            Peace with God  
Luke 9: 23-26            Take up the cross

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Ki ahau hoki ko te ora ko te Karaiti, ko te mate he taonga.

*Piripai 1: 21*

Living is Christ, and dying is gain.

*Philippians 1: 21*

*Patrick*  
*Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland*

*March 17*

As a boy Patrick was taken captive by Irish raiders. After escaping, he trained as a priest, but felt a deep longing to preach the gospel in the country of his former captors. He returned as a bishop and, although faced with opposition and danger, he brought the love of Christ to the people and established the church in Ireland. His monastic foundations in particular were to have far-reaching effects. He died about 461.

SENTENCE

You are king, O Lord, let the earth be glad; let the many islets and coastlands rejoice.

*Psalm 97: 1*

COLLECTS

God of all the peoples of the earth,  
you sent your servant Patrick  
to be the apostle of the Irish people  
and to bring them the light of your gospel;  
grant that we may walk faithfully in that light  
and show your glory to all the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

We praise you, God,  
for Patrick,  
your apostle to the Irish,  
for his evangelical zeal,  
and for his legendary ability with snakes;  
give us joy in our faith,  
and bind us to what is holy.

PSALMS                    36: 5-10                    80

READINGS

Isaiah 60: 1-3	Nations shall come to your light
1 Corinthians 15: 1-11	The good news proclaimed
Luke 13: 22-30	From all quarters

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."        *John 8: 12*

*Cyril of Jerusalem*  
*Bishop, Teacher of the Faith*

*March 18*

Cyril was born about 315 and became Bishop of Jerusalem about 349. He made a significant contribution to theology with the instructions on the Christian faith he gave to converts. He helped the development of the church's worship with the services he organised through the Christian year for the pilgrims flocking to the Holy Land to visit the places associated with Jesus' life. He died in 386.

SENTENCE

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, I am the Lord your God, who teaches you for your own good, who leads you in the way you should go.

*Isaiah 48: 17*

COLLECTS

Loving God,  
by your grace your servant Cyril of Jerusalem  
became a great teacher and leader of your church;  
grant that we may learn from his example  
and be faithful to our baptism,  
offering you the worship of mind and heart;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Praise to you, holy God,  
praise to you for Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem,  
for his artistry in administering the sacraments,  
for his imagination in using the holy places;  
thrill us, too, with what is holy.

PSALMS                    84                    122

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 15: 1-6

Rely on wisdom

1 Timothy 4: 11-16

Sound teaching

Luke 24: 44-48

Beginning from Jerusalem

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

*Colossians 1: 27*

According to Matthew, Joseph was a carpenter. He is referred to in the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke. His importance there is to establish Jesus as David's descendant. Matthew and Luke also present Joseph as a just man, a devout and loyal Jew, who attends to the Jewish legal and religious obligations surrounding the birth of Jesus and offers care and protection to the child and his mother.

SENTENCE

You, O Lord, are our father; our Redeemer from of old is your name.  
*Isaiah 63: 16*

COLLECTS

God our guardian and protector,  
you called Joseph to share in the nurture  
of Jesus our Saviour;  
give us grace to be faithful as he was to your call,  
and to be obedient to all your commands;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus,  
God in human form,  
we thank you for Joseph, Mary's husband,  
who treated you as a son;  
we commend to you all those  
who care for children not their own.

PSALMS                    119: 57-64                    123

READINGS

2 Samuel 7: 4, 8, 12-16	I will make your name great
Romans 4: 13-16	The promise to Abraham
Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23	A faithful guardian

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

The faithfulness of the Lord will be your shield and defence.

*Psalm 91: 4*

*Cuthbert*  
*Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary*

*March 20*

In his life Cuthbert was a shepherd-boy, a monk, a prior, and a hermit, and then, reluctantly, Bishop of Lindisfarne. He always retained his fondness for animals and his enjoyment of hard physical work. Cuthbert lived an austere life devoted to prayer, and he also undertook long journeys, caring for the people of his diocese. He possessed a deep tenderness and sensitivity, a broad compassion and an understanding heart. He had a great love of learning, and Bede says, "Like a good teacher, he taught others to do only what he first practised himself." He died in 687.

SENTENCE

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, "I, the Lord, who scattered Israel will gather them, and keep watch over them as a shepherd a flock."  
*Jeremiah 31: 10 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

God of love and goodness,  
you called Cuthbert  
from looking after sheep  
to be a shepherd of your people;  
grant that as he sought those who had gone astray,  
so we may seek out the indifferent and the lost,  
bringing them into your fold;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus, living word,  
you bless the gentle and the pure in heart;  
we praise you for blessed Cuthbert,  
called the child of God;  
may we too, even now,  
have his simplicity.

PSALMS                    23                                    121

READINGS

Ezekiel 34: 11-16	Seeking the lost
2 Corinthians 6: 1-10	Servants of God
Matthew 18: 12-14	Seeking the lost

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, says the Lord.

*Jeremiah 23: 4*

*Thomas Cranmer*  
*Archbishop of Canterbury*  
*Liturgist and Martyr*

*March 21*

Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury for twenty-three years under three Tudor monarchs, was martyred as a heretic on 21 March 1556, when Queen Mary temporarily brought the English church back into the papal fold. Cranmer steered the church through the troubles of the Reformation and left an unparalleled legacy of liturgical writing in the *Book of Common Prayer*. His writings expressed his mature, reformed, biblical theology. For him nothing was more important than that Christians should “read, mark, learn and inwardly digest” the Scriptures.

SENTENCE

My heart overflows with a noble theme; I utter the song I have made for a king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready writer.

*Psalms 45: 1*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
your servant Thomas Cranmer guided the Church of England through the tumult of reformation and provided a liturgy in the language of the people, sealing his work with his life’s blood; strengthen our faith when it wavers, so that at the last we may stand firm, through the grace of your Son Jesus Christ.

Almighty God, King of kings,  
Lord of lords, the only ruler of princes,  
we thank you for Thomas,  
who trusted only in your manifold and great mercy,  
and lifted his voice in praise.

PSALMS                    119: 97-104                    119: 169-176

READINGS

Isaiah 43: 1-3a	Do not be afraid
2 Timothy 2: 8-15	Suffering for the gospel
John 10: 11-15	A faithful shepherd

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.     *Hebrews 12: 1, 2*

*Thomas Ken*  
*Bishop of Bath and Wells, Poet*

*March 22*

Thomas Ken was born in 1637 and became Bishop of Bath and Wells in 1684. Thomas opposed moves by James II to permit Roman Catholic and Nonconformist worship in England. For this he was, with six other bishops, arrested and tried, but acquitted. When James fled, Bishop Ken refused to swear allegiance to William and Mary because he had already sworn to James. For this he was deposed from his see. He was a devout, austere man, whose hymns, "Awake, my soul, and with the sun", and "Glory to thee, my God, this night", are still sung. He died in 1711.

SENTENCE

Your steadfast love, O Lord, is ever before my eyes, and I walk in the way of your faithfulness.  
*Psalm 26: 3*

COLLECTS

God of love and goodness,  
your servant Thomas Ken  
bore witness to the truth before kings  
and willingly suffered for conscience' sake;  
give us grace to follow Christ  
in brave obedience and simplicity of life,  
to the glory of your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God, from whom all blessings flow,  
we thank you for Thomas the bishop,  
for his sincerity and his sense of the divine;  
give us, we pray,  
the patience to persevere in your truth as he did.

PSALMS                    15                    34: 1-10

READINGS

Jeremiah 9: 23-24	What pleases the Lord
Philippians 4: 4-9	God's peace
Luke 6: 17-23	True happiness

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Happy are those whose helper is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God. *Psalm 146: 5*

Gabriel, whose name means “man of God” or “God’s might has been shown”, is one of the three angels mentioned by name in the Bible. Gabriel assists Daniel to understand his vision, appears to Zechariah to foretell the birth of John the Baptist, and is the angel of the annunciation, bringing tidings to Mary that she is to have a son. Appropriately, Gabriel is honoured on the day before the Feast of the Annunciation.

SENTENCE

O praise the Lord all you angels, you mighty ones who do God’s bidding. Praise the Lord all you heavenly hosts. *Psalms 103: 20, 21*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
you chose the archangel Gabriel  
to proclaim the message of the incarnation,  
by which our salvation is assured;  
speak to us through your messengers,  
that we may serve you as children of light;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Praise and glory to you, God in highest heaven,  
for the good news Gabriel brings;  
give us grace to recognise  
and to welcome an infant saviour.

PSALMS                    91                                    148: 1-6

READINGS

Daniel 9: 20-23	God's messenger
Hebrews 1: 1-7, 13-14	Greater than angels
Luke 1: 11-20	Gabriel's message to Zechariah

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

If you conquer, says the Lord, you will be clothed in white robes; I will confess your name before my Father and before the angels.

*Revelation 3: 5 (adapted)*

*The Annunciation of our Saviour  
to the Blessed Virgin Mary*

*March 25*

The Annunciation commemorates the event in Luke's Gospel in which the angel Gabriel comes to Mary with the message that she is to bear a son. In telling Mary this, Gabriel also points to some key images by which Jesus is to be understood: he will be "Son of the Most High"; he will be the descendant of David who will reign for ever; he will be "Son of God". The feast is observed on 25 March, nine months before Christmas Day.

SENTENCE

Mary said, "Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word."

*Luke 1: 38*

COLLECTS

God of grace,  
grant that Mary's obedience may inspire us  
to obey your will  
and receive Jesus Christ in our hearts as Lord;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit  
one God for ever.

Father of love,  
through your most Holy Spirit,  
Mary the Jewish girl conceived your Son;  
may his beauty, his humanity,  
his all-transforming grace be born in us,  
and may we never despise the strange and stirring gentleness  
of your almighty power.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

PSALMS                    89: 1-18                    45

READINGS

Isaiah 7: 10-14

A young woman shall conceive

Galatians 4: 1-7

Born of a woman

Luke 1: 26-38

The message of Gabriel

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

And Mary said, "From this day all generations will call me blessed;  
for you O Most Mighty have done great things for me, and holy is  
your name."

*Luke 1: 48-49 (adapted)*

*John Keble of Oxford*  
*Priest and Poet*

*March 29*

John Keble was born in 1792. He was concerned for the future of the Church of England and pleaded for the restoration of ancient Catholic liturgical practice, devotional life, and doctrine. He was an early leader of the Oxford Movement. His sermon on “National Apostasy” in 1833 criticised the church for allowing ten Irish bishoprics to be dissolved by Parliament. He defended the apostolic autonomy of the church against liberal tendencies, which he regarded as corrupting. He was known for his humility and spiritual insight. He died in 1866.

SENTENCE

I will open my mouth in a parable: I will reveal the hidden meanings  
of things in the past. *Psalm 78: 2*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
your servant John Keble  
was an example of priestly devotion in your church;  
enable us when we are tested  
to know your presence and obey your will,  
that we may accomplish what you give us to do;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Son of our soul, Saviour dear,  
we thank you for John,  
the priest who left his impress on our church,  
the poet who left us hymns to sing;  
help us too  
to live more nearly as we pray.



*Frederick Denison Maurice*  
*Priest, Theologian*

*April 1*

Frederick Denison Maurice was born in 1805 and ordained in 1834. He was professor of English literature and theology at King's College, London, and later professor of moral philosophy at Cambridge. He was a prolific writer, whose theological opinions brought him into conflict with accepted opinion. His book, *The Kingdom of Christ*, published in 1838, is the best known of his writings and gives the key to his theological opinions. He became actively engaged in Christian Socialism, seeking to arouse the conscience of church and nation to alleviate and better the lot of the working classes. He died in 1872.

SENTENCE

Proclaim to the nations the Lord is king; God will judge the peoples with justice. *Psalm 96: 10*

COLLECTS

Eternal God,  
through Christ's obedience  
you glorified our human nature;  
give us such a passion for truth and justice  
that, like your servant Frederick Denison Maurice,  
we may work and pray for the kingdom of your Christ,  
to the glory of your holy name.

God of integrity and justice,  
we give you thanks for Frederick;  
give us his passion for equal education,  
and fair opportunity for women and for men.

PSALMS                    82                                    145: 8-21

READINGS

Job 23: 8-14

1 Corinthians 15: 20-28

Matthew 13: 31-33

What is revelation?

The kingdom of Christ

The gospel of the kingdom of  
heaven

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "I have come as light into the world, so that everyone  
who believes in me should not remain in the darkness." *John 12: 46*

*Richard of Chichester*  
*Bishop*

*April 3*

Richard of Chichester, born in 1197, was renowned as a scholar, a caring priest and a great administrator. He became Bishop of Chichester in 1244. In a time when standards were slipping badly, Richard reformed his diocese by refusing to allow his priests to follow common practice. Richard was loved by his people. For many years after his death, his tomb at Chichester Cathedral was a popular place of pilgrimage. Richard died in 1253 and was canonised in 1262.

SENTENCE

O God, to you shall vows be performed; you give heed to prayer.

*Psalm 65: 1, 2*

COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
we give you thanks for all the benefits  
you have given us in our Lord Jesus Christ,  
our most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,  
and for all the pains and insults he has borne for us;  
and we pray that, following the example  
of your servant Richard of Chichester,  
we may see Christ more clearly,  
love him more dearly,  
and follow him more nearly,  
for his name's sake.

Glory and thanks to you, our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits, all the people  
you have given us,  
and especially for Richard of Chichester;  
may we too  
know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly,  
day by day.

PSALMS                      9: 1-10                      143

READINGS

Isaiah 43: 8-13	Knowledge of God
1 Peter 1: 3-9	Love for Jesus
Luke 9: 57-62	Following more nearly

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Grace be with all who have an undying love for our Lord Jesus  
Christ. *Ephesians 6: 24*

*Martin Luther King  
Prophet*

*April 4*

Martin Luther King Jr was born in 1929 and soon developed qualities of leadership. In 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama, he led a peaceful protest against racial segregation on the buses. The Civil Rights Movement grew. King stood for peaceful resistance, saying, "Christ furnished the spirit and motivation while Ghandi furnished the method." Demonstrators staged sit-ins, boycotts and marches, the most famous being the march on Washington in August 1963. In 1964 Congress moved to prohibit racial discrimination, and King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. While in Memphis he was shot dead by a sniper on 4 April 1968.

SENTENCE

Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

*Amos 5: 24*

COLLECTS

God of justice,  
you called Martin Luther King to be a prophet  
in the struggle for people's rights;  
give us compassion for the oppressed,  
make us indignant at injustice,  
and keep us committed to peace,  
in the name of Jesus Christ, the prince of peace.

Jesus Christ,  
we remember your servant Martin,  
pursuing his dream;  
we remember the thousands  
who have marched and spoken against oppression,  
who have suffered for it and died;  
we pray you hear their cry,  
“We shall overcome!”

PSALMS                    99                    138

READINGS

Amos 8: 4-7	Injustice in the land
Galatians 4: 28, 31 - 5: 1, 6	Free, not slaves
Matthew 5: 43-48	Love for enemies

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free,  
there is no longer male or female; for all of you are one in Christ Je-  
sus. *Galatians 3: 28*

*The Saints and Martyrs  
of the Americas*

*April 8*

As successive waves of Europeans arrived in North, Central and South America over five centuries, they brought their Christian faith with them in all its diversity. Life on the frontier was often harsh and brutal, governed by the need to survive, and involving many conflicts. Christ's pioneers have also lived on the frontier, extending the rule of God. They have sought justice for the oppressed, cared for the poor, brought healing to the sick, sought to win people to faith and to widen their vision. Beyond the frontiers of conventional piety, they have often faced misunderstanding and hostility. We give thanks for a wide variety of witnesses.

SENTENCE

I will say to the north, "Give them up" and to the south, "Do not withhold them; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth."  
*Isaiah 43: 6*

COLLECTS

God of life and goodness,  
you have brought people from many backgrounds together  
in the nations of the Americas;  
may the witness of the saints and martyrs of those lands  
encourage us to work  
for your reign of justice and love,  
till all your children are free  
and the earth is full of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

God of the Americas,  
we praise and thank you for the millions,  
who through adventures, dangers and disasters  
have lived and died confessing the faith;  
may they win for our generation  
the freedom they sought.

PSALMS                    24                    66: 1-11

READINGS

Deuteronomy 4: 25-31	God's word for a journeying people
Hebrews 11: 13-16	Seeking a better country
Matthew 24: 3-14	Those who endure to the end

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.                    *John 8: 36*

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer*  
*Pastor, Theologian, Germany*

*April 9*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, born in 1906, is remembered for his determined opposition to National Socialism and for his courageous suffering and death at the hands of the Gestapo on 9 April 1945. He was convinced that religion must be central to life and explored ways of talking about God in secular language as “the beyond in the midst”, even when this meant freeing Christianity from the strictures of traditional religion. His own life in captivity bore eloquent testimony to his belief that “it is the fellowship of the cross to experience the burden of the other.”

SENTENCE

Thus says the high and lofty one whose name is Holy, I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit. *Isaiah 57: 15*

COLLECTS

Living God,  
the source and ground of all life,  
through your Son you call us  
to enjoyment of your world;  
strengthen us, as you strengthened Dietrich Bonhoeffer,  
to live by a realistic faith,  
and if you require it to suffer for the truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus,  
we thank you for your humble servant Dietrich,  
his patient questioning,  
his religionless Christianity,  
and most of all,  
for his witness as a martyr.

PSALMS                    31: 10-27                    70

READINGS

Jeremiah 1: 14-19	Strength to resist evil
Philippians 1: 12-20	Witness in life or death
Matthew 16: 21-28	The cost of discipleship

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me.

*Galatians 2: 20*

*William Law*  
*Priest, Mystic*

*April 10*

William Law was born in 1686 and was ordained priest in 1728. Unable to hold any office in the church because he refused to acknowledge George I as the rightful king, he devoted much of his life to writing. The book for which he is most remembered today was published in 1728: *A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life*. He advocated a strictly disciplined life of personal holiness. His later writings show a mystical emphasis on the indwelling of Christ in the heart. He died in 1761.

SENTENCE

You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.      *Leviticus 19: 2*

COLLECTS

Holy and merciful God,  
you filled the heart of William Law  
with devotion and zeal in your service;  
set us afire with love and obedience,  
that, encouraged by his teaching,  
we may grow in true holiness of life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God,  
you call us to hunger and thirst for what is right,  
and to follow your servant William  
in his serious call  
to devout and holy living;  
grant that we who preach to others  
may never find ourselves rejected.

PSALMS                    119: 113-120            119: 137-144

READINGS

Tobit 1: 16-18

Tobit's virtuous life

Romans 6: 20-23

A devout and holy life

Luke 11: 33-36

Jesus' call to holiness

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

The seed in the good soil are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance.

*Luke 8: 15 (adapted)*

*George Augustus Selwyn*  
*Bishop of New Zealand*

*April 11*

George Augustus Selwyn was born in 1809 and was appointed the first Bishop of New Zealand in 1841. He brought to his task enormous energy in visitations of his huge diocese, which included the islands of Melanesia. He also devoted considerable efforts to the work of education for Maori and Pakeha. His most enduring contribution, however, was the drawing up of the Anglican Church's first constitution for its synodical government. In 1868 he became Bishop of Lichfield and died there in 1878.

SENTENCE

Truly your law stands firm; holiness O Lord adorns your house for ever.

*Psalm 93: 5*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
you called George Augustus Selwyn  
to be bishop of the church in New Zealand  
and to lay a firm foundation for its life;  
grant that, building on his labours  
and encouraged by his gifts of heart, hand and mind,  
we too may extend your kingdom,  
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus, Jewish Saviour,  
served by George,  
the English bishop in Aotearoa;  
give us grace  
to build on his foundations.

PSALMS                    16                                    126

READINGS

Isaiah 49: 1-6, 13

Light to the nations

1 Corinthians 3: 7-13

Building the church

John 4: 31-38

Sowing and reaping

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit."

*John 15: 5*

*Anselm*  
*Archbishop of Canterbury*  
*Teacher of the Faith*

*April 21*

Anselm, who was born in 1033 and died in 1109, is remembered primarily as a teacher of the faith. His treatises on the existence of God and the doctrines of the incarnation and the atonement gained him a reputation as an outstanding theologian and philosopher. As Archbishop of Canterbury he initiated significant reforms in church organisation. He is also remembered for his insistence on the spiritual authority of the church over against the crown.

SENTENCE

Whoever approaches you, O God, must believe that you exist and that you reward those who seek you.      *Hebrews 11: 6 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Eternal God,  
source of all wisdom,  
you enabled your servant Anselm  
to teach the church of his day  
to understand its faith in you;  
enable us now through your grace  
to give a reason for the faith that is in us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God our creator,  
we thank you for Anselm,  
who believed so he could understand,  
who pursued the truth  
so he could know why you became a man.  
May our treasure be stored with you.

PSALMS                    71: 1-8                    119: 161-168

READINGS

Isaiah 45: 18-21	The true God
2 Corinthians 5: 16-21	Be reconciled to God
Luke 21: 9-15	A time to bear testimony

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "If you continue in my word you are truly my disciples,  
and you will know the truth and the truth will make you free."

*John 8: 31, 32*

*George*  
*Martyr, Patron Saint of England*

*April 23*

George, who was martyred at Lydda in Palestine about 304 in a period of intense persecution, is celebrated as the patron saint of England. Virtually nothing is known of his life or even of his martyrdom. The growth of his popularity in England seems to stem from the time of the crusades. Caxton's printing of the story of St George, including the famous but apocryphal and medieval story of the slaying of the dragon, enhanced his popularity even further. King Edward III made St George patron of the Order of the Garter.

SENTENCE

Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing.

*Revelation 5: 12*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
you called your servant George to lay aside all fear  
and to confess you even unto death;  
grant that we whose banner is the cross of Christ  
may triumph over all that is evil,  
and serve you faithfully to the end;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of legend and chivalry,  
we praise you for George the martyred soldier saint,  
dragon slayer, rescuer of maidens in distress;  
we thank you for all the idealism  
his name has inspired;  
keep us simple, we pray,  
and faithful.

PSALMS            17: 6-16            121

READINGS

Bel and the Dragon 23-28

Revelation 19: 11-16

Luke 10: 17-20

Slaying the dragon

The rider on the white horse

Nothing will hurt you

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Share in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.    *2 Timothy 2: 3*

*Toyohiko Kagawa*  
*Teacher, Evangelist, Japan*

*April 24*

Toyohiko Kagawa was born in 1888 and came to know Christ at the age of fifteen. His prayer was, "O God, make me like Christ." This prayer led him to live in poverty and to become a tireless worker for social justice, to found trade unions and a peace movement, to evangelise and to write books. His baptism led him into conflict with his family and with the Japanese government. Yet, twice the government called on him to lead the work of reconstruction after national disasters. His limitless love for others marked him out as one who was truly "like Christ". He died in 1960.

SENTENCE

Has not God chosen the poor of the world to be rich in faith and to be the heirs of the kingdom?

*James 2: 5*

COLLECTS

Loving and merciful God,  
you call us in Christ to bear each others' burdens;  
may the example of Toyohiko Kagawa encourage us  
to commit ourselves to the service of others  
and to strive tirelessly for justice,  
that your commonwealth of love  
may be enlarged;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus, our guiding light,  
rejected by your kin,  
we thankfully remember your follower Toyohiko Kagawa,  
servant to the poor,  
peacemaker,  
worker for the kingdom.

PSALMS                    72: 1-4, 12-14, 19-20                    146

READINGS

Amos 7: 10-15	The Lord took me
Galatians 5: 13-15	Love, the law of life
John 5: 19-27	New life through God

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Truly I tell you, just as you did it to the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.                    *Matthew 25: 40*

*The Seven Martyrs  
of the Melanesian Brotherhood*

*April 24*

During a period of civil unrest in the Solomon Islands, a group of guerrilla rebels tortured and killed Nathaniel Sado, a Melanesian Brother at Easter 2003. When the assistant head of the Melanesian Brotherhood, Robin Lindsay, went in April with five other Brothers, Francis Tofi, Alfred Hill, Ini Paratabatu, Patteson Gatu, and Tony Sirihi, to ask for Sado's body, they also were killed, some when they arrived, others after being tortured. The bodies of six of the Melanesian Brothers were buried at the Motherhouse of the Melanesian Brotherhood on the 24 October. Robin Lindsay was buried there on 5 November.

SENTENCE

The Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. *Revelation 7:17*

COLLECTS

Lord God,  
we thank you for the love and willingness  
of the seven martyred Brothers  
to live the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.  
We thank you that the event of the cross  
is not a past experience  
but a present reality for us.  
Empower us, your weak and vulnerable people,  
to recognize that the power of the cross  
for the liberation of people from evil  
is through humility and love.  
Like the martyred Brothers,  
help us to live in obedience to your will,  
through Jesus Christ our risen, ascended and glorified Lord.

Everloving God,  
by your grace the seven martyred Melanesia Brothers  
bore witness to the power of the cross of Christ in their lives;  
strengthen us to follow their example of obedience  
and show that the cross is liberation for all people;  
through Jesus Christ our risen and glorified Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit;  
one God, now and for ever.

Jesus,  
you walked the way of the cross  
for love of your people;  
when our courage fails  
may we call to mind the seven Melanesian Brothers  
and be strengthened to serve you.

PSALMS                      54, 57

#### READINGS

Isaiah 43:1-3a	Do not fear
2 Timothy 2:8-13	For the sake of the elect
John 11:21-27	The resurrection and the life

#### POST COMMUNION SENTENCE

Rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you  
may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed.

*1 Peter 4:13*

SENTENCE

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

*John 15: 13*

COLLECTS

God,  
our help in the past and our hope for the future,  
we commend to your care those who have died from war,  
and those who yet struggle for health and peace.  
As the sounds of battle die away,  
may the comradeship live on,  
and the memories of sacrifice  
strengthen our resolve  
to strive for peace with justice.

God our Father,  
we give you thanks for those  
who laid down their lives in war;  
we pray for courage and self-sacrifice like theirs,  
so that evil may always be resisted and peace maintained;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

We remember, O God,  
we your people solemnly remember  
the wars we have endured;  
the killing, the grief, and the courage.  
For the evil that was done  
we ask your pardon;  
for what was great and honourable  
we give you the glory.

Lord God,  
we pray simply for peace on earth.  
If in war we brought peace closer,  
strengthen our hope;  
if we shared our bread with others,  
keep us generous;  
if we dream of a better world,  
hear our prayer.

PSALMS                      46                                      67                                      90: 1-12

READINGS

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8	A time for war and a time for peace
or Jeremiah 31: 15-17	Hope in bitter weeping
James 4: 1-3	The cause of war
or Revelation 21: 1-4	A new creation
Mark 15: 33-37; 16: 1-2, 5-7	Death and resurrection
or John 11: 17-27	I am the resurrection and the life

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

My servant will not falter or be discouraged until true justice is established in the earth.  
*Isaiah 42: 4 (adapted)*

John Mark's mother lived in Jerusalem, and Mark was a companion of Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey. Paul and Barnabas parted company, and Mark went with Barnabas to Cyprus. The rift between Mark and Paul was not permanent, for we later hear of Mark as a companion of Paul, and after that we hear of him in Rome with Peter. He is the author of the earliest Gospel, which is based on Mark's memories of Peter's preaching of the gospel.

SENTENCE

Go out into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

*Mark 16: 15*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
by your grace John Mark rose above failure,  
and proved useful in your service;  
grant that we may steadfastly abide in Christ,  
and be fruitful in good works,  
to the honour of your name.

When new fashions, new ideas, new fears,  
burst on us, unchanging God,  
grant us then to know with Mark the evangelist,  
that Christ is risen and the gospel stands.  
Praise to you our God; you answer prayer.

PSALMS                    119: 1-8                    62

READINGS

Isaiah 52: 7-10

Messengers of salvation

Ephesians 6: 10-20

Stand fast

*or*

Acts 15: 36-40

Mark and Barnabas

Mark 13: 9-13

Enduring to the end

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him as he told you. *Mark 16: 7*

*Catherine of Siena*  
*Teacher of the Faith*

*April 29*

Catherine was one of a number of people who made important contributions to the mystical tradition in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. She was born in 1347 in Siena, and as a Dominican tertiary became remarkable for her holiness of life and commitment to the care of the sick. Towards the end of her short life she played a part in the attempts to return the papacy to Rome from Avignon, and was forthright in her challenges to the church leaders of her day. She died in 1380.

SENTENCE

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

*Revelation 22: 17*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
you set the heart of Catherine of Siena on fire  
with love for you and for those in need;  
move us by your Holy Spirit  
till we see your Son in our neighbour,  
and help us to serve you without limit;  
for the sake of him who meets all our needs,  
Jesus Christ our Saviour.



Heni Te Kiri Karamu was born in 1840. Later in her life she was active in Maori concerns in Rotorua, where she died in 1933. She is best remembered as the compassionate heroine of the 1864 battle at Gate Pa on the outskirts of Tauranga. During a lull in the conflict, Heni heard a cry for help from a mortally wounded British officer. She crept down to where the officer lay and gave him and some others water to drink. It was discovered later that the defendants had been exhorted with the text: "If thine enemy hunger, feed him: if he thirst, give him drink."

SENTENCE

I wahia e ia nga kohatu i te koraha; a me te mea no nga rire nui tana wai hei inu ma ratou. *Waiata 78: 15*

You, O God, split rocks in the wilderness and gave the people drink in plenty as from the great deep. *Psalms 78: 15*

COLLECTS

E te Kaihoko o te ao,  
nau te kupu,  
ki te hiakai o matou hoariri me whangai,  
ki te matewai me whakainu  
penei i ai Heni Te Kiri Karamu  
i whakainu ra i te hoariri  
i roto i nga pakanga i Pukehinahina:  
Meinga matou kia aroha  
ki o matou hoariri  
ki o matou hoatata;  
ki te kororia o te Atua  
Matua o te katoa. Amine.

Gracious and merciful God,  
in faithful obedience to your Son's command,  
Heni Te Kiri Karamu gave drink  
to her enemy at Pukehinahina;  
grant to us also  
aroha for our adversary and our neighbour;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus, you told us  
when our enemies thirst to give them drink;  
we remember with delight Heni and all her whanau  
who tended the soldiers wounded at Gate Pa;  
help us to act with their simplicity.

PSALMS                      42                                      107: 1-9

#### READINGS

Zechariah 14: 8-11	The Lord will be king
Revelation 7: 13-17	Springs of water of life
John 4: 7-15	Living water

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Ki te matekai tou hoariri, whangainga: ki te matewai, whakainumia.  
*Roma 12: 20*

If your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give  
them something to drink. *Romans 12: 20*

*St Philip and St James*  
*Apostles*

*May 1*

Little is known about these two apostles. Both appear in the lists of the twelve apostles in the New Testament, and are frequently confused with other early Christians of the same names. All we know of James, sometimes called James the Less to distinguish him from others of the same name, is that he was the son of Alphaeus. Philip has a more prominent role in John's Gospel in various episodes. They have been commemorated together since early in the church's tradition.

SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son."  
*John 14: 13*

COLLECTS

Merciful God,  
whom truly to know is eternal life;  
teach us to know your Son Jesus Christ  
as the way, the truth and the life  
that, following in the steps of your apostles Philip and James,  
we may walk in the way that leads to eternal life;  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

God, whose work is never done,  
look on us with Philip, James,  
and all the countless millions  
who have served you, and who serve you still.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PSALMS                    119: 9-16                    33

READINGS

Isaiah 30: 18-21

Walk in the way

Acts 2: 36-43

The apostles' teaching and fellowship

John 14: 1-12

Lord, show us the Father

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

O Lord the heavens proclaim your wonders; and the council of the  
holy ones praises your faithfulness.

*Psalm 89: 5*

*Athanasius*

*May 2*

*Bishop of Alexandria, Teacher of the Faith*

Athanasius was born about 296 and became patriarch of Alexandria in 328. Although exiled four times by the efforts of his opponents, he did much to foster the eventual triumph of the doctrine affirmed at the Council of Nicea that Christ is “of one being with the Father”, rather than a more qualified statement of Christ’s divinity. His treatise, *On the Incarnation of the Word of God*, is still a widely read classic, and his *Life of Antony* did much to popularise a monastic life-style. He died in 373.

SENTENCE

In you O Lord I have taken refuge, let me never be put to shame. In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.

*Psalm 71: 1, 2*

COLLECTS

God of truth,  
your servant Athanasius  
earnestly defended faith in the incarnate Word;  
grant that, enlightened by his teaching,  
we may confess with our lips  
and believe in our hearts  
the divine nature of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

True and living God,  
you gave Athanasius patience and endurance  
to defend Christ’s divinity;  
help us not to be surprised  
that you are beyond our understanding.

PSALMS                    2                    119: 129-136

READINGS

Isaiah 63: 7-9	The people's saviour
Colossians 1: 11-20	The image of the invisible God
Matthew 5: 13-16	Salt and light

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?  
*1 John 5: 5*

The church's tradition that the fourth evangelist was the apostle John cannot be conclusively disproved, but it is safer to deduce what we can about the evangelist from the Gospel itself. The "disciple whom Jesus loved" may have been a witness to certain events of the passion, but is presented as the ideal of oneness with Christ. The actual author of the Gospel seems to represent a Christian community whose Jewish ties have been severed; a community bound together by the reality of Jesus Christ, their whole life constituted and controlled by their believing in him.

SENTENCE

The life was made visible, we have seen it, and bear our testimony; we here declare to you the eternal life which dwelt with the Father and was made visible to us.

*1 John 1: 2*

COLLECTS

God our Father,  
we praise you for John, your evangelist,  
whose gospel reveals the mystery of the Word made flesh;  
grant that, enlightened by his teaching,  
we may walk in the way of your truth,  
and finally come to the light of eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, new beginning, heavenly bread, living water,  
we hear the word of life,  
we see and grasp the truth;  
help us to proclaim it.  
Hear this prayer for your name's sake.

PSALMS                    27                    71

READINGS

Exodus 33: 17-23

1 John 1: 1-7

John 21: 20-25

A vision of divine glory

A life made manifest

The beloved disciple

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was lying close to the breast  
of Jesus. *John 13: 23*

*Dame Julian of Norwich*  
*Mystic*

*May 8*

We know little of the life of Julian beyond the fact that she was born about 1342, became a recluse and lived in a cell attached to the Church of St Julian in Conisford, Norwich, and died sometime after 1416. She is best known for her book, *The Revelations of Divine Love*, one of the finest of English mystical writings. It reveals the depth of her spiritual awareness. Her strong convictions in the victory of God's love led to her famous saying, "Sin is inevitable, but all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well."

SENTENCE

I prayed, and understanding was given me; I called on God and the spirit of wisdom came to me.

*Wisdom 7: 7*

COLLECTS

Eternal and everloving God,  
you look at us in love  
and would have us share  
in your good work;  
encourage us by the teaching  
of your servant Julian of Norwich  
to trust your grace at all times,  
that in us you may show  
your love for all things;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Blessed are you eternal God  
in Julian the anchoress  
contemplating the sixteen showings of your love;  
help us to reach her confidence  
that in you all shall be well  
and all shall be well  
and all manner of things shall be well.

PSALMS                    27: 1-8                    116: 1-9

#### READINGS

1 Kings 19: 9-13a	Revelation to Elijah
1 John 3: 18-24	Believing in our hearts
John 20: 11-18	Revelation to Mary Magdalene

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Abide in Christ, so that when he is revealed, we may have confidence and not be put to shame before him at his coming.

*1 John 2: 28*

*Gregory of Nazianzus*  
*Bishop of Constantinople*  
*Teacher of the Faith*

*May 9*

Gregory of Nazianzus in Cappadocia was born about 329. Brilliant and cultured, he longed to spend his days in prayer and philosophical reflection. His ability in defending the Nicene doctrine of Christ's full divinity led others to expect political leadership which he could not give. Made Bishop of Constantinople in 381, Gregory wilted under the political pressures of the office and resigned within the year, seeking solitude near Nazianzus, where he died in 389.

SENTENCE

The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and their tongue speaks of that which is right.

*Psalms 37: 30*

COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
you inspired your servant Gregory of Nazianzus  
to witness to the truth of the gospel;  
grant that we may continue steadfast  
in our confession of the faith  
and constant in our worship of you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

God in Trinity,  
we remember with sympathy Gregory of Nazianzus,  
theologian and orator,  
who, though he did not want to be a bishop,  
helped secure the orthodox faith;  
help us deal gently  
with those who dislike their vocation.

PSALMS                    27: 9-17                    119: 89-96

READINGS

Wisdom 7: 7-15	Understanding and wisdom
Jude 17-23	Perseverance in faith
John 17: 6, 18-24	The unity of the generations

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples;  
and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

*John 8: 31, 32*

*Ruatara, Te Ara mo te Rongopai*  
*The Gateway for the Gospel*

*May 11*

Ruatara, a chief of the Nga Puhi people, became friendly with Marsden in Australia. Ruatara made possible the voyage which culminated in the first official Christian service in New Zealand at Oihi Bay in the Bay of Islands on Christmas Day 1814. Ruatara hoped that the mission would bring technological and other resources for the community to develop. Marsden hoped that Ruatara's hospitality and protection would pave the way for the seeding of a Christian mission. Ruatara then is "Te Ara mo te Rongopai", "The Gateway for the Gospel".

SENTENCE

E mahara nga pito katoa o te whenua, a ka tahuri ki a Ihowa; ka koropiko ano nga hapu katoa o nga iwi ki tou aroaro. *Waiata 22: 27*

Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to you, O Lord; and let all the families of the nations bow down before you. *Psalm 22: 27*

COLLECTS

E te Kaihanga,  
na tau pononga na Ruatara  
i para te huarahi  
i u mai ai te Rongopai  
a to matou Kaiwhakaora  
a Ihu Karaiti ki Aotearoa:  
e whakawhetai ana matou  
mo tenei taonga whakahirahira  
i whiwhi ai matou ki te oranga mutunga-kore  
i roto i to matou Ariki  
i a Ihu Karaiti. Amine.



*Samuel Marsden  
Priest and Missionary  
The Apostle of New Zealand*

*May 12*

Samuel Marsden began the first Christian mission in New Zealand. He was born in 1765 and became chaplain of the penal colony in New South Wales in 1794. There he met and welcomed Maori visitors and conceived the idea of a mission to New Zealand. Having obtained the backing of the Church Missionary Society for his project, Marsden set up the first mission station in New Zealand under the protection of the Nga Puhi chief Ruatara in the Bay of Islands in 1814. Marsden returned to New Zealand on six further visits to oversee the mission. He died on 12 May 1838.

SENTENCE

Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth, says the Lord.

*Isaiah 45: 22*

COLLECTS

Gracious and eternal God,  
you called Samuel Marsden  
to lead the first mission to the Maori people;  
grant that, following in his footsteps,  
we may bring to this land  
the good news of great joy  
in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus,  
you send your apostles  
to bring good tidings;  
when Samuel came to Aotearoa,  
the task was more difficult than he supposed.  
Prince of peace,  
when Maori and Pakeha meet together,  
keep us humble, we pray.

PSALMS                    96                    100

READINGS

Isaiah 49: 1-6	The spread of good news
2 Corinthians 4: 5-10	The pain of apostleship
Luke 2: 8-14	News of great joy

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.                    *2 Timothy 2: 1*

*Ihaia Te Ahu*  
*Missionary, Priest in Te Arawa*

*May 13*

Ihaia Te Ahu of Nga Puhi was one of the earliest of the Maori clergy. He joined Thomas Chapman of the Church Missionary Society in the Bay of Islands as a small boy, and later went with Chapman to Rotorua and then to Maketu in the Bay of Plenty. On Chapman's retirement in 1861 Ihaia was ordained, serving first in Maketu and then in 1882 becoming the first vicar of the Ohinemutu pastorate. Ihaia's godly, patient ministry in complex and challenging circumstances eventually became very influential. He died in 1895.

SENTENCE:

A e ruia ana nga hua o te tika i roto i te rangimarie ma te hunga hohou rongo.

*Hemi 3: 18*

A harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

*James 3: 18*

COLLECTS

E te Wairua kaihanganga,  
nau a Ihaia i karanga hei minita mo te Rongopai,  
a, i hoatu ki a ia etahi koha papai;  
Manaakitia nga minita o to hahi  
e mahi nei i roto i te iwi Maori,  
kia pono ratou ki a koe;  
ko Ihu Karaiti, hoki te Heparapa. Amine.



*Ngakuku*  
*Missionary in Mataatua*

*May 14*

Ngakuku was a Ngati Haua chief of the Waikato. His links with the gospel began with the missionary education of his daughter Tarore at Matamata. He was baptised on Good Friday 1839. He accompanied Archdeacon A.N. Brown on some missionary journeys and also became a missionary in his own right in the Bay of Plenty, Urewera, and East Coast areas. He was involved in pioneer work in the Opotiki area. After the tragic death of his daughter in a raid in 1836, he was able to forgive those who took her life and encouraged others to do likewise.

SENTENCE:

Kia houhia ai ano hoki e ia te rongo a te tokorua ki Te Atua i roto i te tinana kotahi, he meatanga na te ripeka, ma reira hoki e whakamate te mauahara. *Epeha 2: 16*

Christ reconciled both Gentiles and Jews to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death the hostility through it. *Ephesians 2: 16 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

E te Ariki,  
na tau apotoro te ki  
kia kua e utua he kino ki te kino,  
he taunu ki te taunu engari me manaaki;  
e whakapai atu ana matou ki a koe  
mo nga mahi a to pononga a Ngakuku  
nana nei i toha te rangimarie  
ki nga iwi katoa  
i roto i te kaha o ou Wairua Tapu.  
Kua hanga matou e koe  
hei toto kotahi i raro i tenei whakaaro kotahi. Amine.

Lord God,  
you have taught us not to repay evil with evil,  
but rather to bless;  
we thank you for the life and witness  
of Ngakuku,  
who proclaimed peace to all people  
in the power of your Holy Spirit;  
you have made us of one blood,  
make us also of one mind,  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Loving, forgiving God,  
glorified in Ngakuku the chief, the Christian minister,  
may our shared forgiveness  
lead like his to peace and reconciliation.

PSALMS                    103                    130

#### READINGS

2 Samuel 14: 4-11	Revenge withheld
2 Corinthians 5: 16-20	Be reconciled to God
Luke 17: 1-4	Forgiveness

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Ka koa te hunga hohou rongo: ka huaina hoki ratou he tamariki na  
te Atua. *Matiu 5: 9*

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children  
of God. *Matthew 5: 9*

Matthias was chosen by lot to fill Judas' place among the twelve apostles. According to Luke's understanding of apostleship, there had to be twelve true apostles, for they were to be the judges of the twelve tribes of Israel. They had to have been with Jesus throughout his ministry, and they were now to be witnesses of the resurrection. Having been chosen by lot, Matthias was, in effect, chosen by God to make up the Twelve. We know nothing else about him.

SENTENCE

You have not chosen me, I have chosen you, says the Lord. Go and bear fruit that will last.

*John 15: 16*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
your faithful apostle Matthias  
was chosen in place of Judas;  
grant that your Church may be saved from false teachers  
and guided by faithful and true pastors,  
to the glory of your holy name.

Holy Spirit, grant to us who serve your Church  
to mend what is spoiled,  
to strengthen what is sound,  
and to follow you  
wherever and however you may lead.  
We make this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

PSALMS                    119: 33-40                    61

READINGS

Isaiah 22: 15-22	An unworthy steward replaced
Acts 1: 15-26	The choice of Matthias
Matthew 7: 15-20	Beware of false prophets

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

One of them must become with us a witness of the resurrection of  
Jesus. *Acts 1: 22*

*Piripi Taumata-a-kura*  
*Missionary in Ngati Porou*

*May 15*

Piripi Taumata-a-kura of Ngati Porou was responsible for introducing the gospel to his people in the East Cape area in the early 1830s. He had been influenced by the gospel in the north, and on his return had taught and preached, using short prayers and hymns, referring to Bible texts written on scraps of paper. He successfully negotiated restraint based on Christian principles in an inter-tribal battle in 1836. He gained great mana among his people and eventually made the way possible for a missionary training team of nine young Maori from Paihia to carry on his work.

SENTENCE

Tenei te unga atu nei e ahau taku karere, mana e whakapai te ara i mua i ahau, e ai te lhowa. *Maraki 3: 1*

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, says the Lord of hosts. *Malachi 3: 1*

COLLECTS

E Ihu,  
ko koe nei te ara, te pono, me te marama,  
na konei to pononga a Piripi Taumata-a-kura  
i maia ai ki te tahu i te ahi o te whakapono  
i whiti ai te maramatanga  
ki roto i nga iwi o Te Tairawhiti,  
manaakitia nga mahi a to hahi ki te hari i to Rongopai;  
tena koe te ora na te kingi tahi na  
me te Atua me te Wairua Tapu,  
kotahi ano Atua. Amine.

Loving God,  
by your grace your servant Piripi Taumata-a-kura  
kindled the fire of faith  
in the hearts of his people;  
grant that, strengthened by his example,  
your church may herald your gospel in every place  
and bring all people to know you,  
the only true God;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Praise and glory to you,  
God of the old covenant as of the new,  
for Piripi;  
you sent him single-handed  
to prepare his people for the gospel;  
we praise you for the mana which goes into battle  
with a musket in one hand  
and a testament in the other.

PSALMS                      67                      126

READINGS

Malachi 2: 4-7	A faithful priesthood
Acts 18: 24-28	The preaching of Apollos
Mark 4: 30-34	The parable of the mustard seed

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Mea atu ana a Ihu, Arohaina o koutou hoa whawhai, me inoi hoki  
mo te hunga e whakatoi ana i a koutou. *Matiu 5: 44*

Jesus said, "Love your enemies and pray for those who perse-  
cute you." *Matthew 5: 44*

*Te Wera Hauraki*  
*Missionary in Ngati Kahungunu*

*May 16*

Te Wera was a Nga Puhi chief from the north who settled at Mahia on the East Coast, creating peace with his former enemies there and providing a mantle of protection and solidarity throughout a large part of Ngati Kahungunu. Because of the peace and order he introduced, hospitality towards missionaries became possible. By the time of his death in 1839 an indigenous Maori Christian mission was growing within the kinship networks of the area.

SENTENCE

Whakawhirinaki ki a ia i nga wa katoa, e te iwi, ringihia to koutou  
ngakau ki tona aroaro; hei piringa mo tatou te Atua. *Waiata 62: 8*

Put your trust in God always, you people; pour out your hearts  
before the one who is our refuge. *Psalm 62: 8*

COLLECTS

Na te kupu ora tonu e te Atua  
i whanau hou ai a Te Wera Hauraki  
a noho rawa mai ia i roto iwi ke  
hei karere hohou rongo,  
i hora ai te marino;  
meinga matou kia rite ki nga tamariki whanau hou  
kia tupu ai ki te ora tonu  
i roto i te mana o to Wairua Tapu. Amine.

Almighty God,  
through your living word  
Te Wera Hauraki changed his ways  
and lived among his former enemies,  
ushering in a reign of peace and harmony;  
grant that by your grace  
we may labour for peace and grow up to salvation,  
within the mana of your Holy Spirit;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Holy God,  
your word turns enemies into friends  
and makes people live in peace;  
you turned Te Wera from a fighting chief  
to support the faith and protect the people;  
accept our praise and thanks for him  
whose fame and mana spread from east to west.

PSALMS:                    47                                    72: 1-4, 12-20

#### READINGS

Isaiah 44: 24-28	A Gentile fulfils God's purpose
Hebrews 11: 32-35, 39-40	The work of faith
John 6: 59-69	Words of eternal life

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Kei hinga koe i te kino, engari kia hinga te kino i tou pai. *Roma 12: 21*

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

*Romans 12: 21*

*Wiremu Te Tauri*  
*Missionary in Wanganui*

*May 17*

Wiremu Te Tauri of Ngati Tuwharetoa and Wanganui was for some time the head teacher for Richard Taylor. He was present at the tangi for the martyrs Te Manihera and Kereopa in 1847 and argued against utu. He said, "A minister was like a lofty kahikatea tree full of fruit, which it sheds on every side around, causing a thick grove of young trees to spring up; so that although the parent tree may be cut down, its place is thus more than supplied by those which proceed from it."

SENTENCE

Ka kopatapata iho taku whakaako, ano he ua, ka maturuturu iho taku kupu me te tomairangi; me te ua punehunehu ki runga i te tupou hou, me te ua ta ki runga i te tarutaru. *Tiuteronomi 32: 2*

May my teaching drop like the rain, my speech condense like the dew, like gentle rain on grass, like showers on new growth.

*Deuteronomy 32: 2*

COLLECTS

E whakapai atu ana matou ki a koe e Ihowa,  
mo tau pononga mo Wiremu Te Tauri  
i kawē nei i te rama o tau kupu  
a i marama ai te ara i waenganui o nga iwi  
e noho ana i roto i te pouri;  
whakahauorangia matou kia rite ki tau kupu,  
kia whakakororiatia ai tou Ingoa Tapu. Amine.

Merciful God,  
by your grace your servant Wiremu Te Tauri  
bore the lamp of your word  
and faithfully proclaimed the good news;  
give us all life according to your word,  
that we may glorify your holy name;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Praise to you, God of Aotearoa,  
for you raised up Wiremu  
like a lofty kahikatea  
around which a thick grove of trees springs up;  
praise to you for the work he did  
and those who came after him.

PSALMS                    93                    119: 105-112

#### READINGS

Ezra 7: 6-10	Ezra as a teacher
Acts 11: 19-26	Teaching the faith
John 7: 14-18	Teaching from God

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

No te ha o te Atua nga karaipiture katoa, he pai hoki hei whakaako,  
hei riri i te he, hei whakatikatika, hei whakaako ki te tika; Kia tino  
rite ai te tangata a te Atua, rite rawa mo nga mahi pai katoa.

*2 Timoti 3: 16, 17*

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for  
reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so  
that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient,  
equipped for every good work.

*2 Timothy 3: 16, 17*

*Tamihana Te Rauparaha*  
*Missionary to Te Wai Pounamu*

*May 18*

Tamihana Te Rauparaha, the son of the great Ngati Toa chief, Te Rauparaha, and Matene Te Whiwhi, another young chief of Ngati Toa, were influenced by reading the Gospel of Luke, and went to the Bay of Islands to request a missionary for the area at Otaki. This led to the appointment of Octavius Hadfield. The mission became highly successful. Tamihana is also widely remembered for his courage and imagination in travelling to many of the places ravaged by his father in the South Island, preaching reconciliation and the gospel of peace.

SENTENCE

Kahore hoki oku whakama ki te rongopai: ko te kaha hoki ia o te Atua hei whakaora mo nga tangata katoa e whakapono ana; mo te Hurai ki mua, mo te Kariki ano hoki. *Roma 1: 16*

Be not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith. *Romans 1: 16 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

E te Atua kaha rawa tino tohu  
ka whakawhetai matou ki a koe  
mo tau pononga mo Tamihana Te Rauparaha,  
I mahi nui nei mo te rangatiratanga o te Atua.  
Meinga kia whai tonu matou  
ki enei mahi i waenganui i nga iwi katoa,  
kia mohio ai ratou i te aroha o tau tama,  
to matou Kaiwhakaora a Ihu Karaiti. Amine.

God of compassion and power,  
you sent your servant Tamihana Te Rauparaha  
to labour for your kingdom  
amongst the Maori of Te Wai Pounamu;  
grant that we also  
may make known to all people  
the redeeming love of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ,  
Saviour for each and every one,  
you sent Tamihana as an apostle  
to right the fighting and cruelty around him,  
and to bring good news to his father's victims;  
be with all those, we pray,  
who have to move from one culture to another.

PSALMS:            3                            119: 9-16

#### READINGS

Isaiah 52: 7-10	Bringers of good news
Romans 10: 12-18	All over the world
Luke 24: 44-48	Witnesses to the gospel

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Ka mea a Ihu, "A hei kaiwhakaatu koutou moku tae noa ki te pito  
whakamutunga o te ao."  
*Nga Mahi 1: 8*

Jesus said, "You will be my witnesses even to the ends of the  
earth."  
*Acts 1: 8 (adapted)*

*Dunstan*

*May 19*

*Archbishop of Canterbury and Reformer*

Dunstan was an extraordinarily able and gifted Archbishop of Canterbury in the late Anglo-Saxon period. He inspired the renewal of the church and the revival of the monasteries. He was born in 909. From his time as abbot of Glastonbury he realised the potential of monasteries in the pastoral service of the church, and emphasised the importance of education. He was noted for his great learning, and exercised a powerful influence in the affairs of both church and state at a significant time in English history. He died in 988.

SENTENCE

The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory,  
and will rejoice over you with gladness. *Zephaniah 3: 17*

COLLECTS

God of truth and beauty,  
you called your servant Dunstan  
to be a wise and faithful pastor  
and to delight in all that is lovely;  
grant us your wisdom,  
that we may approve what is excellent  
and order our lives in righteousness and truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God, ever present, inescapable,  
you called Dunstan to build up the church  
and restore the monasteries;  
you gave him grace when he sang at the altar  
to be like one who talked to you face to face;  
send us, we pray, more like him.

PSALMS                    21                    125

READINGS

Isaiah 1: 15-20	The reform of national life
2 Corinthians 5: 1-10	Our heavenly dwelling
Matthew 19: 23-26	With God all things are possible

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, “Everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my name’s sake will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life.”     *Matthew 19: 29*

*Rota Waitoa*

*May 22*

*Te Matamua o nga Minita Maori*

*The first Maori ordained in New Zealand*

Rota Waitoa came from the Ngati Raukawa people of Otaki and received his initial Christian education from Octavius Hadfield at Waikanae. Later he became Bishop Selwyn's constant companion. He entered St John's College, Auckland, in the 1840s and was noted for his high standard of knowledge, his sincerity and his humility. He was ordained on 22 May 1853, becoming the "first born" of the Maori clergy, and spent his whole ministry at Te Kawakawa (Te Ara-roa). Rota's memory and his line are woven into the story of Christianity on the East Coast. He died in 1866.

SENTENCE

Kia whakakakahuria au tohunga ki te tika; kia hamama tau hunga tapu i te hari.

*Waiata 132: 9*

Let your priests be clothed with righteousness, O God; and let your faithful people cry out for joy.

*Psalms 132: 9*

COLLECTS

E te Atua pono,  
Te kaihomai i nga mea pai katoa, nau i Whakarite kia tu,  
te matamua o nga Maori, a Rota Waitoa  
hei Pirihi, mo te Hahi.  
Manaakitia nga minita katoa,  
o au kupu me au hakarameta tapu  
i runga i te kaha o te Wairua Tapu.  
Meinga kia u tonu ratou  
hei pononga i roto i tenei mahi minitatanga,  
kia whaka kororia tia ai tou ingoa,  
me te whakaoranga o te hunga tapu. Amine.

God of truth and love,  
by your gracious gift  
Rota Waitoa was the first of the Maori people  
to serve in the ordained ministry of your church;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
all ministers of your word and sacraments  
may continue faithful in their ministry among your people;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of every race and nation,  
praise and glory for Rota's ordination  
to be the first Maori deacon;  
grant that we may never lack Maori ministers  
to lead the church's worship.

PSALMS:            11                            46

#### READINGS

1 Samuel 16: 10-13a	Anointed for service
1 Timothy 4: 11-16	Spiritual endowment
John 15: 12-17	Chosen by Christ

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Ko te mea pai i tukua ra ki a koe, me tiaki e koe, ara e te Wairua Ta-  
pu e noho ana i roto i a tatou. *2 Timoti 1: 14*

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of  
the Holy Spirit living in us. *2 Timothy 1: 14*

*Frederick Augustus Bennett*  
*Te Matamua o nga Pihopa Maori*  
*The first Maori Bishop*

*May 23*

Frederick Augustus Bennett was born in 1871 and, after service in Maori mission work mainly in Rotorua and Hawke's Bay, was consecrated Bishop of Aotearoa on 2 December 1928. Renowned for his skills in oratory in both Maori and English, he was able to speak for the Maori to the Pakeha and for the Pakeha to the Maori. Remembered as an essentially kindly and approachable man, the bishop in bearing was a rangatira of the old school - the personification of simple dignity. He died in 1950.

SENTENCE

E kore rawa ahau e wareware ki au ako, e Ihowa, he mea whakahuora hoki nau ena i ahau.

*Waiata 119: 93*

I will never forget your precepts, O God, for by them you have given me life.

*Psalms 119: 93*

COLLECTS

Ano ka tutuki te wa  
ka kakahuria te korowai o te Wairua Tapu  
e Te Atua ora tonu  
ki runga ki a Frederick Augustus Bennett  
hei matua i roto ia a koe  
hei arahi i te iwi Maori;  
nana i kauwhau to kupu i riri te he,  
i whakapau te manawanui mo te whakaako;  
tukua mai ki a matou taua wairua o te kaha,  
o te aroha, o te ngakau mahara,  
kia manakohia ai matou e koe,  
ko Ihu Karaiti hoki to matou Ariki. Amine.

Living God, in the fullness of time,  
the mantle of your Holy Spirit  
clothed Frederick Augustus Bennett  
as a father in your whanau,  
to lead the Maori people  
by preaching your word, rebuking error,  
and teaching with unfailing patience;  
grant us the same spirit of power,  
love, and self control,  
that we may do what pleases you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed are you, God of all mana and authority,  
in Frederick, the first Maori bishop;  
for it is your will that every race  
will have its part to direct the church.

PSALMS:            101                            122

READINGS

1 Samuel 3: 1-10	The call of Samuel
2 Corinthians 3: 1-6	Ministers of a new covenant
Matthew 9: 35-38	Proclaiming the good news

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Kia mahara ki te hunga e tohutohu ana i a koutou, kua korero nei i te kupu a te Atua ki a koutou: tirohia te tukunga iho o ta ratou whakahaere, kia rite to koutou ki to ratou whakapono.            *Hiperu 13: 7*

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.            *Hebrews 13: 7*

*Mother Edith*

*May 24*

*Founder of the Community of the Sacred Name  
Christchurch*

Mother Edith was born on 10 March 1861. She was chosen from the Deaconess Community of St Andrew, London, to answer the call of Bishop Churchill Julius of Christchurch for a sister to work in his diocese. She arrived in Christchurch in 1893 to find a small group of dedicated probationer deaconesses ready to form a community. Originally called “The Sisters of Bethany”, they became “The Community of the Sacred Name” in 1911. Mother Edith’s outstanding characteristics were compassion, humility, fearlessness and a loving concern for all. For her nothing was too difficult. She died on 25 May 1922.

SENTENCE

If we love one another God lives in us, and God’s love is perfected in us.

*1 John 4: 12*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
we thank you for Mother Edith  
and the community she founded;  
give us grace to love you above all things  
and each other in you,  
that we may care for those in need  
and faithfully sing your praise;  
this we ask  
in the sacred name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, you promise that when two or three of us  
are gathered in your name, you will be there;  
we praise you for Edith,  
who left behind all that she loved  
to found a community to serve in your name;  
you have blessed her sisters greatly,  
bless them now, we pray, and into the time ahead.

PSALMS                    20                    96

READINGS

1 Samuel 1: 21-28	Hannah's faith and devotion
Philippians 3: 7-11	Loss and gain
Mark 9: 33-41	In Jesus' name

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

If we have died with Christ, we will also live with him, if we endure,  
we will also reign with him.                    *2 Timothy 1: 11, 12*

*The Venerable Bede of Jarrow  
Teacher of the Faith*

*May 25*

Bede was born about 673 and, as a boy, was educated first in the monastery at Wearmouth and then at Jarrow, where he remained till his death in 735. He used the extensive library at Jarrow to the full and became the greatest European scholar of his day. He is best known for his *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*, but wrote extensively on many subjects. The title “Venerable” ascribed to him a century later indicates the respect in which he was held.

SENTENCE

To you, O God, belong wisdom and strength; counsel and understanding are yours. *Job 12: 13 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
you called your servant Bede  
to devote his life  
to learning, teaching and writing;  
grant that the story of your past mercies  
may confirm our faith and hope in you  
and encourage us on our journey;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Praise to you, holy God,  
for the monks of Jarrow,  
happy to sing the daily services of the church  
and to observe the monastic discipline.  
Praise to you for your venerable servant Bede,  
translator, historian.  
Keep us from despising simple and virtuous living.

PSALMS                78: 1-7                145

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 39: 1-9	The student of wisdom
1 Corinthians 1: 18-25	The power and wisdom of God
John 21: 20-25	True testimony

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."  
*John 20: 29*

*Augustine*

*May 26*

*First Archbishop of Canterbury, Missionary*

Augustine was sent by Pope Gregory the Great with a team of monks in 596 to establish a mission to the Anglo-Saxons in Britain. They eventually had a Christian centre in Canterbury, and in 597 Augustine was consecrated as the first Archbishop of Canterbury. The conversion of King Ethelbert assured the success of the mission among the Anglo-Saxons, though efforts by Augustine to establish his primacy over the older Celtic church in Britain were unsuccessful. Augustine died in 604 or 605.

SENTENCE

You, O Lord, will come to us like showers, like the spring rains that water the earth. *Hosea 6: 3 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

God of all the world,  
your Son Jesus Christ sent his apostles  
to preach the gospel to every creature;  
grant that, as Augustine was enabled  
to be a great missionary among the English people,  
so we may follow in his steps  
and with boldness declare your name  
to those who know it not;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Holy Spirit,  
you sent Augustine and his forty monks  
across the English Channel to convert the Angles;  
we thank you for the work they started,  
and for all the good which has flowed from it.

PSALMS                    85                                    98

READINGS

Isaiah 49: 22-25

A signal to the people

1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8

Preaching the gospel

Luke 10: 1-9

Missionaries sent ahead

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.

*Luke 9: 62*

*Apolo Kivebulaya of Uganda*  
*Priest and Missionary*

*May 30*

Canon Apolo Kivebulaya was the outstanding Ugandan Christian of the first half-century of the church in that land. He was born in 1864 and became a church teacher in the western district of Toro. From his base there he reached out with the gospel of Christ to many people, including the Pygmies of the Congo. He was ordained deacon in 1900, priest in 1903, and was made a canon in 1922. He translated St Mark's Gospel into the Pygmy language and was deeply respected for his devotion to Christ, his humility and love, and his dedication to evangelism. He died on 30 May 1933.

SENTENCE

Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call: of you my heart has said, "Seek God's face"; your face Lord I will seek. *Psalm 27: 7, 8*

COLLECTS

Faithful and everloving God,  
you richly blessed your servant Apolo Kivebulaya,  
as you led him through the forests,  
through the lakes and mountains,  
to do your work among your people;  
grant us so to proclaim your gospel,  
that, being loved by you,  
we may also be loved by your people;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus, friend of aliens and outsiders,  
we thank you for Apolo  
who came to baptise the Bambuti Pygmy people  
and stayed to eat with them;  
keep us humble and humane  
for you are known to us in the breaking of bread.

PSALMS                    121                    138

READINGS

Isaiah 40: 9-11

Acts 18: 24-28

Luke 9: 1-6

The mighty shepherd

The ministry of Apollos

The twelve sent to evangelise

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Some seed fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a  
hundredfold.

*Luke 8: 8*

The visit of Mary to Elizabeth is recorded only by Luke in his Gospel. The angel Gabriel announces the births of John the Baptist and Jesus, and before the births Mary visits Elizabeth in her home. In Luke's account there is a mutual recognition of the significance of these births as the fulfilment of God's promises to Israel as seen in the words of Elizabeth to Mary and in Mary's song, Magnificat.

SENTENCE

The Lord has lifted up the lowly and has filled the hungry with good things.

*Luke 1: 52-53*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
by your grace Elizabeth rejoiced with Mary  
and hailed her as the mother of the Lord.  
Fill us with your grace,  
that we may acclaim her Son as our Saviour  
and rejoice in our fellowship with him;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of the humble and expectant,  
you bless those who believe when you promise;  
help us, like Mary and Elizabeth,  
simply to delight  
in the good things you prepare for us,  
to say, "Yes."  
Praise to you our God; you answer prayer.

PSALMS            113                            121

READINGS

Zechariah 2: 10-13

Romans 12: 9-16

Luke 1: 39-56

The Lord will live among you

Love one another

Mary and Elizabeth

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Blessed is she who believed that the Lord's promise would be fulfilled.

*Luke 1: 45*

*Justin*  
*Martyr at Rome*

*June 1*

Justin came from Samaria, where he was born about 100 CE. He found the answer to his searchings for the meaning of life in Christianity, “the true philosophy”. He taught in Rome from about 150. He was one of the first Christians to link Christianity with Greek philosophical ideas. Justin’s writings also give us insights into worship in the early church. He was executed for his faith about 165.

SENTENCE

You Lord are a shield to cover me; you are my glory, and the lifter up of my head.

*Psalms 3: 3*

COLLECTS

Gracious and eternal God,  
in his search for a true philosophy,  
you called your servant Justin  
to the wisdom of your Word  
and to willingness to suffer for his faith;  
grant us to grow in our knowledge of you,  
and give us courage to bear witness to the truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Glory to you, Jesus, light of the world,  
for Justin’s declaration when put to the test,  
that no right-minded person  
forsakes truth for falsehood;  
help us, like him, to hold on to that which is true.

PSALMS                    16                                    119: 129-136

READINGS

2 Maccabees 7: 1-6	First of the martyred brothers
1 Peter 4: 12-19	Suffering as a Christian
John 12: 44-50	The apologia of Jesus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling.

*2 Timothy 1: 8, 9*

The martyrs of Uganda were for the most part young baptised page boys of Mwanga, the king or kabaka (ruler) of Buganda. Both Anglicans and Roman Catholics, in their loyalty to Christ, died without complaint by slow burning or torture on the orders of Mwanga in the years 1885 and 1886. Mwanga identified their Christian faith with disobedience, and saw their allegiance to God as a threat to his absolute authority.

SENTENCE

The Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. *Revelation 7: 17*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
you made the blood of martyrs  
the seed of your church in Uganda;  
grant that, as they were steadfast in faith  
and obedient unto death,  
yielding a plentiful harvest,  
so may we be encouraged by their example  
to witness courageously to your gospel;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Praise to you, God of Africa,  
for the martyrs of Uganda,  
who stood, and stood firm  
against the ruling and seductive power,  
who by their persecution and death  
inspired others to build your church.

PSALMS                    54                                    126

READINGS

2 Maccabees 7: 1, 30-34, 39-40	Dying with integrity
Romans 8: 12-17	Suffering and glorified with Christ
Mark 8: 34-38	Taking up the cross

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed.

*1 Peter 4: 13*

*Boniface*

*June 5*

*Bishop of Mainz, Missionary, Martyr*

Boniface was a British monk from Hampshire. He was born in 675 and spent over thirty years as a missionary to the pagan tribes of northern Europe. The turning point in his work was when he cut down an ancient oak dedicated to Thor and convinced the people of the emptiness of paganism and idolatry. He was appointed Bishop of Mainz in 722 and archbishop ten years later. He was martyred in 754 in northern Frisia as he prepared to baptise and confirm a group of new converts.

SENTENCE

We are heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. *Romans 8: 17*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
you sent Boniface to Europe  
to proclaim your love,  
to confront the forces of paganism,  
and to yield his life for the gospel;  
give us grace gladly to bear the yoke of Christ  
and to find our peace in his service;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of enterprise,  
you called Boniface from his monastery  
when he was forty;  
you sent him to Germany,  
to work with women as well as men,  
till at seventy he was attacked and killed;  
may we serve you half as well.

PSALMS                    115                    135: 13-21

READINGS

Isaiah 49: 5-10

Acts 20: 22-27

John 4: 22-26

A light to the nations

Paul's premonition of martyrdom

True worship

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, to shepherd the church of God.

*Acts 20: 28*

*Ini Kopuria*

*June 6*

*Founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood*

Ini Kopuria was the founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood, an indigenous evangelistic order. Ini was born on Guadalcanal about 1900, and after a religious experience in 1924 formed the Brotherhood. The Brothers took temporary vows not to marry, not take payment for their work, and to obey their leaders. Under Ini's gifted leadership the order became one of the most significant evangelistic movements in Melanesia. Ini left the Order in 1940 in the early stages of the war and, like many others, became unsettled. He contracted an illness from which he eventually died on 6 June 1945.

SENTENCE

The Lord is my strength and my defence and has become my deliverer. Psalm 118:14

COLLECTS

God of all tribes, islands and nations,  
you called your servant, Ini Kopuria,  
to take the light of Christ to those who lived in darkness:  
inspire our hearts with the same love of you,  
so that we may become faithful messengers of your gospel,  
and in word and action  
share the good news of salvation with all people;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, you called your followers friends,  
blessed are you in Ini Kopuria,  
who worked in a spirit of true brotherhood among his people.  
Bind us together as one family,  
and our work will not be in vain.

PSALMS                    97 135:13-21

READINGS

Isaiah 51:4-8

The coastlands wait for God

Titus 2:11-15

Sound teaching

Luke 10:1-9

Sent to proclaim the gospel

POST COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my  
brother and sister and mother."

*Matthew 12:50*

*Columba of Iona*  
*Abbot, Missionary*

*June 9*

Columba was born in Ireland about 521. Migrating to Iona off the coast of Scotland at the age of forty-two with twelve companions, he established a Christian community, which became the base for the evangelisation of Scotland. He established a number of monasteries in Ireland and Scotland, and was a skilful poet and scribe. He died in 597. Although his name means “dove”, he was a vigorous and commanding figure and at times stern. He has been traditionally known as “Columba the kind”.

SENTENCE

If I take the wings of the dawn, and alight at the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand will lead me, and your right hand will hold me fast.

*Psalm 139: 9, 10*

COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
by his preaching,  
your servant Columba  
brought the light of the gospel to Scotland;  
give us grace  
to follow his example of zeal and patience  
and to expend our energy  
on winning others to faith in your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Glory to you, Spirit of God,  
for the preaching of Columba, aptly named the dove,  
and for his companions at Iona;  
though we may never banish monsters from the river Ness,  
help us, like him, to be loving to everyone,  
happy-faced, in the joy of the Holy Spirit.

PSALMS                    18: 31-37                    47

READINGS

Isaiah 66: 18-19

The islands afar off

1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8

Preaching the gospel

Mark 4: 35-41

Do not fear

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Fear the Lord, you that are God's holy people, for those who fear  
the Lord are in want of nothing.

*Psalm 34: 9*

Barnabas was a Jew from Cyprus who became an apostle. He introduced Paul to the church leaders in Jerusalem. When sent to Antioch to guide the growing church there in its acceptance of Gentiles, he brought Paul into the work. The two of them took relief funds to Jerusalem and undertook a missionary journey to Cyprus and Asia Minor. Barnabas and Paul parted company at the beginning of Paul's second missionary journey. Barnabas went to Cyprus and is regarded as the founder of the church there.

SENTENCE

When Barnabas came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose.

*Acts 11: 23*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
we remember today your servant Barnabas,  
whose great joy was to proclaim your love;  
grant us also the gift of your Holy Spirit,  
to bring others to know your goodness,  
to encourage the faint hearted  
and to minister to those in need;  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Holy and humble Spirit,  
we thank you for Barnabas  
who went to seek for Saul;  
grant us the integrity and perception  
to recognise the one you choose.

PSALMS                    34                                    119: 153-160

READINGS

Job 29: 7-16

The compassion of Job

Acts 11: 19-30

The mission of Barnabas

John 15: 12-17

Love one another

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Barnabas was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.

*Acts 11: 24*

*Antony of Padua*

*June 13*

*Missionary, Preacher, Teacher of the Faith*

Antony of Padua was born in Portugal in 1195 and joined the Augustinian Canons at an early age. Later he became a Franciscan and worked briefly in Morocco. His work there was cut short by illness. He settled in Italy, where his great learning and ability at preaching were discovered. Very soon he was drawing thousands to his preaching, often on the subjects of usury and avarice. He was successful in bringing back to the church many who had fallen away. Antony died aged only thirty-six in 1231, having worn himself out by his labours.

SENTENCE

My tongue shall sing of your word, O Lord, for all your commandments are just.

*Psalms 119: 172*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
by your grace and providence  
your servant Antony became a great preacher  
and a willing helper in time of need;  
grant that, following his example,  
we may seize every opportunity  
in word and deed boldly to proclaim the gospel  
of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, you spoke  
as no one ever spoke before or after you;  
and you chose Antony by his preaching  
to win thousands from selfishness to love;  
help us also to overcome our frailty  
and use for you every gift we have.

PSALMS                    19                                    119: 9-16

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 15: 1-6	Wisdom's welcome
2 Timothy 1: 13, 14; 2: 1-3	Faithful teaching
Luke 12: 1-7	The preaching of Jesus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel!  
*1 Corinthians 9: 16*

*Basil the Great*  
*Bishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia*  
*Teacher of the Faith*

*June 14*

Basil the Great was born about 330 and became Bishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia in 370. Basil was greatly attracted to the ascetic life, and, as bishop, combined his role in the church with the fostering of the monastic life as an example of community love in action. He helped draw up an influential set of monastic rules, and was a moderating influence in the promotion of the Nicene theology that was finally ratified at Constantinople in 381. Basil died in 379.

SENTENCE

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, emptied himself, taking the form of a slave.

*Philippians 2: 5, 7*

COLLECTS

Gracious and eternal God,  
you called your servant Basil of Caesarea  
to be a defender of the faith  
and an architect of Christian communities;  
help us in our day  
to interpret the faith to our world  
and to build a society of love and justice;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus Christ, your rule is love;  
you called Basil to write the monastic rule,  
to teach the church to pray  
and to express its doctrine;  
help us, when we are pressed,  
to retain our optimism and tenderness.

PSALMS                    62    82

READINGS

Wisdom 7: 15-22a	Wisdom and knowledge
1 Corinthians 2: 6-13	Spiritual wisdom
Mark 10: 23-31	Riches and renunciation

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit;  
keep yourselves in the love of God. *Jude: 20, 21*

*Evelyn Underhill*  
*Mystic*

*June 15*

Evelyn Underhill was born in 1875 and, after a religious experience in 1907, became heavily involved in mystical spirituality. Through her books, retreat addresses and correspondence with those seeking spiritual counsel, Evelyn Underhill helped many to understand the mystical tradition. To her, worship and the varied dimensions of the spiritual life meant beginning with God and being “drawn at His pace and in His way to the place where He wants us to be: not the place we fancied for ourselves”. She died in 1941.

SENTENCE

How deep are your thoughts O God, and how great is the sum of them.

*Psalm 139: 17*

COLLECTS

God of love,  
your servant Evelyn Underhill  
delighted in your presence  
and encouraged others in their journey;  
may we grow ever nearer to you  
and more open to your Spirit's voice,  
till we abide in you for ever;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of the expanding universe,  
God of the simplest atom,  
we praise you for Evelyn  
and all who dare to seek  
an intimate consistent union with you;  
give us her cool perception, we pray,  
and her passionate obedience.

PSALM                    63: 1-9                    91

READINGS

Joel 2: 26-29	God's Spirit poured out
Romans 8: 22-27	Future glory
John 14: 12-21	The Spirit of truth

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Abide in me, as I abide in you. You cannot bear fruit unless you abide in me."  
*John 15: 4 (adapted)*

*Sadhu Sundar Singh*  
*Teacher, Evangelist*

*June 19*

Sundar Singh was born in 1889 and, after his dramatic conversion to Christianity in 1904, became an Indian Christian mystic and holy man or sadhu. He devoted his life to preaching the gospel to the people of India. He is remembered for his desire to present Christ in a way which would be meaningful to the cultures of the east. He made several visits to Tibet and was last heard of in April 1929 when he was again going there.

SENTENCE

My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. *Psalm 84: 2*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
the end of all our searching,  
your servant Sundar Singh,  
leaving all to follow Christ,  
fearlessly proclaimed his new-found faith;  
give us a like commitment to the gospel,  
that in the power of the Holy Spirit  
we may bear witness to  
the love of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of good news,  
we offer you our praise and humble thanks  
for your sadhu, Sundar;  
we praise you for his unique success and suffering  
in bringing the gospel to others;  
may we draw inspiration  
from his love for all whom Jesus died to save.

PSALMS                    42                    43

READINGS

Exodus 33: 7-11	The friend of God
1 Corinthians 9: 19-23	All things to all people
Mark 10: 23-31	For the sake of the gospel

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "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."

*Matthew 11: 29*

*Henare Wiremu Taratoa  
of Te Ranga*

*June 21*

Henare Taratoa is remembered for the compassion he advocated towards his opponents who were involved in the attack on Gate Pa on 29 April 1864. It was he who drafted the now famous “Orders of the Day”, confining any conflict to the participants only and in as limited a way as possible, and advocating care for those who were injured. Henare was born about 1830. He was taught and baptised by Henry Williams, and was for a while a student at St John’s College, Auckland. He died on 21 June 1864 when the British troops attacked Te Ranga. He carried on him his “Orders of the Day”.

SENTENCE

No te mea he tika a Ihowa, e aroha ana ki te tika; ka kite te hunga tika i tona kanohi *Waiata 11: 7*

You are just O Lord, and you love just dealing; the upright shall behold your face. *Psalm 11: 7*

COLLECTS

E te Atua o nga wa katoa,  
i karangatia e koe au pononga  
ki te whakaatu i te tika me te pono ki nga tangata katoa.  
E mau mahara ana matou ki a Henare Wiremu Taratoa i tenei ra.  
Tautokona matou pera i a ia i noho i runga i au whakahau,  
a ki te whakatutuki hoki i aua pono  
i runga i te ingoa o tau tama o Ihu Karaiti, te Taro o te Ora. Amine.

Merciful God,  
you have taught us to love our enemies  
and pray for our oppressors;  
give us grace to follow the example  
of your servant Henare Wiremu Taratoa,  
who held firm to that command,  
that we may proclaim  
your justice, truth and love  
amongst all people;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, as we remember Henare,  
who sought to be true to the faith he believed  
when he fought to protect the land,  
help us in our decisions about your land  
to be true to the gospel and to you.

PSALMS                    102: 15-28                    103

#### READINGS

Isaiah 58: 6-10

A true light

Romans 12: 14-21

Overcome evil with good

Luke 6: 32-36

Love your enemies

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCES

Ko te whakapono i a koe na, waiho i a koe ano i te aroaro o te Atua.  
Ka hari te tangata kahore e whakatau i te he ki a ia ano mo te mea i  
whakapaia e ia mana. *Roma 14: 22*

The faith that you have, have as your own conviction before  
God. Blessed are those who have no reason to condemn  
themselves because of what they approve. *Romans 14: 22*

*Alban*

*June 22*

*First Martyr of Britain*

Alban, the first British martyr, was beheaded on the orders of the Roman governor of Verulamium for concealing a Christian priest and then converting to the Christian faith. When soldiers came to arrest the priest, Alban surrendered himself in the priest's place. This is traditionally dated in 304 during the empire-wide persecution of Christians, but it may have been earlier. St Alban's Abbey is near the site of Alban's burial, and the cult of St Alban was popular in Britain for a long time.

SENTENCE

We know love by this; that Christ laid down his life for us - and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. *1 John 3:16*

COLLECTS

God of love,  
by your grace your servant Alban  
gave himself up for his friend  
and suffered death for the sake of Christ;  
grant that for love of others  
we may be ready  
to defend the weak,  
support the truth,  
and lay down our lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of love, you helped Alban  
to substitute himself for a hunted Christian  
and to show a love like yours;  
give us courage to accept and face injustice.

PSALMS                    30                    31:1-9

READINGS

2 Maccabees 6: 18, 21-31	Eleazar's martyrdom
1 Peter 2: 19-24	The example of Christ
Matthew 10: 16-22	Enduring to the end

POST COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit."

*John 12: 24*

*Wiremu Tamihana*  
*Prophet, Kingmaker*

*June 23*

Wiremu Tamihana's original name was Tarapipi Te Waharoa. He was the second son of the Ngati Haua chief, Te Waharoa. He was deeply influenced by missionary teaching. He created a marae near Mata-mata which became known for its peaceful Christian witness. He earned the title, "kingmaker", in the creation of the first of the Wai-kato kings. He tried to mediate during the land wars and negotiated a settlement when they ended. He wrote many letters to colonial authorities advocating a just provision for Maori and Pakeha. He died in 1866.

SENTENCE

Ka hari te tangata e pakia ana e koe, e Ihowa; e whakaakona ana i roto i tau ture.

*Waiata 94: 12*

Blessed are those you instruct O Lord; to whom you give teaching out of your law.

*Psalms 94: 12*

COLLECTS

E te Atua kaha rawa  
i hoatu e koe ki a Wiremu Tamihana  
he whakakitenga i tau i whakatakoto ai,  
a me te whakapumautanga o tou aroha me tou mana.  
Meinga ano hoki ki a matou,  
kia mau pu ki te tumanako  
kei roto nei i a Ihu Karaiti  
te Huarahi, te Pono, me te Ora. Amine.



John was from a priestly family and advocated a return to the strict observance of the laws of Moses in ethical and religious standards. He baptised people as a token of their acceptance of this. John's message was popular with many, but it brought him into conflict with Herod and the rulers of Israel, many of whom followed Gentile customs. John was executed on Herod's orders. Jesus' ministry began with his baptism by John, and many of his followers were former disciples of John.

SENTENCE

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came to bear witness to the light. *John 1: 6-7*

COLLECTS

God our strength and our hope,  
grant us the courage of John the Baptist,  
constantly to speak the truth,  
boldly to rebuke vice  
and patiently to suffer for the truth's sake;  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Terror and doom, and wrath to come,  
John your herald preached  
to bring us to repentance;  
open our eyes, almighty God,  
show us our sin,  
and grant us forgiveness.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

PSALMS                    75    119: 41-48

READINGS

Malachi 4	Elijah, the prophet to come
Acts 19: 1-6	John's baptism
Luke 1: 57-80	The birth of John the Baptist
or Matthew 11: 2-19	John and Jesus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

You will go before the Lord to prepare the way, to give God's people  
knowledge of salvation. *Luke 1: 76-77*

*Irenaeus*

*June 28*

*Bishop of Lyons, Teacher of the Faith*

Irenaeus was born about 130 in Asia Minor and became Bishop of Lyons in 177. He adopted a conciliatory stance in the disputes over Montanism and over the date of Easter, but devoted enormous energy to refuting Gnosticism. Against the gnostic dualism, Irenaeus set the apostolic tradition and teaching of God as both creator and redeemer, at work in human history for our ultimate fulfilment. Irenaeus died about the year 200.

SENTENCE

What are we mortals, O Lord, that you should be mindful of us? You have made us little less than divine, and crowned us with glory and honour.

*Psalm 8: 4, 5*

COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
the source of all true peace,  
you gave to your servant Irenaeus  
gifts of leadership and insight to guide your church;  
keep us steadfast in the truth,  
respecting the created order  
as the work of your hands,  
and growing in grace,  
till we attain the fullness of our humanity  
in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus, true word of God,  
you sent Irenaeus the peacemaker  
to a persecuted and puzzled church;  
give us his skill, we pray,  
to correct those who are in error  
and to comfort those who have been ill-treated.

PSALMS                    4                                    11

READINGS

Malachi 2: 4-7	A covenant of life and peace
Ephesians 1: 17-23	Our hope
John 16: 25-33	Peace in Christ

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

This is the mystery of God's will: to gather up all things in Christ,  
things in heaven and things on earth.

*Ephesians 1: 9, 10 (adapted)*

*St Peter and St Paul*  
*Apostles, Martyrs*

*June 29*

Both St Peter and St Paul are commemorated individually on separate days, Peter on account of his confession of Jesus as the Messiah on 22 February, and Paul on account of his conversion on 25 January. They are commemorated together on 29 June because of their martyrdom in Rome during the Neronian persecution about 64 CE. The basilicas in Rome of St Peter's in the Vatican and St Paul's outside the Walls stand on the traditional sites of their respective burials.

SENTENCE

His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the equipment of the saints, for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

*Ephesians 4: 11-12*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
we thank you for your servants Peter and Paul,  
leaders of your Church and martyrs for your name;  
fill us like them with your Spirit  
that we may follow in the way of Jesus Christ  
who endured the cross,  
despising the shame,  
and is at your right hand,  
now and for ever.

God of the new and the old,  
we praise you for Peter and Paul,  
for the Church their leadership has established,  
and for all we have received from them;  
grant that we, like them,  
may recognise our moment when it comes  
and choose for you.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

God of grace,  
your Church is built on Peter's faith;  
grant that we, like him, forgiven and restored,  
may overcome our weakness  
and serve you without wavering,  
now and for ever.

PSALMS                    18: 1-7                    61

READINGS

Ezekiel 34: 11-16                    The good shepherd

*or*

Ezekiel 3: 4-11                    A prophet's endowment of strength

1 Corinthians 3: 18 - 4: 1                    Servant of Christ

*or*

2 Timothy 4: 1-8                    I have fought the good fight

John 21: 15-19                    Peter's death foretold

*or*

Matthew 16: 13-19                    The great confession

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

By God's power Paul was made an apostle to the Gentiles, just as  
Peter was made an apostle to the Jews.                    *Galatians 2: 8 (adapted)*

*St Thomas*  
*Apostle, Martyr*

*July 3*

Thomas the apostle is mentioned only in the lists of apostles in the first three Gospels, but features more significantly at three points in the Fourth Gospel. He urges the disciples to go with Jesus to Judaea, "that we may die with him". In Jerusalem he does not know Jesus' way, and so provides the cue for the announcement that Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. After doubting the resurrection, Thomas is convinced by seeing Jesus alive, and says, "My Lord and my God!" But the truly blessed are those who believe without seeing.

SENTENCE

Jesus said to Thomas, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

*John 20: 29*

COLLECTS

Almighty and everliving God,  
your Son's resurrection was doubted  
by the apostle Thomas;  
grant that though we cannot see Jesus,  
we may learn to put our whole trust in him,  
our Lord and our God.

Christ our light,  
like Thomas we need to see,  
need to touch,  
need to be sure before we believe.  
When we don't know, help us to trust;  
when we can't see, help us to keep on walking.  
Praise to you our God; you answer prayer.

PSALMS                    22                    66

READINGS

Job 42-1-6	Now my eyes see
1 Peter 1: 3-9	Believing without seeing
John 20: 24-31	Thomas sees and believes

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing.” *John 20: 27*

*Samuel Azariah*  
*Bishop, Ecumenist*

*July 4*

Samuel Azariah was born in 1874 near the southern tip of India. As a young man he was a YMCA evangelist. He became a missionary and then in 1912 the first Indian Anglican bishop. He served the Diocese of Dornakal for over thirty years, during which it grew rapidly. Azariah brought to world missionary and ecumenical conferences his vision that missions should be set free to grow into responsible indigenous churches. He was among those instrumental in the forming of the Church of South India, which finally came into being in 1947, two years after his death.

SENTENCE

The Lord raises up the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honour.

*1 Samuel 2: 8 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

God of all that lives,  
you call your servants from every nation,  
and the gifts of every people bring you glory;  
may the burning vision of Samuel Azariah  
for the growth and unity of your church  
encourage us to preach the gospel  
to the people of our day,  
that your name be glorified;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christ our light, star of India,  
give us Samuel's perception, Samuel's imagination,  
that those who seek good news may hear it, that the door be  
opened to those who knock.

PSALMS                    100                    149

READINGS

Isaiah 29: 17-19

The poorest shall exult

Colossians 2: 1-6

Built up in Christ

John 4: 28-30, 39-42

We have heard for ourselves

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

*Matthew 5: 3*

*Thomas More*  
*Scholar*

*July 6*

Thomas More was born in 1478. He was renowned for his charm, wit and integrity, and for his strict spiritual discipline. As lord chancellor of England, he supported Henry VIII's moves to reform the clergy. However, loyal to his Catholic heritage, he consistently opposed Henry's plans for divorce and re-marriage to secure a legitimate heir. More refused to accept the Act of Supremacy in 1535 that declared the king "only supreme head of the Church in England", and was executed for treason on 6 July that year.

SENTENCE

Your steadfast love, O Lord, is better than life itself; therefore my lips will speak your praise.

*Psalm 63: 3*

COLLECTS

God of faithfulness and integrity,  
you strengthened your servant Thomas More  
by your gifts of love and loyalty;  
grant us also in our dealings  
to be honest and faithful  
and in all things to be true to your commands;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus, you will not fail us  
nor forsake us;  
you were with Thomas More  
through his imprisonment and at his execution.  
Help us, if we feel called to stand on principle  
against the Power,  
to put our confidence in you,  
and give you the glory.

PSALMS                    15                                    146

READINGS

Wisdom 2: 12-15, 19-22	Plotting against the upright
1 Corinthians 2: 1-10	Spiritual strength
Matthew 24: 9-13	Jesus' promise to the faithful

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

This is eternal life, that they may know you the only true God, and  
Jesus Christ whom you have sent. *John 17: 3*

*Benedict of Nursia*  
*Abbot of Monte Cassino*

*July 11*

Benedict was born in Nursia, Italy, about 480. As a young man he sought to serve God by living in solitude. He soon attracted disciples, and a community grew up around him. When he was about fifty, he moved to Monte Cassino, where he remained abbot for seventeen years. During that time he wrote his rule, which shaped the pattern of monastic life all over Europe and is still observed in the Benedictine Order. The intention of the rule was that by living in humility and obedience monks would learn to love God. Benedict died about the year 550.

SENTENCE

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to your name, O Most High, to tell of your love in the morning and of your faithfulness during the night.

*Psalm 92: 1, 2*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
you enabled your servant Benedict  
to establish wise rules for community life  
and to lead by his example of obedience and humility;  
help us by your Spirit  
to walk with willing hearts  
in the discipline of the Lord's service;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus,  
your yoke is easy, your burden is light,  
as was the rule which Benedict took on himself  
and offered his followers;  
help us, when we turn to you  
to go humbly, step by step.

PSALMS                    134                    119: 57-64

READINGS

Proverbs 2: 1-6	The Lord gives wisdom
1 Corinthians 12: 4-13	Members of one body
Luke 18: 18-30	To win eternal life

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

*1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18*

*Silas*

*July 13*

*Companion of St Paul*

Silas is mentioned frequently in the Acts of the Apostles. He was sent to Antioch by the church in Jerusalem and became the devoted friend and companion of Paul, with whom he journeyed and with whom he lived at various times and places. In Acts he is called Silas, but in several New Testament letters he is referred to as Silvanus, the Greek form of his name. Tradition says he died in Macedonia.

SENTENCE

I will take up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

*Psalm 116: 13*

COLLECTS

Loving God,  
by your grace, your servant Silas  
proved a trustworthy companion to your apostles;  
make us loyal to your friends and ours,  
that we may encourage one another on our way,  
for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

God of the new covenant,  
accept our praise and thanks for Silas,  
Paul's companion,  
who knew full well what awaited him;  
give us the courage and enthusiasm  
that suffers judicial flogging  
and still sings hymns of joy.

PSALMS                    92: 1-5, 12-15    133

READINGS

Micah 6: 6-8

Love kindness

Acts 16: 25-34

Paul and Silas in prison

Matthew 18: 19-20

Time together

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

All of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a  
tender heart and a humble mind.

*1 Peter 3: 8*

*Swithun*  
*Bishop of Winchester*

*July 15*

Little is known of Swithun's life. He was chaplain to King Egbert of Wessex, whose son Ethelwulf appointed him Bishop of Winchester in 852. He remained a valued adviser of the king during the Viking invasions. He became famous for his acts of charity and his encouragement of the building of churches. He died in 862 and was buried in the grounds of the cathedral rather than in the cathedral itself as a sign of his identity with the common people.

SENTENCE

Blessed are you O God, for you have not rejected my prayer, nor withdrawn from me your steadfast love. *Psalm 66: 20*

COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
you called your servant Swithun  
to be a loyal adviser to his king  
and a faithful leader of his people;  
give us courage  
to speak boldly in your name  
and follow humbly where you lead;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of the sun, the wind and the rain,  
we delight in Swithun  
and our closeness to fantasy and legend;  
may we never lose it altogether.

PSALMS                    20                                    147

READINGS

Proverbs 3: 1-8	Trust and honour God
James 5: 16-18	Pray for one another
Matthew 5: 43-48	Goodness without limit

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13: 16*

*Henry Williams*  
*Missionary*

*July 16*

Henry Williams was born in 1792 and served in the Royal Navy. From 1823 he became the leader of the CMS missionaries from his base at Paihia. He became renowned for his often successful mediation in inter-tribal fighting. As conversions increased Williams supervised the establishment of several new mission stations. He strongly supported the Treaty of Waitangi, and was official interpreter at the first signing. He was unfairly criticized by Governor Grey for his land purchases on behalf of his family, but served the Maori people for over forty years until his death in 1867.

SENTENCE

The dwellers at the ends of the earth are awed by your wonders, O God; you make the lands of sunrise and sunset resound with shouts of joy.

*Psalm 65: 8*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
you so enabled Henry Williams to proclaim the gospel  
among the Maori people  
that he is remembered as a father of the tribes;  
fulfil among us his vision,  
that through our labours  
your church may be a true partnership of aroha;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus, prince of peace,  
accept our praise and thanks  
for Te Wiremu the peacemaker;  
give us his discipline  
and his respect for people  
different from himself.

PSALMS                    57                                    136: 1-9, 25-26

READINGS

Isaiah 56: 3-8

I will gather yet others

2 Corinthians 1: 12-14

Our boast

Matthew 5: 1-12

Blessed are the peacemakers

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

You, O Lord, are healing the brokenhearted, and binding up their wounds.

*Psalm 147: 3*

Mary Magdalene was one of a group of women from Galilee who were healed by Jesus and supported his cause. Mary is named in all the Gospels as being present at the crucifixion and as a prime witness to the resurrection. This is most movingly represented by John where Mary is the first person to witness to the risen Jesus in the words, "I have seen the Lord." There is no basis for the traditional identification of Mary Magdalene with the sinful woman who anointed Jesus' feet, nor with Mary of Bethany, the sister of Martha.

SENTENCE

Jesus said to Mary, "Go to my friends and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

*John 20: 17*

COLLECTS

Merciful God,  
your Son restored Mary Magdalene to health  
of body and mind  
and called her to be a witness  
of his resurrection;  
heal us and make us whole  
that we may serve you  
in the power of his risen life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Sweet is your friendship, Saviour Christ;

Mary you accepted,  
Mary you drew to the foot of the cross,  
Mary you met in the garden;  
grant us a like redemption.  
Hear this prayer for your name's sake.

PSALMS                    116                    124

READINGS

Isaiah 65: 17-19

An end to weeping

2 Corinthians 5: 14-19

A new creation

John 20: 1-18

Revelation to Mary

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer,  
I have overcome the world." *John 16: 33b*

*St James and St John*  
*Apostles*

*July 25*

James and John, Galilean fishermen and sons of Zebedee, were among the first disciples of Jesus, and, with Peter, they became the closest to Jesus. Alone of the disciples they shared with Jesus in the raising of Jairus's daughter, the transfiguration, and Gethsemane. After the resurrection both became important leaders of the early church. James, known as James the Great, was the first apostle to be martyred. According to tradition, after some time with the early church in Jerusalem, John went to Ephesus. The Prayer Book commemorates John as apostle today and as evangelist on 27 December.

SENTENCE

Jesus said, "In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."  
*John 16: 33b*

COLLECTS

Grant to us, merciful God,  
that as James and John left their father  
and all that they had  
to follow your Son Jesus Christ,  
so may we be ready to follow,  
even unto death,  
to the glory of your name.

Grant us, Christ our life,  
the courage of James and John, your friends,  
to undergo your baptism,  
to drink the cup you drank,  
to follow you, even to the place of death.  
Hear this prayer for your name's sake.

*These collects may be used omitting the references to John.*

PSALMS            16                            129

READINGS

Jeremiah 26: 11-24	The price of witness to truth
Acts 11: 27 - 12: 3a	The martyrdom of James
Mark 10: 35-45	The cost of discipleship

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." *Matthew 20: 23*

*Christopher  
Martyr*

*July 25*

The enormous popularity of Christopher as the patron saint of travellers has if anything increased as travel has become more common. This is so, despite the fact that nothing is known about Christopher except the fact of his death in Asia Minor during the third century. There are many legends about him, the best loved being the story of how he carried a child across a river, and was almost bowed under by the weight. Asking about this, he learned that he had carried the Christ child and the world he had made.

SENTENCE

Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

*John 3: 14, 15*

COLLECTS

God our guide,  
we bless you for all  
whose lives have borne faithful witness to Jesus Christ;  
may we also bear the living Christ upon our hearts  
and follow the way he lays before us,  
which leads to eternal life;  
this we ask through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus,  
may Christopher, the Christ-bearer, ever proclaim to us  
that what we do for the least of your little ones,  
we do for you.

PSALMS                    24                    121

READINGS

Joshua 3: 15-17	Crossing the waters
Galatians 6: 1-10	Bearing burdens
Matthew 11: 25-30	My burden is light

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Cast your burden on the Lord, and the Lord will sustain you.

*Psalm 55: 22*

Anne

July 26

## *Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Although the New Testament tells us nothing about the family life and background of Mary, a devout second-century Christian sought to supply the lack in a short work that provides the basis for much of the later Mariology. Mary's parents were called Anne and Joachim. They were a pious but childless couple, whose prayers were eventually answered with the birth of Mary, who was brought up in the Temple. The work draws heavily on the early chapters of Matthew and Luke, and on the story of Hannah, the mother of Samuel.

### SENTENCE

There is no Holy One like the Lord, no one besides you; there is no rock like our God.

*1 Samuel 2: 2*

### COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
in Christ you shared our sense of heritage  
and the continuity of the generations;  
as we remember Anne, the grandmother of your Son,  
help us to respect our whakapapa  
and to learn from the wisdom of the old;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of the old as of the young,  
of the grandparent and the parent,  
of Anne and Mary,  
give us patience, we pray,  
and especially with children.

PSALMS                    128                    132: 11-19

READINGS

Zephaniah 3: 14-20

James 1: 16-21

Luke 1: 26-33

Promise of restoration

God's faithfulness

His reign shall never end

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Blessed are all who put their trust in the Lord.

*Psalm 2: 11*

*Mary and Martha  
of Bethany*

*July 28*

Mary and Martha were sisters living at Bethany near Jerusalem. Jesus readily accepted the hospitality of these women. Whereas Martha is the totally committed hostess, it is more important to be, like Mary, a committed learner. Mary was also the woman who anointed Jesus before his passion, according to John. In the story of the death and raising to life of Lazarus, Martha learns that Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

SENTENCE

You heard the voice of my plea, O God, when I called to you for help.

*Psalms 31: 22*

COLLECTS

Gracious and merciful God,  
Jesus was welcomed by Martha and Mary into their home  
and found there refreshment and rest;  
give us the will to love you,  
open our hearts to hear you,  
and teach us to serve you in others,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus our friend, friend of Martha and Mary,  
who welcomed you into their home and gave you their love;  
give us grace to be loved,  
and grace to respond to the love we receive.

PSALMS                    36: 5-10                    45

READINGS

Isaiah 26: 16-19	New life for the dead
Romans 12: 9-13	Let love be genuine
Luke 10: 38-42	The home of Martha and Mary

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live." *John 11: 25*

*William Wilberforce  
and All Social Reformers*

*July 29*

William Wilberforce was born in 1759 and, after studies at Cambridge, entered Parliament in 1780. He was converted to evangelical Christianity in 1784 and became an important spokesman for evangelical ideas. He promoted education, missions and moral reform. The trade in slaves soon drew his attention, and he attacked slavery and the slave trade vigorously. Acts of Parliament in 1807 finally abolished the trade in slaves. It was not until 1833, a month after Wilberforce's death, that the Emancipation Act freed slaves in all British territories. Wilberforce was buried in Westminster Abbey.

SENTENCE

The Lord is near to those who are broken-hearted; the Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit.

*Psalms 34: 18*

COLLECTS

God of justice,  
you raised up your servant William Wilberforce  
to bring liberty to slaves and captives  
and to free the oppressed;  
strengthen our resolve to defend the poor  
and uphold the cause of those who have no helper;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Free, eternal Spirit,  
you lead us to seek justice for all;  
you enabled William and his friends  
to win emancipation for slaves;  
give us the courage to free those  
whom our own society enslaves.

PSALMS                    22: 22-31                    102: 12-22

READINGS

Zechariah 8: 9-12

Restoration with justice

Galatians 3: 23-28

In Christ all are equal

John 13: 2-5, 12-17

The footwashing

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all."

*Mark 10: 44*

We remember and honour today the thousands in Europe who down the centuries have witnessed to the power of the gospel, sometimes at the cost of their lives. There were missionaries inside and outside Europe; there were leaders in the church and in the nations; there were spiritual guides and intellectual leaders; there were monks and friars and women's groups; communities and individuals with power and influence; and there were those who humbly lived out the gospel without leaving a record for the historian. And many of them died for the sake of Christ. "All these were commended for their faith."

SENTENCE

Sing to God you kingdoms of the earth, sing praises to the Lord.

*Psalms 68: 32*

COLLECTS

Gracious and eternal God,  
the gospel of your Son  
has been proclaimed in the nations of Europe  
by saints and martyrs from century to century;  
empower us by your Spirit  
to speak your word to our generation  
and be your faithful servants;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of every century,  
we thank you for the saints of Europe,  
the humble, devoted, loving believers,  
the noble army of missionaries,  
the rulers, the serious enquirers,  
the explorers, the worshippers,  
and the great host watching, working, waiting.

PSALMS                    96                                    111

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 2: 10-11, 15-18	Fear of the Lord
Romans 15: 17-24	Paul's missionary hopes
Mark 4: 26-32	The growth of the kingdom

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty, sixty and a hundred-fold."  
*Mark 4: 8*

Joseph of Arimathea was a member of the Jewish Council who graciously provided a tomb for the burial of Jesus. He came from the town of Arimathea, north-west of Jerusalem. He was well-to-do and is presented in the Gospels as sympathetic to Jesus' mission, though not an open disciple. These simple facts were later embellished with various legends, including the late medieval story of his journey to Glastonbury with the Holy Grail.

SENTENCE

The righteous are a light in the darkness for the upright; they are gracious, compassionate and just. *Psalm 112: 4*

COLLECTS

God of mercy and compassion,  
your servant Joseph of Arimathea  
prepared the body of Jesus for burial  
and provided for it a resting place;  
give us courage to take risks in your service  
and follow Jesus our whole life long;  
through the same Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus,  
greater than Joseph could realise,  
greater than the dead, lamented prophet  
to whom he lent his tomb;  
accept our gratitude that you are pleased  
with what we do for you.

PSALMS                    4                    101

READINGS

Genesis 49: 33-50: 7a	The burial of Jacob
Acts 13: 32-39	He did not see decay
Luke 23: 50-56	The burial of Jesus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

To this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of  
both the dead and the living. *Romans 14: 9*

*Chad*  
*Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary*

*August 2*

Chad was born in Northumbria and became a pupil of Aidan at Lindisfarne. He became abbot of Lastingham in Yorkshire in 664. Chad is noted for his humility and his great zeal. He was briefly Bishop of York and then was appointed Bishop of Mercia in 669, with his see at Lichfield. He travelled tirelessly round his vast diocese. He died of the plague in 672.

SENTENCE

All of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."  
*1 Peter 5: 5*

COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
you gave to your servant Chad  
the gifts of humility, love and holiness;  
grant that we who remember his ministry  
may grow in the truths he so faithfully lived  
and spread the light of the gospel;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus of Nazareth,  
you went from village to village day by day  
to proclaim the kingdom;  
and so did Chad your humble, saintly follower;  
and so may we, wherever we go.

PSALMS                    37: 23-28                    131

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 3: 17-24	God glorified by the humble
1 Corinthians 9: 16-23	I must preach the gospel
Matthew 11: 25-30	Learn from me.

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. *Luke 14: 11*

*St Stephen*

*August 3*

*The first Christian Martyr*

Stephen was one of the seven appointed to care for the needs of Hellenist widows in the early Jerusalem church. Presumably a Hellenist from the Jewish Dispersion himself, he was challenged by fellow Hellenistic Jews. His speech in Acts chapter seven is less a defence to their charges than a prosecution of the whole Jewish nation for its disobedience to God. In the account of his death, Stephen follows the pattern of the passion of Jesus. If Jesus is the first martyr of the new era, Stephen is the one who stands closest to him in God's heavenly glory.

SENTENCE

Stephen said, "I can see heaven open, and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God."

*Acts 7: 56*

COLLECTS

Merciful God,  
give us grace in all our sufferings for the truth  
to follow the example  
of your martyr Stephen,  
that we also may look to him who was crucified  
and pray for those who persecute us;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus,  
your glory is not in power alone  
but even more in suffering and death;  
may Stephen's vision  
crown our resolution and keep us true;  
for the glory of your holy name.

PSALMS                73: 24-28                119: 9-16

READINGS

2 Chronicles 24: 17-22

Acts 7: 54-60

Matthew 23: 34-38

The blood of Zechariah

The stoning of Stephen

Rejection of the prophets

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs  
among the people.

*Acts 6: 8*

*John Baptist Vianney*  
*Curé d'Ars, Priest*

*August 4*

Jean-Marie-Baptiste Vianney was born in 1786. Despite his academic limitations, he was eventually ordained in 1815. The ravages of the French Revolution meant that few were becoming priests and churches were not well patronised. At the age of thirty he was sent to the parish of Ars. Over the course of time he re-established the life of the parish. Above all he became known for his work in the confessional, where he “read people like a book”. Ars became a centre of pilgrimage, and he was recognised as a living saint. He died in 1859.

SENTENCE

Bless the Lord, you priests of the Lord: sing praise and highly exalt our God for ever.                   *Song of the Three Young Men 62 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
you gave to your servant John Vianney  
gifts of discernment and wise counsel;  
grant to all pastors  
a full measure of your wisdom and your love,  
that through their ministry  
your truth may be revealed;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Good shepherd,  
yours was the strength which kept Jean, Curé d'Ars,  
praying and reconciling year after year;  
protect us too, we pray,  
from fatigue which shrivels up compassion.

PSALMS                    103: 1-14                    119: 137-144

READINGS

Deuteronomy 10: 12-13	God's demands
1 Peter 4: 7-11	Using God's gifts
Matthew 16: 24-28	Taking up the cross

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.                    *James 5: 20*

*Oswald*  
*King of Northumbria, Martyr*

*August 5*

Oswald was one of the early Christian kings in Britain. During a period of exile he stayed at Iona and became a Christian there. In 633 he returned to Northumbria. Seeking to establish Christianity in his kingdom, he appealed to Iona for missionaries. Aidan was sent, and together they achieved the conversion of a large part of the district. Oswald was killed in a battle with Penda of Mercia. The English honoured Oswald as a martyr. He was a popular hero and canonised soon after his death in 642.

SENTENCE

You, O Lord, are king, you are clothed in majesty; you have robed yourself, and put on the girdle of strength.

*Psalm 93: 1*

COLLECTS

Eternal Lord God,  
your servant King Oswald  
set up the cross on the field of battle  
as a sign of his trust in you;  
set up the cross in the hearts of your people  
that we may triumph by its power;  
through Jesus Christ our servant king.

Jesus,  
Lord of the mystical past  
as much as of the present,  
you loved Oswald the Christian soldier king  
who taught his thanes the gospel;  
help us, if the experts fail us,  
to tackle the job ourselves.

PSALMS                    21                                    144

READINGS

Wisdom 5: 15-20	God's protection
Ephesians 6: 10-20	Strong in the Lord
Luke 9: 18-24	Taking up the cross

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to  
which you were called. *1 Timothy 6: 12*

## *The Transfiguration of the Beloved Son*      *August 6*

Matthew, Mark, and Luke, with some differences of detail, all record the episode shortly after Peter's great confession of faith, in which Jesus takes Peter, James and John up a mountain and is transfigured as a sign of his divine glory. The presence of Moses and Elijah attests the endorsement by Law and Prophets of Jesus' mission, and the divine voice from the cloud of God's glory confirms the status of Jesus and approves his coming journey to Jerusalem.

### SENTENCE

One thing I have asked of the Lord, which I long for: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on your beauty O Lord: and to seek you in your temple.      *Psalm 27: 4-5*

### COLLECTS

Jesus, your justice goes beyond the ancient law,  
your wisdom embodies all prophetic insight;  
make us glad to be yours,  
and able to follow you to Jerusalem;  
for the glory of your holy name.

God of life and glory,  
your Son was revealed in splendour  
before he suffered death upon the cross;  
grant that we, beholding his majesty,  
may be strengthened to follow him  
and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory;  
for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God now and for ever.

God of glory,  
you gave the vision of your Son  
to those who watched on the mountain;  
grant that by our glimpses of him  
we may be changed into his glorious likeness;  
for he is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever.

PSALMS                    27                    97

READINGS

Exodus 24: 12-18  
2 Peter 1: 16-21  
Luke 9: 28-36

Moses on the Mountain  
Eyewitness of Christ's majesty  
The transfiguration

“Jesus” is a version of the Hebrew name Yeshua (Joshua), very common among Jews in antiquity. In the gospel story, the weight falls not on Jesus’ circumcision (the sign of the covenant) but on his naming. The name was thought to mean “The Lord saves”; Jesus is to “save his people from their sins”. The name “Jesus” occurs frequently in the New Testament, often, outside the Gospels, in combinations like, “the Lord Jesus”, “Christ Jesus”, or “Jesus Christ”.

SENTENCE

Give thanks to the Lord, call on God’s name; make known the Lord’s deeds among the nations, proclaim that God’s name is exalted.

*Isaiah 12: 4 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Merciful God,  
you gave your Son Jesus  
a name which is above every name,  
and taught us that in him is our salvation;  
grant that we who are called by him  
may serve you in peace and joy,  
and by our lives show to all the world  
the saving power of his holy name;  
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus,  
your name is manna to the hungry soul,  
rest to the weary;  
you are light to the world,  
the only hope in our darkness;  
blessed be your name for ever.

PSALMS                    8                    54

READINGS

Isaiah 7: 10-14

Emmanuel

Romans 1: 1-6

Obedience for his name

Matthew 1: 18-25

You shall call his name Jesus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name.

*Philippians 2: 9*

*Dominic*  
*Priest*

*August 8*

Dominic was born in Spain about 1170. He had great sympathy for those critical of the wealth and corruption of the church in Europe at the time. He felt called to preach to those who wanted to abandon the church for the popular but heretical ascetic sects such as the Albigensians and Waldensians. He formed the Order of Preachers, now called the Dominicans, as a group committed to serious study and poverty as necessary tools for the proper preaching of the gospel. He died at Bologna in 1221.

SENTENCE

Your hands have made me and shaped me, O Lord; give me understanding that I may learn your commandments. *Psalm 119: 73*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
by your gifts Dominic exercised  
a ministry of preaching and teaching  
and established an order to proclaim your gospel;  
inspire us by your Holy Spirit,  
that we may love your truth  
and proclaim your gospel in everything we do;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Blessed are you, Holy Spirit,  
in the Black Friars;  
blessed are you in Dominic  
and his message  
that persuasion wins more than persecution.

PSALMS                    25: 1-9                    119: 129-136

READINGS

Isaiah 12	Proclaim God's name
1 Corinthians 1: 18-25	We preach Christ crucified
Matthew 10: 5-13	Preach as you go

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.                    *2 Corinthians 4: 5*

*Mary MacKillop*  
*Teacher*

*8 August*

Mary MacKillop was born in Melbourne in 1842. She became heavily involved in Catholic education of poor children in South Australia, and in 1867 set up an Order, the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, to further this work. The work expanded rapidly in many parts of Australia, and also in New Zealand where the first school was opened in 1883. The Order was not always popular with the authorities, but flourished nevertheless. Mary suffered a stroke while visiting Rotorua in 1901, but continued to run the Order till her death on 8 August 1909.

SENTENCE

Make known to me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.

*Psalms 25: 3*

COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
you gave to your servant Mary MacKillop  
a heart to teach and care for children.  
We thank you for the good she and her order have done.  
By your grace give us a like compassion for the poor  
and a concern for the education of the young  
that we all may learn to praise you with joyful hearts;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed are you, Jesus,  
in Mary and her Brown Joeys;  
who cared for the young  
and taught them to sing your praises.  
May we never put stumbling blocks in their way.

PSALMS                    119: 1-8                    119: 33-40

READINGS

Proverbs 2: 1-11	Attentive to wisdom
Ephesians 4: 14-16	Growing up into Christ
Matthew 18: 1-5	Becoming like children

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom.                    *Colossians 3: 16a*

*Mary Sumner*  
*Founder of the Mothers' Union*

*August 9*

Mary Sumner was born in 1828, and in 1876 founded the Mothers' Union in the parish of Alresford. She was inspired by a great vision concerning the Christian responsibilities of motherhood. Mary gathered together women, many young and inexperienced and from different social backgrounds, for weekly classes. During her lifetime Mary Sumner saw the organisation spread throughout Great Britain and overseas and become an important part of the Anglican Communion. She died in 1921.

SENTENCE

There is no Holy One like the Lord, no one besides you: there is no rock like our God.

*1 Samuel 2: 2*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
your Son Jesus Christ knew the shelter of a mother's love  
and the protection of a mother's prayer;  
we thank you for Mary Sumner  
and the Mothers' Union she founded;  
by your Spirit may your church continue  
to make strong the homes and families of this land;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Praise to you, God of the ever-changing family,  
for the Mothers' Union  
and for Mary its founder;  
Praise to you that women who serve the church  
have come to a real share in its leadership;  
praise to you for all they have achieved,  
here and all over the world.

PSALMS                    119: 9-16                    123

READINGS

Proverbs 24: 3-4	Foundations for a home
Ephesians 5: 25 - 6: 4	Christian family life
Luke 11: 9-13	Good gifts to children

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation - if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

*1 Peter 2: 3*

*Laurence*  
*Deacon and Martyr at Rome*

*August 10*

Laurence was one of the seven deacons in Rome during the pontificate of Sixtus II. He died in 258 during the persecution by Valerian. At his trial Laurence was asked to produce the treasures of the church. It is said that he assembled a crowd of poor people amongst whom, as a deacon, he had distributed the church's relief funds, and presented them to the prefect, saying, "These are the treasures of the church." The story of his dying by being roasted on a gridiron is a much later addition to the story.

SENTENCE

The Lord stands at the right hand of the poor, to save from death those unjustly condemned.

*Psalm 109: 31*

COLLECTS

Merciful God,  
you have shown yourself  
as the defender of the oppressed;  
kindle in us your loving, sacrificial fire,  
so that we, like Laurence,  
may treasure the least of your children,  
in the name of our Saviour and brother, Jesus Christ.

Jesus the crucified,  
blessed are you in Laurence your gallant deacon,  
who, when asked to surrender his church's treasures,  
paraded the sick and the poor;  
help us to make our values yours.

PSALMS                    66    86: 11-17

READINGS

Tobit 4: 5-11	The duty of almsgiving
2 Corinthians 9: 6-12	God loves a cheerful giver
Matthew 6: 19-24	Treasure in heaven

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Everyone who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven."            *Matthew 10: 32*

*Clare of Assisi*  
*Abbess*

*August 11*

Clare was born into a patrician family of Assisi in 1194. At the age of 18 she ran away from home to join Francis and his poor brothers. Under his guidance she became the founder and first abbess of the order now called "The Poor Clares". She directed and led the order with loving discretion and devotion for nearly forty years. Strongly ascetic though the rule of the order was, Clare still warned about extremes: "Our bodies are not made of brass", she once wrote. She died in 1253.

SENTENCE

The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the Lord, and the neediest of the people shall exult in the Holy One of Israel. *Isaiah 29: 19*

COLLECTS

Loving God,  
your Son became poor  
that he might make many rich;  
by the example of your servant Clare,  
inspire in us a singleness of heart in your service,  
so that we may love and care for those around us,  
in humble obedience to Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, you called the gentle lady Clare  
to be poor,  
and by her prayer,  
her sweetness, her courage and self-denial,  
to reflect your glory;  
help us to see the value of poverty and prayer.

PSALMS                    63: 1-9                    116: 1-9

READINGS

Proverbs 22: 1-2, 4, 8-9	A good name is better than riches
2 Corinthians 6: 3-10	Poor, yet making many rich
Luke 12: 32-34	Treasure in heaven

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

God chose the poor people in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom.                    *James 2: 5 (adapted)*

*Florence Nightingale*  
*Nurse*

*August 13*

Florence Nightingale was born in 1820. Dissatisfied with her comfortable life, she felt called by God to devote her life to nursing. She gained what little training was then available. She offered her services to the British army on the outbreak of the Crimean War in 1854, and was sent to the military hospital at Scutari in Turkey. Her selfless devotion to her task won her the acclaim of her patients and recognition for social service by women. By the time she died in 1910, nursing had become a valued and honoured profession.

SENTENCE

You have caused your marvellous acts to be remembered; you Lord are gracious and full of compassion.

*Psalms 111: 4*

COLLECTS

God of compassion and healing,  
you called Florence Nightingale to devote her life  
to nursing the sick and wounded;  
strengthen us to reveal your caring love  
through every tender act,  
for the building of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

You are glorified, healing Saviour,  
in your servant Florence  
and in the women and men  
who have devoted themselves to nursing;  
may the lamp she lit  
to bring help and comfort to sufferers  
be held high by her successors.

PSALMS                    72: 1-4, 12-20    146

READINGS

Isaiah 58: 6-9

Compassion and health

James 1: 22-27

Doers of the word

Luke 10: 25-37

Compassion

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple, will not lose their reward."

*Matthew 10: 42 (adapted)*

*Maximilian Kolbe*  
*Priest, Martyr*

*August 14*

Maximilian Kolbe was a Franciscan priest whose commitment to truth took him to Auschwitz, where he voluntarily sacrificed his life. He was born in 1894. Before the German invasion of Poland in 1939 he had become a leading Catholic publisher and head of a Franciscan house. He was sent to Auschwitz for publishing material critical of the Third Reich. When in August 1941 ten prisoners were condemned to be starved to death in reprisal for a single escape, Kolbe offered to take the place of a family man, who lived to attend Kolbe's canonisation in 1982.

SENTENCE

I called on your name, O Lord, from the depths of the pit. You came near when I called on you; you said, "Do not fear!"

*Lamentations 3: 55, 57*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
your gift to us is life eternal  
through your Son's willing sacrifice of himself;  
may the example of Maximilian Kolbe  
strengthen us to spend ourselves in your service  
and bear the burdens of others even to death;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus, you gave your life so others should live;  
Maximilian your follower  
took a fellow-prisoner's place  
to save him for his family;  
to you be praise and glory  
for those who follow you.

PSALMS                    13                                    79

READINGS

2 Maccabees 6: 18-20, 30-31	A memorial of courage
1 Peter 2: 19-24	Healed by Christ's wounds
John 15: 9-14	One's life for one's friends

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul."  
*Matthew 10: 28*

Mary was a devout Jewess who humbly accepted the call of God to be the mother of the Lord Jesus. She performed for the baby Jesus all that the Law required. She and the rest of Jesus' family were not intimately involved in Jesus' public ministry, but Mary was at the crucifixion, where Jesus gave her into the care of the beloved disciple. She and Jesus' brothers became believers and part of the early church. The church has always honoured Mary for her part in the story of salvation.

SENTENCE

The Angel Gabriel came to her and said, "Hail, O favoured one!"

*Luke 1: 28a*

COLLECTS

God of love,  
you chose the blessed virgin Mary  
to be the mother of your only Son;  
grant that we who have been redeemed by his blood,  
may share with her the glory of your eternal kingdom;  
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, your birth is wonderful  
and your mother is the most beloved woman of all time.  
Help all of us who believe in you  
to honour each other equally,  
whatever our gender,  
whatever our ability,  
whatever our social state may be;  
to the honour of your holy name.

PSALMS                    34: 1-4                    46

READINGS

Isaiah 61: 7	Yours shall be everlasting joy
Galatians 4: 4-7	Born of a woman
Luke 1: 46-55	Magnificat

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Hail, O favoured one, the Lord is with you! The Holy Spirit will come upon you. *Luke 1: 28, 35*

The holy women of the Old Testament were examples of many things. Some were victims, like Jephthah's daughter. Some were leaders and prophets, like Huldah, the consultant to King Josiah, Deborah among the judges, and Miriam in the Exodus. In Egypt, Moses and the whole Hebrew people were preserved through the independent actions of women. Women figure also in the period after the exile. In the patriarchal literature of a patriarchal society, however, there are many others whose parts in God's purposes are not recorded.

SENTENCE

You O Lord have robed yourself, and put on the girdle of strength;  
holiness adorns your house for ever. *Psalm 93: 1, 5*

COLLECTS

God of the past and present,  
your glory has been revealed in Scripture  
in the lives of holy women;  
may we, following the example of Deborah and Hannah  
and all holy women who sought to obey your call,  
strive to serve you truly all our lives;  
for the sake of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

God, you watched over the Hebrew women  
from Sarah to Elizabeth,  
and also to Mary who brought Jesus into the world;  
help us to build on the good things they have left us.

PSALMS                    37: 1-9                    40

READINGS

1 Samuel 2: 1-10	Hannah's song
Acts 16: 11-15	Conversion of Lydia
Mark 3: 31-35	The family of the Lord

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

You chose us, O God, in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before you in love. *Ephesians 1: 4 (adapted)*

*Brother Roger of Taizé*  
*Encourager of Youth*

*August 16*

Brother Roger was born in Switzerland in 1915. In 1944 he established a community in Taizé committed to the task of reconciliation. He embraced Catholic ideas, but without repudiating his own Protestant tradition. He was joined by others and the community now numbers about 100 members. Taizé became a place of pilgrimage, especially for young people from all over Europe and around the world. Brother Roger shunned publicity, but wrote extensively on spirituality and justice. The musical tradition fostered by Brother Roger at Taizé has found wide acceptance in many places. Brother Roger was tragically killed on 16 August 2005.

SENTENCE

I will sing of your steadfast love for ever, O Lord; my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness from one generation to another. *Psalm 89: 1*

COLLECTS

God of mercy,  
you reconciled us to yourself in Christ;  
and of that good news  
your servant Brother Roger was a passionate witness  
in and through the community at Taizé;  
help us to follow his example  
of renewing trust in one another and in you,  
that together we may join in harmony to sing your praises;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus,  
you brought reconciliation through your cross,  
and at Taizé Brother Roger  
sang, lived and prayed that way of life.  
Mould us to do likewise.

PSALMS                    85                                    108: 1-6

READINGS

Isaiah 32: 1, 2, 14-18

Justice and peace

2 Corinthians 5: 16 - 6: 2

Ambassadors for Christ

Matthew 5: 21-24

First be reconciled

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

*Matthew 5: 9*

*Bernard of Clairvaux*  
*Abbot, Poet*

*August 20*

Bernard was born in 1090 and at 22 joined the Cistercian Order. His remarkable dedication and gifts of leadership soon became apparent. In 1115 he established the abbey of Clairvaux. From there he had a profound influence on the whole of Europe. Bernard preached with immense energy and power. A strong defender of Christian values, he had a clear grasp of theological issues, though his criticism of others was sometimes unfair, and his advocacy of the disastrous Second Crusade made him unpopular in some quarters. His contribution to monasticism has been lasting. He died in 1153.

SENTENCE

The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day. *Proverbs 4: 18*

COLLECTS

Holy and merciful God,  
through your Son, the world's true light,  
you called Bernard to a passionate zeal for your truth;  
enable us to use our gifts for the good of all,  
and fire us with a spirit of love and discipline;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of the cloister as of the world at large,  
blessed are you in Bernard,  
abbot to a community reformed,  
teacher whose words were sweet honey;  
breathe life and feeling into all we say and do.

PSALMS            19                            139: 1-11

READINGS

Proverbs 4: 5-9	Wisdom will exalt you
Ephesians 5: 6-14	Light in the Lord
John 14: 27-31a	Doing the Father's commands

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

The fear of you, O Lord, is the beginning of wisdom, those who revere you have good understanding; your praise shall endure for ever. *Psalm 111: 10*

*Rose of Lima*  
*Mystic*

*August 23*

Rose was the first canonised saint of the Americas. She was born in 1586 in Lima to parents of Spanish descent. She had an ardent love of God and, reckoning that anything that might endanger that love must be rooted out of her life, she imposed upon herself severe austerity and mortification. Objections and ridicule from her family and friends did nothing to dissuade her. In the last years of her life Rose cared for homeless children, the elderly and the sick. She died at the age of 31 in 1617.

SENTENCE

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but stands for ever.

*Psalms 125: 1*

COLLECTS

Merciful God,  
for love of you  
Rose of Lima took up the cross and embraced suffering;  
may we learn from her  
to regard material possessions lightly  
and to show the radiance of your love to all we meet;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus our Redeemer,  
blessed are you in Rose the sufferer,  
minister to the poor and oppressed;  
blessed are you in the poor of Lima,  
who chose her to be their saint.

PSALMS                    16                                    119: 153-160

READINGS

Isaiah 50: 7-9	God will help me
Hebrews 9: 11-14	To serve the living God
Mark 10: 35-45	Not to be served but to serve

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."                    *Matthew 16: 25*

*St Bartholomew (Nathanael)  
the Apostle*

*August 24*

The Calendar in the Prayer Book assumes that Bartholomew and Nathanael are one and the same. The identification is probable but not certain. About Bartholomew we know nothing other than his name in various lists of apostles in the first three Gospels and Acts. Nathanael, mentioned only by John, was brought to Jesus by Philip and becomes symbolic of an Israelite worthy of the name, who will see the hopes of Israel fulfilled in Jesus. Nathanael appears again in the resurrection episode beside Lake Galilee.

SENTENCE

What we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. *2 Corinthians 4: 5*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
grant that as the apostle Bartholomew truly believed  
and preached the word of life,  
so now your Church may continually hear and proclaim  
the gospel of Jesus Christ,  
to the glory of your name.

Bestow upon us, Lord,  
the grace of the honest and open heart  
which you gave to Bartholomew,  
so that we may rightly discern the truth  
and willingly believe in your Son Jesus Christ.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

PSALMS            112                            116

READINGS

Genesis 28: 10-17

Jacob's vision

2 Corinthians 4: 1-10

The apostolic teaching

John 1: 45-51

The call of Nathanael

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

When Jesus saw Nathanael he said, "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false!"

*John 1: 47*

*Monica*  
*Mother of Augustine of Hippo*

*August 27*

Monica was born in North Africa about 331, and is principally remembered as the mother of Augustine. She was a devout Christian, who exercised considerable influence not only on her son, but also on her husband, who required tactful handling, but whom she eventually brought into the church. As a widow, Monica pursued Augustine to Italy and shared deeply in the worship of the church in Milan under Bishop Ambrose and in her son's conversion and baptism. Monica and Augustine returned to North Africa in 387, but Monica died en route at Ostia.

SENTENCE

I waited patiently for you O Lord, and you bent down to me and heard my cry.

*Psalm 40: 1*

COLLECTS

Gracious and loving God,  
you rewarded Monica's continuing love  
and persevering prayers  
with the conversion of her son Augustine;  
grant that we may learn to love without faltering  
and pray without ceasing,  
so that we may attain the vision of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of the widow  
who would not take "No" for an answer,  
as we honour Monica  
who prayed for her son, year in, year out,  
help us to pray earnestly  
and leave the result to you.

PSALMS                    119: 145-152      121

READINGS

1 Samuel 1: 9-18	Hannah's prayer
1 Timothy 5: 3-5	Prayers night and day
Luke 18: 1-8	Perseverance in prayer

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you."                    *Matthew 7: 7*

*Augustine*  
*Bishop of Hippo, Teacher of the Faith*

*August 28*

Augustine, the most influential figure of the early church in the west, was born in North Africa in 354. His search for truth led him eventually to acceptance of costly discipleship. He was baptised in Milan in 387 and returned to North Africa, becoming Bishop of Hippo in 395. His *Confessions* is a classic spiritual autobiography, and his *City of God* shaped western thinking about the meaning of historical events. Augustine also wrote extensively on grace against those who looked for visible evidence in themselves or the church of their standing before God. He died in 430.

SENTENCE

Glorious things are spoken of you, Zion, city of our God. Singers and dancers alike shall proclaim, "In you all find their home."

*Psalms 87: 3, 6*

COLLECTS

Gracious and everloving God,  
the end of all our searching,  
you gave to your servant Augustine  
gifts of heart and mind  
to seek after you and to serve you;  
grant us in our pilgrimage here on earth  
to walk in the light of your truth,  
and at the last to rest in you  
and know you as you are;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gracious, reconciling God,  
you gave comfort to Augustine,  
wrestling with his sense of sin;  
give us confidence to believe your creation is good,  
and help our restless hearts  
to find their rest in you.

PSALMS                    84                    119: 89-96

READINGS

Proverbs 2: 6-11	Wisdom a gift from God
Romans 13: 8-14	Put on the Lord Jesus
Matthew 7: 21-27	Like a wise builder

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.                    *Philippians 3: 20*

The Calendar provides for a general commemoration of John the Baptist on 24 June, and on 29 August for a particular commemoration of his death at the hands of Herod Antipas. John's call to repentance and his message of God's coming judgement had connotations of messianic claims that Herod found extremely worrying. John was eventually the victim of Herodias's anger at his criticism of her marriage to Herod.

SENTENCE

Deliverance is at hand for those who fear you, O Lord, so that your glory may dwell in our land.

*Psalm 85: 9*

COLLECTS

Just and merciful God,  
you called John the Baptist to witness to your commands,  
even at the cost of his life;  
give us courage to contend for justice  
and to speak for the oppressed to the end;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus, let not our disgust at John's execution  
distract us from the bestial behaviour which caused it,  
and which in our civilised society,  
happens day by day.

PSALMS                    3                                    119: 161-168

READINGS

Jeremiah 1: 14-19

Called to witness

Revelation 6: 9-11

Put to death for the word

Matthew 14: 1-12

The death of John the Baptist

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist."                                    *Matthew 11: 11*

*Aidan*  
*Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary*

*August 31*

Aidan was a monk from Iona who went to Northumbria in 635 in response to the invitation of King Oswald. Aidan became Bishop of Lindisfarne, a small island where he established a monastery. From there, accompanied by Oswald, he launched his mission in Northumbria. His gentleness and Celtic asceticism, as well as his deep concern for the poor, drew people to Christ. By his own example, he taught the value of prayer, the need to meditate on the Scriptures, and the importance of education. He died in 651.

SENTENCE

The heavens proclaim your righteousness, O God, and all the peoples see your glory.

*Psalm 97: 6*

COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
we thank you for the gifts of gentleness,  
simplicity and strength,  
by which your servant Aidan  
won many to your gospel;  
increase your gifts in us,  
that we may be true to our calling  
to proclaim the good news  
and to fulfil the commission  
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Caring and surprising God,  
you sent Aidan the gentle Irishman  
to help convert the English;  
your ways are not our ways,  
and for that we give you thanks.



## *The Builders of the Anglican Church    September 1 in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia*

While the Calendar commemorates by name the most important and well known figures of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, there are many others who have contributed to the building up of the church. Their efforts in their day, from the beginning of the nineteenth century till today are remembered with gratitude and heartfelt thanksgiving.

### SENTENCE

Call to remembrance O Lord your tender care and the unfailing love which you have shown from of old. *Psalms 25: 5*

### COLLECTS

Everlasting God,  
your messengers have carried the good news of Christ  
to the ends of the earth;  
grant that we who commemorate  
the builders of your Church in these islands  
may know the truth of the gospel in our hearts  
and build well on the foundations they have laid;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of every generation  
that has been and is yet to be,  
we praise and thank you  
for those who have served and shaped  
your Church beneath the Southern Cross;  
in our day raise up prophets and visionaries  
to bring us new insights, new challenges  
and renewed confidence in you and the gospel of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

PSALMS                    126                    145

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 44: 1-15 <i>or</i>	Famous people of the past
Proverbs 8: 1-13	Wisdom for the people
1 Corinthians 3: 11-17	Christ the true foundation
Matthew 5: 1-12	The beatitudes

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Come to him, our living stone; come and let yourselves be built as living stones into a spiritual temple.                    *1 Peter 2: 4-6 (adapted)*

## *The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea*      *September 2*

When the Second World War came to Papua New Guinea, the Anglican bishop, Philip Strong, expressing the general feeling amongst the mission staff, urged missionaries to stay with their people. Most of them from all the church missions did. Some survived the war, but 272 Christians died. These included 12 Anglicans, who are especially commemorated by the Anglican Church today. They died in various incidents in Papua New Guinea, the largest group being beheaded on the beach at Buna.

### SENTENCE

When I am afraid O God most high, I will put my trust in you.

*Psalm 56: 3*

### COLLECTS

Loving God,  
we thank you for the martyrs of Papua New Guinea,  
who remained faithful in their ministry  
in danger and even to death;  
may their witness strengthen your church today  
in service and courage,  
and in the power of the Spirit;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Suppliant at Gethsemane, Christ of the martyrs,  
we praise you for the missionaries of Papua New Guinea,  
who came to serve their people  
and stayed when they might have escaped;  
may we too be willing, should you ask,  
to drink your cup.

PSALMS                    86                                    143

READINGS

Zephaniah 3: 14-20

God is with you

1 Corinthians 4: 9-16

A spectacle to the world

Luke 12: 4-8

Do not be afraid

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Observe, from generation to generation, that none of those who put their trust in God will lack strength.                                    *1 Maccabees 2: 61*

*Albert Schweitzer*  
*Medical Missionary, Theologian*

*September 4*

Albert Schweitzer was born in Germany in 1875 and educated at Berlin and Paris. He was a brilliant musician, philosopher, theologian and author, who in 1913 put aside an assured life of fame and fortune in Europe to go to West Africa as a medical missionary. There he established a hospital at Lambaréné based on the pattern of an African village. Apart from an interlude in Europe during and after the First World War, and later visits to Europe, he worked for the remainder of his life in Equatorial Africa. He died in 1965.

SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it." *Luke 9: 24*

COLLECTS

God of constant surprise,  
through faith in Jesus Christ  
you turn upside down the values of this world  
and confound the wisdom of this age;  
may the selfless service that Albert Schweitzer gave  
out of love for you and reverence for life  
increase our commitment and compassion,  
that we too may stand against the false values of our age,  
in the strength of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, Lord of all life,  
you come to us as one nameless and unknown,  
as you came to Albert of Lambaréné;  
help us to serve you with every gift we have.

PSALMS                    8                    108: 1-6

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 17: 1-13	To see God's glory
1 John 2: 14-17	Do not love the world
Luke 18: 18-27	Leaving all to follow Christ

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

*Romans 12: 21*

*Mother Teresa*  
*Missionary of Charity*

*September 5*

Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu was born in 1910 in Albania. She joined the Sisters of Loreto and went to India in 1929, taking her final vows in 1937 as Sr Teresa. In 1948 founded her own order, the Missionaries of Charity. For the rest of her life Mother Teresa ministered to the poor, sick, orphaned, and dying in Calcutta. She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. She was widely admired as an advocate for the destitute. Following her death on 5 September 1997 she was beatified by the pope and given the title, Blessed Teresa of Calcutta.

SENTENCE

You are my helper and deliverer; make no long delay, O my God.

*Psalm 40: 22*

COLLECTS

Compassionate God,  
by your grace Mother Teresa became a shining light  
in the darkness of poverty and destitution;  
grant that strengthened by her example  
we may work for the inclusion of all people  
within the embrace of our charity  
and an end to the conditions that deprive your children  
of freedom and justice;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus,  
for love of you  
Teresa embraced the leper and the outcast  
and gave them dignity.  
Free us from our complicity  
in all that leads to injustice.

PSALMS            10: 13-20            82

READINGS

Deuteronomy 24: 17-22	Remember, you were slaves
James 1: 22-27	Doers of the word
Mark 10: 46-52	The blind beggar, Bartimaeus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the rights of all the destitute. *Proverbs 31: 8*

*Charles Fox*  
*Scholar, Missionary*

*September 6*

Charles Elliot Fox was born in 1878 and joined the Melanesian Mission in 1902. He served with the mission in various capacities for over seventy years. He was a man of scholarship, courage, generosity of spirit, and humility, and his influence on the education and spiritual life of Melanesia was unequalled. His work among the villages during World War II was legendary. He wrote on Melanesian culture and history, and did much translation work. His sense of identity with the Melanesian people was marked by his spending eleven years as a member of the Melanesian Brotherhood. He died in 1977.

SENTENCE

If I take the wings of the dawn, and alight at the uttermost parts of the sea, even there, O Lord, your hand will lead me, and your right hand will hold me fast. *Psalm 139: 8, 9*

COLLECTS

Loving God,  
for whom the isles wait,  
we thank you for your servant Charles Elliot Fox,  
whose brilliance and spirit  
enlivened your church in Melanesia;  
help us, like him, to be steadfast in hope,  
patient in suffering,  
and enquiring in mind,  
true disciples of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of the vast Pacific and of its many islands,  
blessed are you in Charles the scholar missionary;  
may the church he fostered,  
voyage after voyage, year upon year,  
go on from strength to strength.

PSALMS                    33: 1-12                    89: 8-18

READINGS

Isaiah 24: 13-16a	The islands praise the Lord
1 Peter 4: 7-11	Serve others
Matthew 13: 47-52	Treasures new and old

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.                    *2 Timothy 4: 5*

Much of the evangelistic spreading of the gospel in the Pacific has been done by the Pacific peoples themselves. Under the leadership of the great European missionaries of both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the Christian message has been first accepted and then spread by the peoples of the Pacific. From Papua New Guinea to Tahiti, from Australia to Hawaii, from Micronesia to New Zealand, the good news has been proclaimed. Surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, we rejoice in their memory and pray that we will follow their examples.

SENTENCE

You, O Lord, have displayed your saving power to all the nations.

*Psalms 98: 2*

COLLECTS

God of the boundless ocean  
and the southern stars,  
you have set the saints and martyrs of the Pacific  
to light the way for the churches of this region;  
in our turn make us true and trustworthy beacons,  
pointing to our way, our truth, our life,  
Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of the Pacific,  
we praise you for those who gave their lives  
to bring the gospel of peace to us,  
for those who have spent their lives proclaiming peace;  
may we learn peace for all the world.

PSALMS                    65: 1-8                    107: 23-32

READINGS

Isaiah 42: 8-12	God's praises sung
Galatians 4: 4-7	Children of God
Luke 2: 25-32	For all peoples

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.                    *Matthew 5: 16*

## *The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary    September 8* *Mother of our Lord*

The Church has honoured Mary, the mother of Jesus, from the beginning. Then the debates of the fourth century about the full humanity of Christ led to an enhanced celebration of Mary, including her birth, even though nothing reliable is known about her birth or family. The feast of Mary's birth was widely observed in the church, and was retained in the *Book of Common Prayer*.

### SENTENCE

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.    *Matthew 5: 8*

### COLLECTS

Eternal God,  
you called the blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of our Saviour;  
grant that we, after her example,  
may humbly accept the tasks you give us  
and faithfully bring them to completion;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of wonders,  
all glory to you,  
that we should honour the birthday  
of Mary, a humble Jewish maiden,  
and that she should be called your mother.

PSALMS                    127                    131

READINGS

Ruth 4: 13-16

The gift of a child

James 1: 17-18

Birth from the word of truth

Luke 8: 19-21

Jesus' mother

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

By your great mercy, O God, you have given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

*1 Peter 1: 3 (adapted)*

*Cyprian*  
*Bishop of Carthage, Martyr*

*September 13*

Cyprian was born about 200 and did not become a Christian until he was forty-six. Soon after that, he was made Bishop of Carthage, and for ten years he courageously led the church there through years of bitter persecution. He gave clear leadership in the tense debates over those who lapsed from their faith. Then he himself suffered martyrdom at the hands of the Roman authorities in the year 258.

SENTENCE

You, O God, are my shield and defence, you preserve those who are true of heart.

*Psalm 7: 10*

COLLECTS

God of truth,  
you raised up your servant Cyprian  
to be Bishop of Carthage and a champion of the faith,  
even to the point of death;  
accept our service,  
increase our faith,  
and keep us always true to our calling,  
as disciples of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God, you are strength to those who trust you;  
may we have the boldness you gave to Cyprian,  
that embattled, martyred bishop in Carthage,  
and so bring courage to others.

PSALMS                    75                                    119: 73-80

READINGS

Ezekiel 34: 11-16	A guardian of the flock
1 Corinthians 12: 4-13, 27	Members of one body
Luke 9: 23-26	The cost of discipleship

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Do your best to present yourself to God, as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.  
*2 Timothy 2: 15 (adapted)*

Holy Cross Day is associated with the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem on 14 September 335. During the excavations for the new basilica, the empress Helena, Constantine's mother, identified some wood found in the rubble as a relic of the true cross. The day is an occasion to remember and reflect on the humiliating and agonising method of Jesus' saving death.

SENTENCE

We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world is crucified to us and we to the world.      *Galatians 6: 14*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
in the passion of your blessed Son  
you made an instrument of shameful death  
to be for us the means of life;  
grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ  
that we may gladly suffer for his sake,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God now and for ever.

Jesus, crucified and risen,  
you have turned a criminal's cross  
into release and reconciliation.  
Let us who are marked with the cross  
be not ashamed to witness to you;  
for the glory of your holy name.

PSALMS            2                    98

READINGS

Isaiah 45: 20-25

Philippians 2: 5-11

John 12: 31-36a

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself."

*John 12: 32*

*Ninian*  
*Bishop in Galloway, Missionary*

*September 16*

Ninian was the first British missionary to devote himself to work among the pagan Picts of southern Scotland. He established a monastic community at Whithorn, along the lines of the communities established by Martin of Tours, whom Ninian admired. He was Bishop of southern Scotland, north of the Roman wall. Ninian died at Whithorn about 432.

SENTENCE

“See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the furthest parts of the earth,” says the Lord.

*Jeremiah 31: 8*

COLLECTS

God of the farthest reaches of the earth,  
where there is darkness you shed light,  
where there is oppression, grace;  
we praise you for your servant Ninian,  
pioneer of the gospel  
among his own people in the British Isles;  
kindle in us a gospel fire  
to carry your light and grace  
to every part of our land;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of the great and marvellous idea,  
may we, like Ninian, who went out to convert the Scots,  
set ourselves goals which are a worthy offering to you.

PSALMS                    26                    61

READINGS

Jeremiah 33: 10-16	The promise of God
1 Peter 5: 6-11	Stand firm
Matthew 4: 12-23	Jesus' mission

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ.                    *Titus 2: 11, 13*

*Hildegarde of Bingen*  
*Mystic, Religious*

*September 17*

Hildegarde of Bingen was born in 1098 and became abbess of a Benedictine women's community. She was remarkably gifted in many fields: abbess, prophet, theologian and reformer, composer, artist and scientist. In her lifetime she was famed as a healer and spiritual counsellor. Later generations revered her fiery apocalyptic preaching. Today many find attractive her gift of holistic vision and her unflinching quest for justice. She died in 1179.

SENTENCE

I will now call to mind the works of the Lord, and will declare what I have seen.

*Ecclesiasticus 42: 15*

COLLECTS

Creator Spirit,  
your word is living, being, all-verdant greening,  
manifesting in every creature;  
we celebrate the lively insight of Hildegarde  
and rejoice in the many talents  
she employed in your service;  
inspire in all your people the same integrity  
and the same imagination,  
till the knowledge of you  
shall shower upon us in Christ our Lord.

Light to dark ages,  
light divine to Hildegarde  
abbess, counsellor to the great, visionary;  
the sybil of the Rhine;  
may we always give honour  
to women of imagination and ability.

PSALMS                    19    104: 25-36

READINGS

Proverbs 8: 12-14, 22-31	Wisdom in creation
2 Corinthians 12: 1-6a	Visions of the Lord
Matthew 13: 10-17	Secrets of the kingdom

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Let us press on to know the Lord, whose appearing is as sure as the dawn; the Lord will come to us like showers, like the spring rains that water the earth. *Hosea 6: 3*

*Theodore of Tarsus*  
*Archbishop of Canterbury*

*September 19*

Theodore was sixty-six years of age and a monk from Tarsus living in Italy when he was sent to England as the new Archbishop of Canterbury. The church was in disarray and dispirited, but by the time Theodore died in 690 it was well organised and confident, thanks to his wisdom and reforming zeal. He was renowned as a scholar, educationist, lover of music and administrator. He did much to resolve the differences in the English church between the older Celtic traditions and the newer Roman ones.

SENTENCE

Keep steady my footsteps, O God, according to your promise.

*Psalm 119: 133*

COLLECT

God of all truth,  
you called Theodore of Tarsus  
to minister in an alien land,  
and enabled him to establish unity  
where there had been division  
and order where there had been chaos;  
give to your church such vision and harmony,  
that it may proclaim by word and deed  
the gospel of the prince of peace,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of the ordered universe,  
blessed are you in your faithful steward Theodore,  
archbishop, architect, administrator  
of the church in England;  
may our work in your church stand here through the ages.

PSALMS                    34: 8-15                    122

READINGS

Ezra 7: 6-10	A leader from afar
2 Thessalonians 1: 3-5	That you may be made worthy
John 15: 1-8	Abide in the vine

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

The aim of our Christian instruction is love that comes from a pure heart, a good conscience, and sincere faith. *1 Timothy 1: 5 (adapted)*

*John Coleridge Patteson*  
*First Bishop of Melanesia*  
*Martyr*

*September 20*

John Coleridge Patteson was born in 1827 and came to New Zealand to assist Bishop Selwyn. He was put in charge of the Melanesian Mission. As its bishop from 1861, he opened up the islands to the gospel, and educated Melanesians to be priests and evangelists. He was a brilliant linguist, and did much to further the work of the mission by his warmth and modest charm. His murder on the island of Nukapu on 20 September 1871 was at the hands of people for whom he would gladly have given his life.

SENTENCE

In the day of my distress I will call, O Lord, and surely you will answer me.

*Psalm 86: 7*

COLLECTS

God of the southern isles and seas,  
we remember with thanksgiving your servant John Patteson,  
whose life was taken by those  
for whom he would freely have given it;  
grant us the same courage in extending your gospel  
and readiness to share our life with others,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

God of the resurrection, blessed are you in John,  
first bishop to the Melanesians;  
for by his willing sacrifice  
you revealed the people's cruel suffering,  
and their right to hear the gospel.

PSALMS                    16                                    116: 1-9

READINGS

Hosea 11: 1-4	Bonds of kindness
2 Corinthians 4: 5-12	Given up to death
Mark 8: 31-35	For the sake of the gospel

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith,  
in purity. *1 Timothy 4: 12*

*Saint Matthew*  
*Apostle, Evangelist*

*September 21*

Matthew's name appears in lists of the twelve apostles of Jesus. According to Matthew's Gospel, Matthew was a tax collector, though Mark and Luke call the tax collector Levi. According to Luke, when he became a follower of Jesus, Levi or Matthew held a feast in Jesus' honour. Nothing else is known for certain about Matthew. The Gospel that bears his name may originate from a church associated with him, but it owes much also to other proclamations of the gospel message.

SENTENCE

Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them, and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

*Matthew 28: 19-20*

COLLECTS

Gracious and eternal God,  
through your Son Jesus Christ  
you called Matthew from his place of business  
to be an apostle and evangelist;  
free us from all greed and selfish love of money  
that we may follow in the steps of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus, Word of God, may we hear your call  
to lay aside sharp practices and ruthlessness;  
and still, like Matthew, to love  
all those with whom we live and work;  
for the glory of your holy name.

PSALMS                    146    119: 121-128

READINGS

Proverbs 3: 13-23	The true riches
1 Timothy 6: 6-19	The use of wealth
Matthew 9: 9-13	The call of Matthew

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.    *2 Corinthians 4: 6*

*Churchill Julius*

*September 23*

*Bishop, first Archbishop of New Zealand*

Churchill Julius was born in England in 1847. His background was evangelical. After studies at Oxford and various positions in England he became archdeacon of Ballarat in Australia in 1884. He became Bishop of Christchurch in 1890 and developed a strong reputation as an eloquent defender of the rights of workers. He described himself as a Christian Socialist. He was a champion of the role of women in the church. He became primate in 1922, the first in New Zealand to be termed “archbishop”. He retired in 1925 and died in 1938.

SENTENCE

Blessed are those who consider the poor and helpless; the Lord will save them in time of trouble.

*Psalm 41: 1*

COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
your servant Churchill Julius  
won your people’s love and respect  
by his faithful witness;  
give us a like soundness of advice,  
and a steadfast care for all in need;  
through him who came among us  
as servant of all,  
Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus Christ,  
heart and head of the church,  
we thank you for Churchill Julius,  
worthy leader and archbishop in his generation;  
may we build wisely  
on the foundation he and his companions laid.

PSALMS                    1                    112

READINGS

Micah 6: 6-8	Walking humbly with God
Philippians 4: 4-9	Excellent and praiseworthy
Matthew 10: 32-42	Confessing Christ

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "We must work the works of the one who sent me while it is day."  
*John 9: 4*

*Sergius of Radonezh*  
*Abbot of Holy Trinity, Moscow*

*September 25*

Sergius, born about 1314, was a simple man of the people, whose life of devotion and prayer led him to establish monasteries all over Russia and to teach ordinary people the ways of godly living. He and his brother Stephen rebuilt the monastery of the Holy Trinity near Moscow, and Sergius became its abbot. He died in 1392 and is the patron saint of the Russian people.

SENTENCE

Your steadfast love, O Lord, is better than life itself; therefore my lips will speak your praise.

*Psalm 63: 3*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
your servant Sergius  
was filled with an intense love for you  
that made him a shining light  
among your people in Russia;  
by the same Spirit that empowered him,  
strengthen our faith,  
and set our hearts on fire  
to live as true disciples  
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Praise and glory to you, eternal God, for Sergius,  
monk, reconciler and peacemaker;  
help us toward that holiness  
which made him Russia's most beloved saint.

PSALMS                    66                    67

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 38: 34b - 39: 8	Wisdom and understanding
Hebrews 12: 7-13	Be holy
John 17: 1-8	Sent by Christ

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. *Philippians 4: 6*

*Lancelot Andrewes*  
*Bishop of Winchester*

*September 26*

Lancelot Andrewes, born in 1555, was the saintly Bishop of Winchester who by example, preaching and writing brought to the Church of England high standards of holiness of life and whole-hearted service. He was one of the translators of the Authorised Version of the Bible, and did much to foster a distinctive Anglican theology that took account of Scripture, reason and tradition. He died in 1626 and is buried in what is now Southwark Cathedral.

SENTENCE

My soul truly is still, and waits for God; from whom comes my deliverance.

*Psalm 62: 1*

COLLECTS

Holy and loving God,  
from you Lancelot Andrewes received  
gifts of scholarship  
and a singular power in prayer;  
teach us to pray  
not only for ourselves  
but for your struggling world,  
through him who showed us how to pray,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed are you, God of beauty and order,  
in Lancelot the preacher and devoted scholar;  
may we too strive for wisdom to serve the church.

PSALMS                    63: 1-9                    119: 97-104

READINGS

Proverbs 3: 1-8	Favour and good repute
1 Peter 5: 1-4	Examples to the flock
Matthew 13: 44-46, 52	Things old and new

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. *Luke 11: 9*

The Anglican Church in Melanesia has an honourable roll of those who have given their lives for their faith, including both Melanesian and European Christians. The best known is Bishop Patteson, but there were others. Native Christians such as Fisher Young, Edwin Nobbs, Arthur Ako, James Ivo, Ben Teilo, and Stephen Taroaniara, as well as Europeans such as Joseph Atkin and Charles Godden are remembered with pride, and serve as examples to the church. In 2003, Robin Lindsay, the assistant head and six other members of the Melanesian Brotherhood were killed by guerrillas during a period of civil unrest.

SENTENCE

I took you from the ends of the earth, says the Lord your God, and called you from its farthest corners. *Isaiah 41: 9*

COLLECTS

Creator God,  
whose majesty is in the storm as well as in the calm,  
we thank you for those of every race  
who gave their lives in Melanesia  
for the sake of Christ;  
may your church always proclaim your gospel,  
live your commandments,  
and overcome the powers of darkness;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

God, you call us, your missionaries,  
to carry our lives in our hands;  
we praise you for your many servants in Melanesia  
whose lives were taken  
by those for whom they would gladly have given them.



Michael is one of the three angels named in the Bible (the others are Gabriel and Raphael). In popular, late Jewish and early Christian devotion Michael became identified as the heavenly champion who would lead the hosts of heaven in triumph and vindicate the saints of God. There are numerous churches dedicated to St Michael and All Angels.

SENTENCE

I looked, and heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voices of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands. *Revelation 5: 11*

COLLECTS

Almighty and everlasting God,  
whom we adore with all the angelic host,  
may we always rejoice in your heavenly protection  
and serve you faithfully in this present life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Make us your messengers, Jesus,  
make us the guardians of your faith,  
and grant us also that great and ancient vision,  
Michael,  
numberless angels,  
the dazzling host of heaven,  
to accompany and inspire us for all time;  
to the glory of your holy name.

PSALMS                    103: 15-22                    91

READINGS

Daniel 10: 18-21	The angelic champion
Revelation 12: 7-12	The dragon overthrown
Matthew 18: 1-14	Guardian angels

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

O praise the Lord all you angels, you mighty ones who do God's bidding; and heed the command of the Most High.                    *Psalm 103: 20*

*Jerome*

*September 30*

*Priest, Teacher of the Faith  
Translator of the Scriptures*

Jerome was born in northern Italy about 347. He was attracted to the monastic life and promoted it vigorously. He was a skilled linguist and was asked to translate the Bible into Latin from Hebrew and Greek. He established a monastery in Bethlehem in 382 and from there wrote the translation of Scripture as well as many commentaries, sermons and letters. Much of his translation of Scripture was incorporated in what became known as the Vulgate Bible. His belligerent style led him into many quarrels, but his gifts of scholarship were outstanding. He died in 420.

SENTENCE

How sweet are your words to my taste, O Lord, sweeter than honey  
in my mouth. *Psalms 119: 103*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
we give you thanks for your servant Jerome,  
who with zealous care  
translated the Scriptures;  
and we pray that through your Spirit  
the words we read may show us Christ the living word  
and shape our discipleship in his name;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus, Word of God,  
you call disciples of every kind,  
amongst them the rigid and cantankerous;  
we thank you for Jerome's amazing work,  
which opened your word  
for everyone to read.

PSALMS                    119: 105-112      119: 129-136

READINGS

Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 9-12	Understand what is read
2 Timothy 3: 10-17	Learned in the Scriptures
Luke 24: 44-48	The message of the Scriptures

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life."  
*John 6: 63*

*Suzanne Aubert*  
*Religious, Social Reformer*

*October 1*

Suzanne Aubert was born in France in 1835 and arrived in New Zealand in 1860. Her work with Maori, for whom she developed a profound love, took her from Auckland to Meeanee near Napier and then to Jerusalem on the Wanganui River. She later moved to Wellington and remained there until her death in 1926, apart from nursing the wounded in Europe during the First World War. The order she founded, The Daughters of Our Lady of Compassion, opened homes for the incurably ill and handicapped children and provided nursing services for many.

SENTENCE

The Lord cares for the stranger in the land, and sustains the widows and orphans.

*Psalm 146: 9*

COLLECTS

God of love,  
we remember with thanksgiving Suzanne Aubert,  
whose devotion to the needs of others  
transcended race or religion;  
touch us deeply with your love,  
enlarge the boundaries of our compassion,  
and keep us in the way of Jesus,  
for your name's sake.

Jesus of Jerusalem,  
in your compassion, Suzanne visited  
and fed the taurekareka, the unwanted,  
the desperate and the criminal;  
give to your whole church, we pray,  
your caring, pioneering spirit.

PSALMS                    107: 1-22                    125

READINGS

Deuteronomy 15: 7-11	Give freely to the needy
James 2: 14-18	Faith shown by deeds
Mark 6: 34-44	Compassion for the crowd

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.                    *John 4: 7*

The idea that each person has a guardian angel is a very ancient, popular one in both pagan and Jewish tradition. It can be seen in Jesus' reference to the angels who watch over children and also in Peter's escape from prison in Acts 12. The idea was given much more formal definition in the Middle Ages, and a special day was given to the guardian angels in 1670.

SENTENCE

Bless the Lord, you angels of the Lord, bless the Lord, all you heavenly hosts. *Song of the Three Young Men 37 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Lord God of heaven and earth,  
you surround us with your tender care  
and guard us in every danger;  
open our hearts to your call,  
that we may walk in the right path  
and be led in the way of peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Creator of the vast expanding universe,  
we your insignificant creatures  
praise you and give you thanks  
for the individual loving care,  
for the guardian angel each one of us receives;  
for even the hairs on our head are counted.

PSALMS            33: 8-21            34: 1-9

READINGS

Daniel 3: 19-21, 24-26, 28	A guardian angel
Acts 12: 11-17	Peter's guardian angel
Matthew 18: 1-10	Angels in the Father's presence

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Do not be afraid, for there are more with us than there are with them.

*2 Kings 6: 16*

*Francis of Assisi*  
*Friar*

*October 4*

Francis of Assisi was born in 1181. After a relatively frivolous life, he rejected everything he had received from his father and embraced poverty totally. Gradually others gathered round him, and he began preaching tours around Italy. He prepared a simple rule of life for his followers, and the Order of Friars Minor was born. The order grew rapidly and spread all over Europe and beyond. Francis combined in his life many strands: mission preacher, lover of animals, ascetic, mystic, dramatic fool for Christ, happy singer, troubadour of God. He died in 1226 and was canonised two years later.

SENTENCE

Let the whole creation bless the Lord; praise and exalt our God for ever.  
*Song of the Three Young Men 35 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Gracious and merciful God,  
you kindled in the heart of Francis  
such a flame of love  
that he became wholly yours;  
increase in us a wholehearted trust in you  
and a humble love of all your creatures,  
that we may know the joy the gospel brings;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Holy Jesus,  
give us something of Francis' simplicity,  
something of his recklessness,  
something of his obedience;  
give us the courage  
to understand what you say  
and to do it.

PSALMS                    119: 145-152        148

READINGS

Song of the

    Three Young Men 52-65

Galatians 6: 14-18

Matthew 11: 25-30

Let all creation bless the Lord

The marks of Jesus

The gospel revealed to the simple

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

For Christ's sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him.

*Philippians 3: 8, 9*

Asia is the birthplace of Christianity, and many of its finest seeds have flowered in that continent. Evangelism, the creeds, monasticism, the ecumenical movement, martyrdom, and patient witness are all to be found in the stories of the churches of that large and diverse continent. From the churches of Asia Minor and the Middle East, dating back to New Testament times, to missionaries in India, China, and Japan and the indigenous churches now there and throughout the whole region, there have come many faithful witnesses.

SENTENCE

Thus says the Lord: Many nations shall join themselves to the Lord on that day, and shall be my people; and I will dwell in your midst.

*Zechariah 2: 11*

COLLECTS

God of all nations,  
through the lives and witness of the saints and martyrs of Asia,  
your name is honoured today  
from Siberia to Sri Lanka and from Turkey to Japan;  
from the seed of faith sown,  
let your church grow and prosper  
to the glory of your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, Lord of Asia, light of the east,  
may the offering of those  
who have given or spent their lives  
in your own continent  
be the first-fruits  
of a great and precious harvest.

PSALMS                    22: 22-31                    87

READINGS

Zephaniah 3: 8-13

All will call on the Lord

Acts 19: 1, 8-10

Paul in Asia

Matthew 2: 1-11

The wisdom of the east

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to  
the Gentiles; they will listen.

*Acts 28: 28*

*William Tyndale*  
*Translator of the Scriptures, Martyr*

*October 7*

Tyndale was born in Gloucestershire about 1494. The translation of the Bible into contemporary English became his life's passion. Church opposition at home led him to settle on the continent. From there thousands of copies of the New Testament and some Old Testament books were secretly circulated in England. At last his enemies had him arrested, and he was strangled and burned at the stake in 1536, not for his work of translation, but for doctrines considered heretical. His last words were, "Lord, open the king of England's eyes."

SENTENCE

How sweet, O Lord, are your words to my taste; sweeter than honey in my mouth.

*Psalms 119: 103*

COLLECTS

Merciful God,  
whose self-revelation is given to us  
in the words of Scripture,  
we thank you for William Tyndale,  
who gave his life to open the Scriptures for England;  
open our eyes to see the treasures they reveal for us,  
through him who is your Word,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

God,  
you called William  
to turn the Bible into English,  
so people could understand it.  
It cost him home; it cost him life;  
but he gave us your living word.

PSALMS                    119: 9-16                    119: 89-96

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus, prologue	A translator's preface
Romans 10: 1-13	Called to proclaim the word
John 17: 6-8, 14-19	God's word is truth

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

I saw another angel flying in midheaven, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth - to every nation and tribe and language and people. *Revelation 14: 6*

*Bridget (Birgitta) of Sweden*  
*Mystic, Religious*  
*Patron Saint of Sweden*

*October 8*

Bridget of Sweden was born about 1303. After some years of marriage, during which she bore eight children, Bridget was widowed in 1344. She then began a life of solitude and contemplation. She disliked intensely the misuse of power, and corresponded with popes and princes in her efforts for reform. She was the founder of a monastery in Sweden for men and women, the order known as the Brigittines. After 1349 she lived in Rome and devoted herself to charitable works and pilgrimages until her death in 1373.

SENTENCE

You are to me a rock and a fortress, O God; for your name's sake  
lead me and guide me.

*Psalm 31: 3*

COLLECTS

God our hope and strength,  
by your grace Bridget's visions of Christ's sufferings  
led her to challenge corruption in high places  
and to work for the poor, the sick and the pilgrims;  
grant us such a vision of your purpose  
that we may be emboldened  
in our service to you and to all people;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of the praying widow,  
we praise you for Bridget, mystic and visionary,  
who saw her vocation  
to gather a praying community,  
to rebuke rulers and authorities,  
and still be at one with you.

PSALMS                    27: 1-8                    119: 41-48

READINGS

Amos 3: 1-8	Knowledge of God's purpose
2 Corinthians 4: 7-15	God's abounding grace
Luke 22: 24-27	One who serves

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they  
will be filled. *Matthew 5: 6*

*Robert Grosseteste*  
*Bishop of Lincoln*

*October 9*

Robert Grosseteste was born about 1175 in Suffolk, and was educated at Oxford and Paris Universities. He taught at Oxford University and was master of the Oxford Franciscans. In 1235 he became Bishop of Lincoln. He strove to reform monastic corruption, and struggled against papal appointments of Italians to rich English livings and against royal interference in the English church. His theological writings are striking for their penetrating metaphors and similes, and he played a significant part in the early development of scientific method at Oxford. He died in 1253.

SENTENCE

O send out your light and your truth to lead me: and bring me to  
your holy hill and to your dwelling. *Psalm 43: 3*

COLLECTS

God our ruler and guide,  
your servant Robert Grosseteste  
was a faithful pastor and teacher of your church;  
may we in your light see light  
and in your will find our peace,  
that we may grow up together in Christ,  
to the glory of your holy name.

Jesus Christ, light of the world,  
revealed to your servant Robert;  
may we, like him,  
bring to light society's corruption,  
and do all we can to heal it.

PSALMS                    19                                    25

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 6: 32-37	The reward of seeking wisdom
Ephesians 3: 14-21	Christ's love surpasses knowledge
Matthew 5: 13-19	Good works glorify the Father

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him  
who is the head, into Christ. *Ephesians 4: 15*

*Elizabeth Fry*  
*Prison Reformer*

*October 12*

Elizabeth Fry was born in Norwich in 1780. She was a member of the Society of Friends, and her deep religious faith found a practical outlet in her lifelong commitment to prison reform. Her daily visits to women prisoners in Newgate gaol enabled her to see for herself the degradation they suffered. She began a campaign for reform, which was instrumental in bringing about change. She was also involved in the establishment of a “Nightly Shelter for the Homeless”, and before her death in 1845 she founded a society for the care and rehabilitation of former offenders.

SENTENCE

Because of the blood of my covenant with you, says the Lord, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. *Zechariah 9: 11*

COLLECTS

Gracious and loving God,  
you bring good tidings to the afflicted,  
bind up the broken-hearted,  
and proclaim liberty to the captives;  
we thank you for sending Elizabeth Fry into the prisons  
with words of comfort and deeds of care:  
grant that all who minister to those in prison  
may be filled with your compassion  
and be bearers of your hope;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Blessed are you, Jesus our good shepherd,  
in Elizabeth your minister.  
Year after year she visited women  
in prisons and asylums.  
May we too understand and care for people  
unconditionally.

PSALMS                    41                    82

READINGS

Genesis 39: 20-23	Joseph in prison
Romans 12: 9-21	Christian duty
Matthew 25: 31-45	You did it to me

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Strive first for the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all  
these things will be given to you as well.                    *Matthew 6: 33*

*Teresa of Avila*  
*Teacher of the Faith*

*October 15*

Teresa of Avila was born in 1515 and became a significant contributor to the movement for the reform of religious houses in the sixteenth century. She joined a typically lax convent at the age of 20. After a profound religious experience in 1555, she established her own much stricter house in 1562, despite strong opposition. She went on to found other reformed Carmelite houses. She also made a profound contribution to understanding the spiritual life, being the first to describe in detail the states from meditation to the so-called mystical marriage. She died in 1582.

SENTENCE

I, wisdom, was daily God's delight, rejoicing before God always; rejoicing in the inhabited world, and delighting in the human race.

*Proverbs 8: 30, 31 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Gracious and eternal God,  
you desire that we should know you  
and delight in your creation;  
we give you thanks for Teresa,  
your visionary and practical servant;  
may her example encourage us  
to learn the way of perfection,  
in the spirit of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of the interior castle,  
we praise you for Teresa;  
she blazed us a trail to union with you,  
and she worked as hard as she prayed;  
give us courage to go where she led.



# *The English Reformers and Martyrs*

*October 16*

In 1555 Mary Tudor tried to confirm the return of England to the Catholic fold by executing a number of leading Protestants. In fact this action, more than anything else, undermined Mary's popularity, gave the Protestant cause a heroic status, and left a lasting legacy of anti-Catholic bigotry in England for many years. The most prominent of these martyrs were Nicholas Ridley, Bishop of London, and Hugh Latimer, Bishop of Worcester, both of whom were burned at Oxford on 16 October 1555.

## SENTENCE

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

*Isaiah 50: 7*

## COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
your saving power is always at work,  
and, by the witness of your faithful martyrs,  
you light a candle which cannot be put out;  
may the fire of your Spirit burn within us,  
and the vision of your light guide every step,  
that we may be constant in your service;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus, we remember with sadness  
the fires in which Christians  
burned other Christians,  
when the English hunted and killed each other;  
extinguish, we pray, such fires for ever,  
all over the world.

PSALMS                    66: 1-11                    142

READINGS

2 Samuel 22: 1-7	A song of deliverance
1 Corinthians 3: 10-15	Tested by fire
John 2: 13-22	The cleansing of the Temple

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Let those who walk in darkness and have no light, trust in the name of the Lord and rely upon their God.                    *Isaiah 50: 10 (adapted)*

*Ignatius*  
*Bishop of Antioch, Martyr*

*October 17*

We know little about Ignatius other than what can be gleaned from the seven letters he wrote to churches in Asia Minor while on his way to martyrdom in Rome about 107. The letters show a passionate yearning to follow the way of Jesus, even to death. Ignatius also placed great emphasis on the unifying authority of the bishop as a way of avoiding divisive conflicts over Christian teaching.

SENTENCE

Support me Lord according to your promise, so that I may live, and let me not be disappointed in my hope. *Psalm 119: 116*

COLLECTS

Holy and immortal God,  
your servant Ignatius  
longed to be one with Christ  
and urged that Christ's body should be one;  
grant that, feeding on the bread of God,  
we may seek the unity of the Spirit  
in the bond of peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

God of Ignatius the fiery bishop  
and all that martyr throng,  
help us, should we be tested as they were tested,  
to perform as well as they.

PSALMS                    31: 1-9                    133

READINGS

Isaiah 35: 8-10

1 John 5: 6-12

John 12: 20-26

The holy way

Life found in the Son

The servant one with the master

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or  
by death.

*Philippians 1: 20*

Luke was a physician, beloved by Paul, and a Gentile, and once, it seems, his only companion in prison. Since the end of the second century, tradition has recognised him as the author of the anonymous third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. Luke-Acts is the story of the gospel's transition from Jerusalem to Rome, from the source of our religious heritage to the heart of the imperial world; it is a gospel for all, especially the disadvantaged. Jesus and his followers are presented as examples for the lives of all believers.

SENTENCE

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring  
good tidings of salvation.

*Isaiah 52: 7*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
you inspired Luke the physician to proclaim  
the love and healing power of your Son;  
give your Church grace through his teaching  
to strengthen the afflicted,  
heal the desolate  
and bind up the broken-hearted;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, the crucified,  
let not our feet take us from suffering  
to the other side of the road;  
keep us, with Luke,  
helpers, healers and bearers of hope.  
Hear this prayer for your name's sake.

PSALMS                    78: 1-7                    62

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 38: 1-14 <i>or</i>	Honour a physician
Jeremiah 30: 10-17	The healing of the nation
2 Timothy 4: 5-18	Paul and his companions
Luke 1: 1-4 <i>or</i>	Luke’s preface of dedication
Luke 10: 1-9	The seventy

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

*Luke 5: 31*

Tarore, the daughter of Ngakuku, the Ngati Haua chief, attended the mission station at Matamata and learned to read. Tragically, on 19 October 1836, at the age of twelve, she was killed during a raid. Her father preached forgiveness at her tangi. The Gospel of Luke that was with her was taken by one of the raiding party, who was subsequently converted and made peace with Ngakuku. Later it was taken to Otaki, where its message led to the conversion of Tamihana Te Rauparaha, who became a missionary to the South Island.

SENTENCE

Ki a koe ano i mohio o tou tamarikitanga ake, ki nga karaipiture tapu, ko nga mea era e whai matauranga ai koe, e ora ai, i runga i te whakapono ki a Karaiti Ihu.

*2 Timoti 3: 15*

From childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

*2 Timothy 3: 15*

COLLECTS

E te Matua i te Rangi  
i karangatia matou kia rite ki te tamariki nohinohi  
i te mea no te penei te rangatiratanga o te Rangi.  
Ka whakawhetai matou mo Tarore  
i kawe nei i te Rongopai a Ruka.  
Hanga ki roto ki a matou i tau whanau hoki  
he aroha kia pono kia hohonu kia noho tahi ai matou  
i roto i te aroha me au tamariki katoa,  
i roto i te kotahitanga o te Wairua Tapu,  
ko te Karaiti hoki te Hepara pai. Amine.

Gracious and loving God,  
we thank you for Tarore,  
whose death brought not vengeance but reconciliation;  
create in us, your whanau,  
a gospel love and a truth so deep,  
that we too may live together in love with all your children,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Praise to you, Jesus Christ our Saviour,  
for the good which came from Tarore's death;  
for, led by a little child,  
you brought the tribes to peace,  
and by her testament you brought good news to the south.

PSALMS                    4                    131

#### READINGS

Isaiah 65: 17-20 (21-22) 23-25	God's promised peace
2 Timothy 1: 8-12	Suffering for the gospel
Luke 8: 22-25	Living faith

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Kia noho nui te kupu a te Karaiti i roto i a koutou i runga i te matauranga katoa; me whakaako, me whakatupato tetahi e tetahi ki nga waiata tapu, ki nga himene, ki nga waiata wairua, me te waiata ano ki te Atua i runga i te aroha noa, i roto i o koutou ngakau.

*Korohe 3: 16*

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom. *Colossians 3: 16*

*Henry Martyn*  
*Missionary*

*October 20*

Henry Martyn was born in Truro in 1781 and studied at St John's College, Cambridge. There his acquaintance with Charles Simeon awakened his interest in missionary work. He went to Calcutta as a chaplain of the East India Company in 1805. He is remembered for his work in translating the New Testament into Hindi, Persian and Arabic, the psalms into Persian and parts of the *Book of Common Prayer* into Hindi. He went to Persia to revise the Persian translation. He suffered from tuberculosis and died in 1812 in Armenia on his way back to Britain.

SENTENCE

Proclaim God's glory to the nations, God's marvellous deeds to all the peoples.

*Psalm 96: 3*

COLLECTS

Merciful God,  
you strengthened your servant Henry Martyn  
to go to the peoples of India and the Middle East,  
and with devoted love to preach the gospel  
and translate the Scriptures;  
give us the courage to deny ourselves,  
and by your grace to attempt great things for you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, wonderful news of God,  
you sent Henry to be your missionary in India;  
make us as devoted as he,  
and equally determined to present the gospel  
so people can understand it.

PSALMS                    24                    98

READINGS

Isaiah 43: 1-7

God has paid the ransom

Philippians 2: 12-18

Our salvation in fear and trembling

Mark 1: 16-20

To fish for people

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

In our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of  
power.

*Acts 2: 11*

*James of Jerusalem*  
*Brother of the Lord, Martyr*

*October 23*

There is no good reason to doubt that James was the son of Mary and Joseph. He came to believe in his brother soon after the resurrection at the latest. One of the reputed pillars of the church in Jerusalem, he became the leader of a college of presbyters there. He upheld the principle that Jewish Christian believers should continue to observe the Jewish Law, but his views were sufficiently liberal that in 62 CE he was stoned to death on a charge brought by the high priest of violating the Mosaic Law.

SENTENCE

How good and pleasant a thing it is when God's people live together in unity.

*Psalms 133: 1*

COLLECTS

Grant, O God,  
that following the example of your servant James,  
the brother of our Lord,  
your Church may give itself continually  
to prayer and to the reconciliation  
of all who are at variance and enmity;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of revelation and reform,  
we thank you for James  
and his change from unbelief  
to knowing Jesus, his brother, as Saviour,  
and dying for his faith.  
Grant that when we are wrong  
we may trust you enough to change.  
To the honour of your holy name.

PSALMS            1                            119: 65-72

READINGS

Genesis 33: 1-11	Jacob and Esau reconciled
Acts 15: 12-22a	The Council of Jerusalem
Matthew 13: 53-58	James the brother of Jesus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

The risen Christ appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

*1 Corinthians 15: 7*

*Raphael*  
*Archangel*

*October 24*

It was only in the period between the Old and New Testaments that angels came to be given distinctive characteristics. Raphael appears as a major character in the apocryphal book of Tobit. In that story, among other things, Raphael heals Tobit of his blindness. The name “Raphael” means “God heals”, and Raphael has come to have important associations with the church’s ministry of healing.

SENTENCE

You sent forth your word, O Lord, and healed them; and saved their life from the grave.

*Psalm 107: 20*

COLLECTS

Loving God,  
in you is the well-spring of life  
and the source of all wholeness;  
may we who honour Raphael as your angel of healing  
be empowered  
to strengthen, to uphold, and to make whole,  
in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Praise to you, God of health and wholeness,  
for all who take the part  
of Raphael your healing angel;  
hasten the time  
when the millions held in Satan’s bondage  
may be rescued and relieved.

PSALMS                    103: 1-6, 20-22    147: 1-7

READINGS

Tobit 12: 6, 11-15

One of the seven holy angels

Romans 8: 35-39

No separation from Christ's love

John 5: 1-9a

The healing at the pool

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus sent the twelve out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to  
heal.

*Luke 9: 2*

SENTENCE

Praise the Lord all you nations, acclaim the Most High all you peoples.

*Psalm 117: 1*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
you have brought together in the United Nations  
peoples of different countries and cultures;  
through their counsel may the nations of the world  
realise a unity -  
a unity rich enough to express  
the variety and the hopes of your creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Living God,  
at Pentecost  
people of different languages  
found unity in your Spirit;  
inspire again  
those who through the United Nations  
seek still to bring your world together.

Gracious and eternal God,  
be with all in the United Nations  
who, in the midst of passion and conflict,  
trust quiet words and careful negotiation;  
in times of failure may they persevere;  
in times of success give them new horizons,  
so that your work of love may grow and flourish.

PSALMS                    96                                    100                                    113

READINGS

Isaiah 66: 18-22	Gathering of the nations
Acts 17: 22-28	God made from one, every nation
Luke 13: 22-30	From east and west, from north and south

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Never again shall people be trained for war; all people shall sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees.

*Micah 4: 3, 4 (adapted)*

*Alfred*  
*King of the West Saxons*

*October 26*

Alfred, usually referred to as Alfred the Great, was born in 849 and became king of Wessex in 871. He effectively ended the threat of Danish domination of England. After the wars he set about rebuilding his kingdom and reforming the church. Alfred gave to his people the Gospels in the Saxon language. He is remembered as a king who worked his hardest to encourage education for his clergy and his nobles. He gave them an example in the pattern of his own life as a Christian king. He died in 899.

SENTENCE

You Lord will become king over all the earth; on that day you will be the only Lord and your name the only name.

*Zechariah 14: 9 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Almighty and eternal God,  
through your servant Alfred  
you established peace  
and revived the skills of learning;  
give us a thirst for understanding  
and a commitment  
to your commonwealth of love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of time and change,  
may we who honour Alfred,  
perfect Christian monarch of a thousand years ago,  
discover the perfection you now demand.

PSALMS                    21                    48

READINGS

Wisdom 6: 1-3, 9-11	Advice for rulers
1 John 2: 15-17	Detachment from the world
Luke 6: 43-49	Producing good fruit

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, “Nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known.”                    *Luke 12: 2*

*St Simon and St Jude*  
*Apostles*

*October 28*

Simon and Jude were both members of the Twelve. Simon is described as a Zealot, but it is not clear whether that is a reference to his membership of what later became a nationalistic faction before he was converted, or a reference to his zeal for the Law, or even for the kingdom of God. Jude is traditionally regarded as the author of the letter of Jude, but this identification is not certain. According to tradition, Simon and Jude were martyred together in Persia.

SENTENCE

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of the one who called you out of darkness into God's marvellous light. *1 Peter 2: 9*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
your Church is built on the foundation  
of the apostles and prophets  
with Christ our Lord as the cornerstone;  
grant that, united with them in faith and love,  
we may be part of that living temple  
which is being built to your glory,  
now and for ever.

Your Church, Christ Jesus,  
is home for the Judes and Simons,  
recognition for the unregarded,  
hope for the hopeless,  
fulfilment for the obscure.  
Make us proud of those whom you call friend.  
Hear this prayer for your name's sake.

PSALMS                    134                    99

READINGS

Isaiah 28: 14-18

A sure foundation

Ephesians 2: 11-22

You are God's temple

Luke 6: 12-19

The choice of the twelve

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

But you, my friends, must build yourselves up on the foundation of  
your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit.

*Jude 20*

It is easy to miss the importance of women in the ministry of Jesus and in the early church. Some women are known to us by name; many are anonymous. Women followed Jesus in his ministry and supported his work. Women were present at the crucifixion, when all the apostles had fled, and women were the first to proclaim the resurrection. Romans chapter 16 offers rich evidence of the role of women in the early church, which is also visible elsewhere in the New Testament. They bore apostolic witness to the gospel and suffered for the faith.

SENTENCE

Shall I open the womb and not deliver? says the Lord; shall I, the one who delivers, shut the womb? says your God. *Isaiah 66: 9*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
your Son humbly accepted the virgin's womb  
and trusted the ministry of women;  
strengthen the hearts and hands  
of your disciples of today, both women and men,  
that your church may be nourished  
by our loving service;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Praise God who sent Jesus,  
for us and for our salvation,  
for women and men equally and alike.  
Praise God for the difference  
women have made to the church Jesus gave us.

PSALMS                    30                    33: 1-12

READINGS

Isaiah 66: 10-13	As a mother comforts her child
Romans 16: 1-7	Apostolic ministry by women
Luke 7: 36-8: 3	A woman's ministry to Jesus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

These women have struggled hard in the work of the gospel, together with all whose names are in the book of life.

*Philippians 4: 3 (adapted)*

Although in the New Testament “saints” refers to all Christians, the church soon gave special honour to the heroes of the faith, especially martyrs. In the early church, a feast commemorating all martyrs seems to have been observed in association with Pentecost. The extension of the feast to include all the saints and its observance on 1 November emerged some time in the eighth century. The feast allows us to express our sense of communion with all those who have gone before us, whether known or unknown, who have witnessed to their faith in Christ.

SENTENCE

Know what is the hope to which God has called you, what are the riches of the glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of God's power in us who believe.

*Ephesians 1: 18-19*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
your saints are one with you  
in the mystical body of Christ;  
give us grace to follow them  
in all virtue and holiness  
until we come to those inexpressible joys  
which you have prepared for those  
who truly love you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Eternal God,  
you have always taken men and women  
of every nation, age and colour  
and made them saints;  
like them, transformed,  
like them, baptised in Jesus' name,  
take us to share your glory;  
where you reign one God for ever.

PSALMS                    1                    145

READINGS

Daniel 12: 1-3	The rule of the saints
Revelation 7: 1-4, 9-17	The triumph of the saints
Matthew 5: 1-12	The character of the saints

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

These are they who have put off mortal clothing and have put on  
the immortal, and have confessed the name of God; now they are  
being crowned, and receive palms. *2 Esdras 2: 45*

In the New Testament “the saints” means “Christian believers”, that is, all members of the church. Gradually the term “saint” came to mean the heroes of the faith, and that was how All Saints’ Day on 1 November was eventually regarded. Odilo, the abbot of Cluny in the first half of the eleventh century, provided for the commemoration of all the departed on 2 November, and this Benedictine tradition spread throughout the church. The feast was abolished in England at the Reformation, but has been restored to many Anglican calendars as a general commemoration of the faithful departed.

SENTENCE

We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

*1 Thessalonians 4: 14*

COLLECTS

Merciful God,  
your Son is the resurrection and the life  
of all the faithful;  
raise us from the death of sin  
to the life of righteousness,  
that at the last,  
with all your faithful servants,  
we may come to your eternal joy;  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ, Lord of the living and dead:  
With each generation  
Your body of believers grows and grows.  
Thank you for all who have gone before us,  
For what they achieved and what they learned.  
Give us strength to do your will,  
to be your body now;  
to the honour of your holy name.

PSALMS                    16                    116

#### READINGS

Isaiah 25: 6-9  
1 Peter 1: 3-9  
John 11: 21-27

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself."  
*John 12: 32*

*Martin of Porres*  
*Monk, Peru*

*November 3*

Martin of Porres lived all his life in Peru. He was born in 1579, the illegitimate son of a Spanish knight and a coloured woman. He became a Dominican lay brother. He is remembered for his outstanding work with the sick, the poor and with African slaves, as well as for his lifelong efforts to reconcile and heal the differences in a multi-racial society. Because of his willingness to perform the most menial tasks, he was nicknamed "Brother Broom". He died in 1639.

SENTENCE

Those who were not my people I will call my people, and the one who was not beloved I will call "beloved", says the Lord.

*Romans 9: 25 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
you have made of one kindred all races of humanity;  
we thank you for your servant Martin of Porres,  
whom you emboldened by your Spirit  
to strive passionately and patiently for justice and harmony;  
may we, in our land and throughout the world,  
have a like commitment to people of every race and colour,  
that all may be one in Christ Jesus our Lord.

O wondrous God!  
Only you could take Martin,  
the simple mulatto lay brother from Peru,  
and have him declared a saint,  
patron of interracial justice and harmony.

PSALMS                    67    122

READINGS

Isaiah 42: 1-7	God will bring forth justice
Colossians 3: 12-17	God's chosen ones
Luke 13: 18-30	From east and west, north and south

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Little children, let us love not in word or speech, but in truth and  
action. *1 John 3: 18*

*Richard Hooker*  
*Priest, Theologian*

*November 4*

Richard Hooker was born in Exeter in 1554. After studies at Oxford and ordination he became master of the Temple in 1585. He entered into debate with the Puritans, who were demanding further reforms of the Church of England. In his *Of the Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity*, Hooker offered a reasoned defence of the forms and practice of the Church of England, based on ideas of natural laws given by God in creation. Hooker died as parish priest of Bishopsbourne near Canterbury in 1600.

SENTENCE

The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul; the precepts of the Lord are right, and rejoice the heart. *Psalm 19: 7, 8*

COLLECTS

God of truth and peace,  
you gave to your servant Richard Hooker  
gifts of learning and charity  
to defend the Anglican way;  
may we and all  
who seek to understand your ways  
be enlightened by your Spirit of truth and love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Patient God,  
give us Richard's willingness to offer reason  
in the place of controversy and distortion;  
give us respect for those with whom we disagree,  
and moderation in conflict.

PSALMS                    119: 89-96                    119: 97-104

READINGS

Sirach 24: 1-10

The resting place of wisdom

2 Timothy 2: 22-25

A good teacher corrects gently

John 16: 12-15

The Spirit will lead into truth

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

*Matthew 5: 9*

*Te Whiti o Rongomai*  
*Prophet*

*November 6*

Te Whiti o Rongomai was born at Ngamotu near New Plymouth, about 1831. He was educated by missionaries and developed an intense love of the Bible. During the turbulent 1860s he sought a peaceful means of fostering Maori claims. At Parihaka he built a model community, and after the war encouraged his people to resist peacefully the unjust occupation of confiscated land. This led to conflict with the government. On 5 November 1881 armed constabulary entered Parihaka. They were met by children chanting songs. Te Whiti was arrested and imprisoned without trial for a year. He died in 1907.

SENTENCE

He aha ta lhowa e rapu nei ki a koe, heoi ano ko te whakawa tika, ko te pai ki te tohu tangata, ko te whakaiti me te haere tahi i tou Atua.

*Mika 6: 8*

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God? *Micah 6: 8*

COLLECTS

E te Atua e to matou Matua i te rangi,  
i arahitia ai e koe nga tohunga o onamata ki tau tama.  
Ka huri o matou whakaaro ki a te Whiti o Rongomai i tenei ra.  
Ka mau mahara matou ki ana mahi whakamiharo.  
Ano te ahuareka a nga waewae i runga i nga maunga  
o te kaikawe i te rongopai,  
e kauwhau ana i te maungarongo,  
meinga te marama o tou rongopai  
kia tiaho i roto i te ao katoa  
kia aru kia koropiko ai nga tangata ki a koe  
i nga wahi katoa,  
ko lhu Karaiti te Ariki o te rongomau. Amine.

God of peace and justice,  
you called Te Whiti o Rongomai  
to lead his people  
to struggle for justice  
by peaceful means;  
may we defend the rights of the powerless  
and build our communities  
on the basis of mutual care and love;  
through Jesus Christ the prince of peace.

Jesus, peacemaker, disgraced and crucified,  
you were with Te Whiti  
in refusing to meet force with violence;  
speak to us now with gospel power.

PSALMS                      72                      85

#### READINGS

Isaiah 52: 1-6	God's people carried off
Galatians 5: 13-23	The harvest of the Spirit
Luke 1: 68-79	The song of Zechariah

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Erangi ki te pakia tou paparinga matau e tetahi, whakaangahia atu hoki tera ki a ia. A ki te mea tetahi kia whakawakia koe, ka tangohia tou koti, tukua atu hoki tou ngeri ki a ia. *Matiu 5: 39, 40*

If anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also;  
and if anyone would sue you and take your coat, give your  
cloak as well. *Matthew 5: 39, 40*

*Willibrord*  
*Archbishop of Utrecht, Missionary*

*November 7*

Willibrord was born in Northumbria in 658. During studies in Ireland he developed an enthusiasm for missionary work. In 690 he went with some others to Frisia, and in 695 was made bishop of the region, with his centre at Utrecht. His patient laying of foundations was the beginning of a century of English missionary work in Europe. He founded monasteries and appointed bishops to new dioceses and did much to establish the church on a sound base in the face of pagan opposition. He died in 739.

SENTENCE

The faithful will abide with the Lord in love, because grace and mercy are upon God's holy ones.

*Wisdom 3: 9*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
in your great love  
you called Willibrord to be an apostle to the Netherlands;  
give to your faithful people today  
a will to follow your leading,  
a heart open to strangers,  
and a thirst to bring others to know you;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Jesus Christ, new life to the world,  
you called Willibrord to be an apostle to the Frisians;  
give us his confidence to lay secure foundations,  
so that, at our death,  
others may build on what we leave behind.

PSALMS                    18: 17-30                    111

READINGS

Wisdom 10: 9-14

The power of godliness

Ephesians 2: 13-20

No longer aliens

Mark 13: 3-13

The gospel must be preached

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you."     *John 20: 21*

*The Saints and Martyrs  
of the Anglican Communion*

*November 8*

The exciting thing about the Anglican Communion has been its emergence out of the national Church of England into a world-wide fellowship involving people of widely different origins and cultures. In the four hundred years or so in which the modern Anglican tradition has existed, God has changed the Church beyond recognition. In the process of growth and development, the Anglican Communion has produced its own heroes, who have borne witness to Christ, sometimes at the cost of their life.

SENTENCE

The Lord is our God; we are the Lord's people, the flock that God shepherds.

*Psalm 95: 7*

COLLECTS

God of all the earth,  
we praise you for those of our Anglican heritage  
who have borne witness to Christ  
in life and in death;  
strengthen us to build well  
on the foundations they have laid,  
that your name may be glorified  
in all the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Holy Spirit, ever living, ever new and unexpected,  
we remember with pride and affection  
those who by their lives and by their deaths  
have served our Anglican Communion;  
help us in our turn to follow you  
wherever you send us.

PSALMS                    65: 1-8                    113

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 34: 14-17	Those who trust in God
Ephesians 3: 8-12	God's age-old purpose
Matthew 12: 46-50	The family of Jesus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

You are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.     *Ephesians 2: 19, 20*

*Leo the Great*

*November 10*

*Bishop of Rome, Teacher of the Faith*

Leo the Great was elected Bishop of Rome in 440 and brought great skills of care and administration to the papal office. At a time when the western Roman Empire was disintegrating, he provided a central focus for decisions of the church in the west. He administered the resources of the church well and negotiated with the invading Huns and Vandals to ensure peace and stability in Rome. His letter to the eastern church on the person of Christ was accepted at Chalcedon as a helpful and orthodox statement. He died in 461.

SENTENCE

“My grace is sufficient for you,” says the Lord, “for power is made perfect in weakness.” *2 Corinthians 12: 9 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Gracious and eternal God,  
you called your servant Leo  
to strengthen your church  
and to proclaim with power  
that Jesus Christ is truly divine and truly human,  
one with us in our humanity  
and one with you in your divine being;  
help us to be strong in this faith  
and to hold fast the mystery of our redemption;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, light to Leo,  
as he protected the church  
from heresies, Huns and Vandals,  
help us now, in our dangers and confusions,  
to see our way.

PSALMS                    2                                    47

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 1: 1-13

2 Timothy 1: 5-14

Luke 12: 35-44

The Lord gives wisdom

Christ judged me faithful

A trustworthy steward

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you."

*John 14: 19, 20*

*Martin*  
*Bishop of Tours*

*November 11*

Martin was born about 316. Like his father, he joined the army, but found this incompatible with his Christian commitment. The story of his cutting his cloak in two to share with a beggar comes from this period of his life. He was attracted to the monastic life, and established monasticism in Gaul as a means of converting the countryside. In 372 he was made Bishop of Tours, a position he held till his death in 397. He became an extremely popular saint in the Middle Ages and a patron saint of France.

SENTENCE

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword.

*Hebrews 4: 12*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
you called Martin from military service  
to be a bishop in your church;  
may we, following the example of his compassion,  
care for the needy  
and deal gently with all people,  
that we may be clothed with righteousness;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus of Nazareth, thank you for Martin,  
the soldier who shared his cloak with a beggar,  
the pastor who searched deep into the country,  
the bishop who protestest against a heretic's execution;  
he brought the message of the kingdom.

PSALMS                    15                    112

READINGS

Deuteronomy 15: 7-8, 10-11	Help the needy
1 Thessalonians 5: 4-11	The Christian's armour
John 13: 31-35	Love one another

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Do good and be rich in good works, generous and ready to share.

*1 Timothy 6: 18 (adapted)*

*Charles Simeon*  
*Cambridge, Priest*

*November 12*

Charles Simeon was born in Reading in 1759 and was educated at Eton and Cambridge. After a conversion experience in 1779, he became the leading evangelical of his day. Overcoming initial hostility, he became a very influential preacher at Holy Trinity, Cambridge, where he was vicar from 1783 till his death in 1836. His preaching, writing and pastoral zeal caused many to win others for Christ. He was a founder of the Church Missionary Society, and a frequent adviser on chaplaincies to the growing British overseas interests, especially in India.

SENTENCE

With my whole heart I seek you, O Lord; let me not stray from your commandments.

*Psalm 119: 10*

COLLECTS

Merciful and gracious God,  
you gave Charles Simeon such a love for souls  
that he preached and laboured fervently,  
so that all might come to their true home;  
so fill our hearts and minds with your goodness,  
that we may be one with you at all times,  
in the fellowship of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

God, whose purposes never change,  
give us the zeal and sincerity you gave to Charles,  
and any hostility our earnestness may ignite  
will turn to admiration.

PSALMS                    34: 11-22                    57: 8-12

READINGS

Jeremiah 23: 1-4	I will bring them back to their fold.
Philippians 1: 3-11	I yearn for you all
John 17: 14-23	I have given them your word

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

One believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses  
with the mouth and so is saved.                    *Romans 10: 10*

*Margaret  
Queen of Scotland*

*November 16*

Queen Margaret was a descendant of Anglo-Saxon royalty that sought refuge during the Danish and Norman invasions of England. She was born in Hungary in 1046 and finally went to Scotland, where she married Malcolm III in 1070. She set about reforming the church in Scotland. Her husband, realising her ability, increasingly turned to her for advice. She was a devout and conscientious parent and famous for her care of orphans and poor people. She also established schools, hospitals and orphanages, and rebuilt the monastery of Iona. She died in 1093 and was buried at Dunfermline Abbey.

SENTENCE

My song is of mercy and justice; to you, O Lord, I will sing.

*Psalms 101: 1*

COLLECTS

God, our eternal ruler,  
as Queen Margaret of Scotland rejoiced to be your subject,  
aided your church, and succoured the poor,  
make us ready to seek your kingdom before all else,  
and to be fruitful in good works;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Eternal God, creator and ruler of all that is,  
we who so much depend  
on good and caring government  
praise you for Margaret the queen;  
for she knew whose minister she was,  
and devoted her life to the Scottish people.

PSALMS            128                            146: 5-10

READINGS

Proverbs 31: 10-12, 20, 26-31	The God-fearing woman
Acts 9: 36-42	A woman full of good works
Matthew 13: 44-46	A pearl of great value

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister  
and mother." *Mark 3: 35*

*Hilda*  
*Abbess of Whitby*

*November 17*

Hilda was born in 614. She was baptised at the age of 13 and eventually sought a monastic life when she was 33. Bishop Aidan, impressed by her holiness, made her an abbess, and in 657 she established her own monastery at Whitby. It was for both men and women, and, under Hilda, became famous for its devotion and study. She was widely sought after for her advice. It was at Whitby that the synod was held in 664 at which it was decided that the English church would follow the Roman traditions rather than the Celtic ones. Hilda died in 680.

SENTENCE

We are treated as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing,  
and yet possessing everything. *2 Corinthians 6: 10*

COLLECTS

Strong, sovereign God,  
you build your church through women and men  
who hear and heed your call;  
we praise you for Hilda  
and her leadership in the British church:  
inspiring its bishops,  
educating its children,  
and shaping its religious life;  
give us grace also to dedicate our lives to your service  
in undiminished devotion and firm faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Living Spirit,  
inspiration for Hilda,  
opening her abbey for both women and men,  
you brought her to accept defeat in synod cheerfully;  
you make us better than our best.



*Hugh*  
*Bishop of Lincoln*

*November 18*

Hugh was born about 1140 in Burgundy. He became a Carthusian monk and in 1175 took charge of the Carthusian house at Witham in Somerset. In 1186 he became Bishop of Lincoln and died there in 1200. He revived schools in the diocese and restored and enlarged the cathedral. Hugh was renowned for his humility, tact and strength of character. He upheld the rights of the poor, even against the king when necessary. He built a hospital for lepers and visited the poor. All his life Hugh loved birds and at Lincoln he was famous for his pets.

SENTENCE

The Lord is the light of my salvation, whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life, of whom then shall I be afraid?

*Psalm 27: 1*

COLLECTS

Holy and eternal God,  
you gave to your servant Hugh  
gifts of wisdom and cheerful boldness;  
grant that we may without fear  
speak the truth in love  
and defend the weak and helpless;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Blessed are you, loving God,  
in Hugh the conquering lion, the peppery monk,  
who fought injustice in the king, in the landowners,  
in rioting mobs,  
and won;  
whether we win or fail,  
may we take courage from him and be strong.

PSALMS                    40: 5-14                    119: 41-48

READINGS

Micah 6: 6-8	Walk humbly with God
Ephesians 6: 10-13	Our true enemies
Luke 9: 51-56	Jesus and power

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."  
*Mark 9: 35*

*Elizabeth of Hungary*  
*Princess*

*November 19*

Elizabeth of Hungary was born in 1207 and at 15 married Louis IV, the Landgrave of Thuringia. She devoted herself to charitable work among the poor. In 1227 her husband died on the way to the crusades, and Elizabeth was thrown out of the court. She became a Franciscan tertiary, but her spiritual adviser took an almost sadistic delight in disciplining her. She continued to devote herself to the poor of Marburg, but died in 1231 at the age of 24.

SENTENCE

Jesus said, "By this everyone will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."  
*John 13: 35*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
the comforter of the suffering and the hope of the poor,  
you gave Elizabeth strength and love  
to minister to those in need;  
give us grace to seek out those in trouble or in want,  
and to serve you faithfully by our compassion for others;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus, Saviour,  
we remember Elizabeth,  
the widowed, banished, battered princess,  
separated from her children and all she had,  
for you, for the sick and for the poor;  
help us to understand and care  
for those whose grief is sore.

PSALMS                    43                                    82

READINGS

Tobit 12: 6b-9	On almsgiving
James 2: 14-17	Faith and works
Luke 12: 32-34	Treasure in heaven

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

We are treated as dying, and see - we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

*2 Corinthians 6: 9, 10*

*Mechtild of Magdeburg*  
*Mystic, Prophet*

November 20

Mechtild of Magdeburg was born in 1210 and in 1233 joined a group of Beguines, women devoted to charitable work, living in community under temporary vows. She had powerful religious experiences, dominated by the thought of “all things in God and God in all things”. She wrote these down in a book called *The Flowing Light of the Godhead*. She was also a trenchant critic of abuses in the church of the day. This led to some strong opposition. She spent her last years in a convent in Saxony and died there in 1297.

SENTENCE

You, O God, are not far from each one of us, for in you we live and move and have our being. *Acts 17: 27, 28 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

All-embracing God,  
you called your servant Mechtild  
to proclaim your love  
and to challenge abuses in your church;  
may we come to see all things in you  
and your presence in all things,  
that we may witness to your care;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Blessed are you, high and holy God,  
in Mechtild, the visionary, the spiritual writer,  
and in the thousands who chose, like her,  
the better part with you;  
may we too grow in grace  
and enjoy your heavenly treasure.

PSALMS                    104: 25-35                    139

READINGS

2 Kings 6: 15-17

Seeing God's power

1 Thessalonians 1: 2-5a

God has chosen you

Luke 12: 22-34

Seek the kingdom

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and  
you in me, and I in you."

*John 14: 20*

*Cecilia*  
*Martyr at Rome*

*November 22*

The traditional story of Cecilia's refusal to consummate her marriage and of her eventual martyrdom for refusing to offer pagan worship is no earlier than the late fifth century. Historical information about her martyrdom in the third century is unavailable. However, her story was very popular, and she became the patron saint of music from the sixteenth century. That is the main reason for her commemoration today, giving as it does an occasion for celebrating music in worship.

SENTENCE

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth; worship with gladness, and enter the Lord's presence with songs of joy. *Psalms 100: 1, 2*

COLLECTS

God of beauty and harmony,  
the heavens proclaim your glory,  
and in adoration the peoples sing:  
"Let heaven and earth rejoice in tuneful accord."  
May we with heart, mind and voice  
honour you in worship and in witness  
to the praise of your glorious name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of harmony and of every beautiful sound,  
on this Cecilia's Day, we praise you  
for all who make music to delight us as we worship you;  
our song will be of martyrdom, of purity and courage;  
our song will be of forgiveness and hope.

PSALMS                    108: 1-6                    150

READINGS

1 Chronicles 25: 1a, 6-8	Musicians of the Lord
Ephesians 5: 15-20	Making melody
Luke 6: 20-23	Happiness

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

O sing to the Lord a new song; give praise in the assembly of the faithful. *Psalm 149: 1*

*C.S. Lewis*  
*Apologist*

*November 22*

Clive Staples Lewis was born in 1898. He is best known as a popular apologist for Christianity in the twentieth century. He wrote novels on Christian themes for both children and adults, including “The Chronicles of Narnia”. He wrote other books, many based on talks he had given or articles he had written. These included *The Screwtape Letters* and *Mere Christianity*. There were more autobiographical works, *Surprised by Joy*, on his own Christian journey, and *A Grief Observed*, a moving account of his grief at the death of his wife. C.S. Lewis died on 22 November 1963.

SENTENCE

With you, O God, are wisdom and strength; you have counsel and understanding  
*Job 12: 13 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life;  
we thank you for the gifts that C.S. Lewis brought to proclaiming this  
with imagination, eloquence, wit and passion;  
help us to tell the good news of your love in our day,  
that the world may know the riches of your mercy  
and the joy that faith in you can bring;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, teller of parables,  
we honour C.S. Lewis, teller of stories,  
of *Screwtape* and *Aslan* and of trust in God.  
Show us how to use our imaginations  
in the defence of the gospel.

PSALMS            63: 1-9

108: 1-6

READINGS

Wisdom 7: 7-15

2 Timothy 1: 8-14

John 8: 48-58

Wisdom from God

A herald of the gospel

Jesus defends his claims

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

We proclaim Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of  
God.

*1 Corinthians 1: 23-24*

*Clement*  
*Bishop of Rome, Martyr*

*November 23*

Clement was a bishop in Rome at the end of the first century. About 96 he wrote a letter known as *1 Clement*. It was sent in the name of the church in Rome to Corinth to settle a dispute there caused by some of the younger members of the church. Clement strongly upheld the notion of hierarchical authority divinely instituted in the church. These views were influential in the growth of episcopacy, and *1 Clement* was highly regarded by the early church.

SENTENCE

In you O Lord I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.

*Psalm 71: 1*

COLLECTS

Merciful God,  
you called your servant Clement  
to bring peace and stability  
to the church in Corinth;  
may your church always be  
grounded in your truth,  
filled with your Spirit  
and strong in your service;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Praise to you, God of every time and situation,  
for those who, like Clement,  
brought order and stability to the church;  
help us in any conflict and confusion  
to fix our gaze on your eternal truth.

PSALMS            31: 1-9

78: 1-7

READINGS

Proverbs 15: 1-4

Words of wisdom

Titus 2: 11-15

Teaching for the church

Luke 14: 7-11

Humility

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to  
which you were called.

*1 Timothy 6: 12*

*St Andrew*  
*Apostle, Martyr*

*November 30*

Andrew figures prominently only in John's Gospel. There he is one of the first two followers of Jesus and the one who introduces his brother Simon Peter to Jesus. He presents to Jesus the boy with loaves and fishes to be used in the feeding of the multitude. Later he alerts Jesus to the interest of some Greeks in him. He is, then, as characteristic an apostle as any. We have no information about him after the resurrection, though he became the patron saint of Scotland.

SENTENCE

Andrew said, "Here are five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" *John 6: 9*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
your apostle Andrew obeyed the call of your Son  
and followed him without delay;  
grant that we like him may give ourselves readily  
to do what you command;  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Jesus, when you call  
may we like Andrew leave our nets,  
our home, our everything, to follow you.  
Hear this prayer for your name's sake.

PSALMS                    67    107: 23-32

READINGS

Jonah 3: 1-10	Response from the gentiles
Romans 10: 12-18	Good news for all
Matthew 4: 17-22	The call of Andrew
<i>or</i>	
John 1: 35-42a	

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Andrew first found his brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah," and he brought him to Jesus.        *John 1: 41-42*

*Francis Xavier*  
*Missionary*

*December 3*

Francis Xavier was one of the most effective and devoted missionaries who ever lived. He was born in 1506 in Spain, and in 1534 became one of the seven original Jesuits. In 1541 he went to the East Indies to preach the gospel and establish the church. He converted many in the eleven years in which he was actively evangelising in India, Ceylon, Malacca, Malaya, and especially Japan. He died on board ship on his way to China in December 1552.

SENTENCE

Proclaim God's glory to the nations, God's marvellous deeds to all the peoples.

*Psalm 96: 3*

COLLECTS

Merciful and gracious God,  
you raise up men and women  
to proclaim the good news  
to those who have not heard it;  
we praise you for Francis Xavier  
and the work he did in the east;  
give us wisdom and love  
to commend the faith to others;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

All glory to you, Jesus, for Francis,  
your brave, unbending missionary to Goa and Japan,  
who gave without counting the cost;  
help us also to respect other people's beliefs.

PSALMS                    134                    138

READINGS

Isaiah 43: 5-7	From the ends of the earth
2 Timothy 4: 1-2	In season, out of season
Matthew 7: 13-23	Take the gate to life

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

“I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth,” says the Lord.                    *Isaiah 49: 6*

*Nicholas*  
*Bishop of Myra*

*December 6*

All we know for sure about Nicholas is that he was Bishop of Myra in Asia Minor some time in the fourth century. There are many stories about his love and care for children. He became the patron saint of children and, in a North American development, the giver of Christmas presents as Santa Claus. He is also a patron saint of Russia, seafarers and pawnbrokers. The legends told about Nicholas are delightful, but have no historical value. He is one of the most popular of the saints.

SENTENCE

Find your delight in the Lord, and the Lord will give you your heart's desire.

*Psalm 37: 4*

COLLECTS

Loving God,  
the giver of all good,  
we thank you for Nicholas  
and for the generosity he has symbolised  
from generation to generation;  
may we always be mindful of those in need  
and generous with what we have received;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Some saints, all-seeing God, are known only to you;  
but who could rival Nicholas, Father Christmas,  
saint for children, for Russia,  
for sailors all over the world?  
We thank you for the good he has done  
and the marvellous way you have done it.

PSALMS                    68: 1-10                    72: 1-4, 12-20

READINGS

Isaiah 55: 1-3	God's generosity
1 Timothy 6: 6-11	Godliness with contentment
Luke 10: 21-24	Hidden from the learned and wise.

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me; and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs."

*Mark 10: 14*

*Ambrose*  
*Bishop of Milan*  
*Teacher of the Faith*

*December 7*

Ambrose was born in 339. He became Bishop of Milan by popular choice in 374 when, as governor of the city, he intervened to stop riots over the election of the bishop. Ambrose did much to deepen the theology of the western church on the full divinity of Christ. In his defence of the church's independence from the state, he did much to shape church-state relations in western Europe. He had no hesitation in rebuking the Christian emperor when necessary. Ambrose died in 397.

SENTENCE

Defend the weak and the orphaned; maintain the cause of the afflicted and destitute. Rescue the weak and needy and save them from the hands of the wicked.

*Psalm 82: 3, 4*

COLLECTS

God of mercy and justice,  
in a time of danger and confusion  
you called your servant Ambrose  
to bring stability to your church;  
give us discipline and wisdom in our trials,  
that we may affirm with courage  
the faith that we believe;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

O strength and stay, upholding all creation,  
praise to you for Ambrose the governor,  
who came unwilling, unbaptised,  
to be your Bishop in Milan;  
praise to you for his fearless attitude  
which upheld and built your church.

PSALMS                    20                    33: 1-5, 13-21

READINGS

Nehemiah 5: 14-19	A faithful governor
2 Corinthians 5: 16-21	An ambassador for Christ
Luke 22: 24-30	True leadership

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. *2 Timothy 1: 14*

*Richard Baxter*  
*Priest, Theologian*

*December 8*

Richard Baxter was born in Shropshire in 1615, and after ordination in 1638 became curate of Kidderminster in 1641. He developed strong Puritan sympathies, though he continued to support the idea of a national church. He proved himself a devoted and dedicated parish priest. He wrote extensively about his ideas on proper pastoral work and provided a model of evangelical preaching for conversion and commitment. At the Restoration in 1660 he was offered the bishopric of Hereford, but declined. He then suffered persecution for his Puritan views of a broad-based reformed church. He died in 1691.

SENTENCE

Deliverance for the righteous comes from the Lord; the Most High is their stronghold in time of trouble. *Psalm 37: 39*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
we thank you for Richard Baxter,  
your steadfast, earnest shepherd;  
give us grace to serve you with single-mindedness,  
and, like him, patiently to endure adversity and suffering,  
to the glory of your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Eternal living Spirit in the church,  
praise to you for Richard, the careful scholar,  
the dedicated preacher, the patient sufferer;  
may we too be willing to talk and listen to anybody,  
be they bishop or leveller.

PSALMS            13                            42

READINGS

1 Kings 19: 15-18	The faithful remnant
2 Thessalonians 2: 13-17	Stand firm
John 15: 15-21	Fruit that will last

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Happy are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

*Revelation 22: 14*

The word “holy” in the title, “Holy Men of the Old Testament”, is not so much about an achieved sanctity or perfection as about particular people who played important roles in interpreting to Israel the purposes of God in the covenant. The story can be traced from Abraham, through Moses, Samuel, David and the prophets to those who, sometimes at great personal cost, kept reminding Israel of its call, and laying the foundations of our own historical faith. We are their descendants and inheritors.

SENTENCE

We have heard with our ears, O God, we have learned from our ancestors the things you did in their time in days of old. *Psalm 44: 1*

COLLECTS

Almighty God,  
you bound your people to yourself in a covenant of grace,  
and sent patriarchs and prophets  
to keep them faithful in their journey;  
grant that we who are heirs of your promise  
may be true to the challenge of the gospel  
and its demands of love;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Blessed are you,  
God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob,  
of Moses, of Joshua, of Elijah,  
and of all the men your covenant produced;  
we pray you grant us their faith and resolution.

PSALMS                    99                                    132

READINGS

Ecclesiasticus 44: 1-15	Famous men
Hebrews 11: 32 - 12: 2	A cloud of witnesses
Matthew 17: 1-8	Moses and Elijah with Jesus

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

You that seek the Lord, look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug. *Isaiah 51: 1 (adapted)*

*Thomas Merton*  
*Spiritual Writer*

*December 10*

Thomas Merton was born in France in 1915. His early life was unsettled and it was not until he was at Columbia University in New York that he began to explore Christian faith and the religious life. He was baptised in 1938 and entered the Trappist order at Gethsemani, Kentucky, in 1941. The publication of his autobiography, *The Seven Storey Mountain*, in 1948 brought him recognition as an outstanding spiritual figure of the twentieth century. Many other books on spirituality and issues of social justice followed until his death by accidental electrocution while in Bangkok on 10 December 1968.

SENTENCE

You, Lord, are in your holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before you.  
*Habakkuk 2: 20 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

Gracious and everloving God,  
you meet us in silence as well as in speech;  
we thank you for your servant Thomas Merton  
and the gifts he shared on our spiritual journey;  
give us grace to be still that we may hear your voice,  
and hearing may be strengthened  
in our quest for justice for all your children;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Blessed are you, God, in Thomas,  
who learned in silence to hear you  
and feel your thirst for justice;  
give us encouragement by his example  
to be still that we may know you  
and empowered to serve you.

PSALMS

84

119: 25-32

READINGS

1 Kings 19: 7-13a

The sound of silence

1 Peter 1: 3-12

Things into which angels long to look

John 17: 1-8

This is eternal life

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Whenever you pray, go into your room and pray to your Father who is in secret."

*Matthew 6: 6*

*Octavius Hadfield*  
*Bishop*

*December 11*

Octavius Hadfield was born in England in 1814. Although ill health forced the curtailment of his university studies, he came to New Zealand in 1839 as a missionary, determined to serve God faithfully in what he expected to be a short life. He became a great evangelist and teacher of the Maori people on the Kapiti Coast, and was a tremendous influence for good upon the leaders of both races. He became Bishop of Wellington in 1870 and primate of New Zealand in 1890. He played his part in securing justice for both Maori and Pa-keha and in establishing a well-ordered church in this land. He retired in 1893 and died in 1904.

SENTENCE

Not to us O Lord, not to us but to your name give the glory, because of your love and your faithfulness. *Psalm 115: 1*

COLLECTS

E te Atua kaha rawa,  
you gave your servant Octavius Hadfield  
strength out of weakness and faithful love  
to enrich the church in Aotearoa;  
may we strive for justice and,  
with equal care for all,  
make known your truth,  
for the glory of your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

E te Atua kaha rawa,  
praise to you for Octavius, whom you called  
to preach the gospel,  
to serve the Maori people,  
and to build Rangiatea;  
may we have his strength, no matter who opposes us.

PSALMS                    37: 23-32                    62

#### READINGS

Jeremiah 1: 4-10	God's call
2 Corinthians 2: 12-17	A door was opened
Mark 1: 35-39	Travelling to preach

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

We have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that  
this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from  
us. *2 Corinthians 4: 7*

*Lucy*  
*Martyr, Syracuse*

*December 13*

At the beginning of the fourth century, the Roman emperors clamped down on recent innovations in the empire such as Christianity, and began systematic persecution of the church. Among those killed was Lucy of Syracuse in Sicily. We know nothing else about her, but her cult became widespread. Later stories described her as a wealthy virgin who gave help to the poor and was betrayed by an irate suitor. She died in 304. The derivation of her name from the Latin word for light makes light an appropriate theme for Lucy.

SENTENCE

The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life, of whom then shall I be afraid?

*Psalm 27: 1*

COLLECTS

All-seeing God,  
we praise you for the faithful witness of your servant Lucy,  
who followed your word with simplicity and courage;  
may we also hear your word  
and never fail to act, regardless of the cost,  
so that all may see the light of your truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus, slain for us,  
we hold up to you Lucy, pure, betrayed, brave,  
the ideal virgin martyr;  
and we praise you for the church's innocence,  
its courage and simplicity.

PSALMS                    36: 5-10                    123

READINGS

Isaiah 60: 19-20

The Lord your light

Revelation 22: 1-5

The tree of life

Luke 11: 33-36

The lamp of your body

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."        *John 8: 12*

*Marianne Williams*  
*Missionary*

*December 16*

Marianne Williams, pioneer missionary to the Maori, was born in 1793. As the wife of Henry Williams she came to New Zealand as a young woman in 1823, and from then on gave her life in unstinting service to the Bay of Islands Maori. As mother of eleven children, nurse, teacher, and friend to anyone in need, she made the love of God widely known. She never saw her homeland again. Instead she sought a better country and “endured as seeing him who is invisible”. She died in 1879.

SENTENCE

To you Lord I lift up my soul; my God I have put my trust in you.

*Psalm 25: 1, 2*

COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
you called your servant Marianne Williams  
to advance the early New Zealand mission  
by her determination and ability;  
give us patience and unwavering courage  
to put all our talents at your service  
and to make your love known;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Loving Trinity,  
you were strength to Marianne  
in the early days at Paihia;  
yours and hers was the care  
which made the mission a success,  
and to you we are profoundly grateful.

PSALMS                    119: 129-136    127

READINGS

Isaiah 40: 9-11

Tending the flock

Romans 12: 4-13

Using our gifts

John 15: 5-11

Vine and branches

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

*Luke 11: 28*

Christmas Eve is a time for celebration as much as Christmas itself. Expectation and anticipation are all part of the day. In our society the various pressures of preparation and the time of the year tend to ensure that we find it difficult to prepare ourselves in heart and mind to go to Bethlehem to see the Christ child. It is good that the preparation for the feast of Christmas is hallowed as well as the feast itself.

SENTENCE

Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place,  
which the Lord has made known to us. *Luke 2: 15*

COLLECTS

Gracious and merciful God,  
you reach out to us  
in the breathtaking humility  
of Christ's birth among us;  
so prepare our hearts for his coming  
that we may celebrate your love for ever,  
and share it with all your people;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God, you are always with us,  
always coming;  
help us as we look for your coming today,  
to know you are always with us.

PSALMS 80

89: 19-29, 33-36

READINGS

Isaiah 62: 1-5

Your God shall rejoice over you

Titus 3: 4-7

Saved by God's generosity and kindness

Luke 1: 30-33

God's promise

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

*Luke 21: 28*

*The Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ*      *December 25*  
*Christmas Day*

The message of Christmas is “Emmanuel” - God with us. It is the theme that runs through the two accounts of the birth of Jesus, and that has dominated the celebration of Christ’s birth since the festival grew up in the fourth century: God with us in our hearts and our homes and our lives, sharing our joys and burdens, and strengthening us in our love of others and the whole creation.

SENTENCE

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; for to us a child is born, to us a son is given.      *Isaiah 9: 2, 6*

*or*

I bring you good news of great joy for all people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, Christ the Lord.      *Luke 2: 10-11*

*or*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth.      *John 1: 1, 14*

## COLLECTS

### YEAR A

Son of God,  
light that shines in the dark,  
child of joy and peace,  
help us to come to you  
and be born anew this holy night.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

### YEAR B

Almighty God,  
you gave your only-begotten Son  
to take our nature upon him,  
and be born of the Virgin Mary;  
grant that we, who are born again  
and made your children by adoption and grace,  
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever.

### YEAR C

Son of God, Child of Mary,  
born in the stable at Bethlehem,  
be born again in us this day  
that through us the world may know  
the wonder of your love.  
Hear this prayer for your name's sake.

PSALMS & READINGS (YEARS A, B, C)

**PROPER I**

Psalm 96

Isaiah 9:2-7

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

**PROPER II**

Psalm 97

Isaiah 62: 6-12

Titus 3: 4-7

Luke 2: (1-7) 8-20

**PROPER III**

Psalm 98

Isaiah 52: 7-10

Hebrews 1: 1-4, (5-12)

John 1: 1-14



*Thomas of Canterbury*  
*Bishop, Martyr*

*December 29*

Thomas Becket was born in London in 1118, and became archdeacon of Canterbury in 1154. Henry II appreciated his considerable administrative ability and made him chancellor of England in 1155. He fulfilled Henry's expectations so well that Henry made him Archbishop of Canterbury in 1162, hoping to control the church as well. Thomas however now gave his total loyalty to the church. A bitter struggle developed, during which Thomas spent six years in exile in France. In 1170 the exasperated king called for Thomas's removal, and four knights murdered Thomas in his cathedral on 29 December.

SENTENCE

Be faithful until death, says the Lord, and I will give you the crown of life.  
*Revelation 2: 10 (adapted)*

COLLECTS

God our strength and support,  
you gave your servant Thomas Becket  
courage and steadfastness  
to defend your church with his life;  
make us bold to proclaim your truth  
and ready to suffer for your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of justice, have patience  
if like Thomas  
we give our loyalty  
or in the end our lives  
to a mistake;  
have patience  
if others use the mistake to their advantage.

PSALMS                    54                    64

READINGS

Jeremiah 38: 1-6	Jeremiah's suffering
Hebrews 13: 10-16	No lasting city here
John 10: 11-18	I lay down my life

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Hold fast to love and justice, and wait continually for your God.

*Hosea 12: 6*

*Josephine Butler*  
*Worker among Women*

*December 30*

Josephine Butler was born in Northumberland in 1828. From her father she inherited her conviction that social action is a necessary manifestation of religious belief. She conducted a vigorous campaign against the sexual exploitation of women and girls. She fought to have legislation abolished which allowed the forcible medical examination of women suspected of prostitution, but ignored the men. She opposed the trafficking in young girls for use in brothels, and she campaigned for the age of consent to be raised. In all these in England she was successful. She died in 1906.

SENTENCE

The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a tower of strength in time of trouble.

*Psalm 9: 9*

COLLECTS

God of compassion and tenderness,  
you call us in Christ to care for the powerless,  
the poor and the exploited;  
grant that, after Josephine Butler's example,  
we may have compassion and zeal  
to see justice done and want relieved,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Jesus, you cared for women;  
you cared for Josephine's work with prostitutes,  
and her campaign against white slavery;  
may we have her willingness  
to help the helpless and abused.

PSALMS                    12                                    119: 33-40

READINGS

Hosea 3	Fallen Israel restored
Colossians 1: 9-12	Your lives will produce good news
Luke 10: 25-37	Who is my neighbour?

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Thus says the Lord of hosts: Render true judgments, show kindness  
and mercy to each other. *Zechariah 7: 9*

*John Wycliffe*  
*Theologian and Reformer*

*December 31*

John Wycliffe was born about 1330 and became a leading philosopher at Oxford University. His attacks on corrupt clergy led to further criticisms of the powers of the clergy and the papacy and of the superstitions surrounding the eucharist. He urged the translation of the Bible into English. Although Wycliffe initially had royal protection, he was eventually forced to leave Oxford. He went to Lutterworth, where he died in 1384. He influenced the Lollards in England, and the development of ideas of reform among Czech scholars owes much to him.

SENTENCE

I will speak of your decrees before kings, O Lord, and I will not be abashed in their presence.

*Psalm 119: 46*

COLLECTS

Everliving God,  
you raised up your servant John Wycliffe  
to be a herald of renewal in the church;  
give us ears to hear the voice of the prophet,  
wisdom to discern the true from the false,  
and zeal in your service;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed are you, prophetic Holy Spirit,  
in John the priest,  
first to press for the Bible in English,  
champion against corruption in the church;  
as we enter another year,  
help us to set our hands  
to what may need reforming.

PSALMS 48

119: 65-72

READINGS

1 Esdras 4: 35b-40

Truth endures

2 Timothy 4: 1-5

Proclaim the message

John 8: 31-36

Freedom through the truth

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Servants are not greater than their master. If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also."

*John 15: 20*



*Easter Day  
and  
Days Dependent on the Date of Easter*

## *Ash Wednesday*

It has been a very long tradition of the church to call its members to a period of prayer, fasting, instruction and penitence, in preparation for the festival of Easter. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. You are invited to use this period of forty days to deepen your faith and commitment to the way of God in Christ. Ash is an ancient symbol of penitence and humility. In a spirit of true Christian obedience let us keep this Ash Wednesday.

### SENTENCES

Return to the Lord your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. *Joel 2: 13*

*or*

When you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret. *Matthew 6: 17-18*

### COLLECTS

God of the desert,  
as we follow Jesus into the unknown,  
may we recognise the tempter when he comes;  
let it be your bread we eat,  
your world we serve and you alone we worship.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

*or*

Almighty and merciful God,  
you hate nothing that you have made  
and forgive the sins of all who are penitent;  
create in us new and contrite hearts,  
so that when we turn to you and confess our sins  
we may receive your full and perfect forgiveness;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Return to the Lord your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to  
anger, and abounding in steadfast love. *Joel 2:13*

PSALM                    51:1-17

READINGS

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

*or* Isaiah 58: 1-12

2 Corinthians 5: 20b - 6: 10

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

## *Palm Sunday and Holy Week*

In the fourth century, Christian pilgrims to Jerusalem developed the custom of processing with palms to the places associated with the triumphal entry of Jesus to the city. We stand in a long tradition of Christians who have sought to remind themselves of the way of the cross on this Palm Sunday. Let us celebrate it with delight and rejoicing; but also let us walk with Christ to the end of the journey on Golgotha, and to the empty tomb.

## YEAR A

### SENTENCE

At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, in heaven and on earth  
and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is  
Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *Philippians 2: 10-11*

### COLLECT

Jesus, when you rode into Jerusalem  
the people waved palms  
with shouts of acclamation.  
Grant that when the shouting dies  
we may still walk beside you even to a cross;  
for the glory of your holy name.

### LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

Matthew 21: 1-11

*Use collect for Lent 6: 1 (as above)*

### LITURGY OF THE PASSION

Psalm 31: 9-16

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Philippians 2: 5-11

Matthew 26: 14 - 27: 66

*or Matthew 27: 11-54*

## YEAR B

### SENTENCE

At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *Philippians 2: 10-11*

### COLLECT

Lord Jesus,  
acclaimed as King,  
crucified as criminal,  
teach us to accept our sufferings and triumphs  
for your glory alone.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

### LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29  
Mark 11: 1-11 *or* John 12: 12-16  
*Use collect for Lent 6: 3 (as above)*

### LITURGY OF THE PASSION

Psalm 31: 9-16  
Isaiah 50: 4-9a  
Philippians 2: 5-11  
Mark 14: 1 - 15: 47  
*or* Mark 15: 1-39, (40-47)

## YEAR C

### SENTENCE

At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *Philippians 2: 10-11*

### COLLECT

Jesus, when you rode into Jerusalem  
the people waved palms  
with shouts of acclamation.  
Grant that when the shouting dies  
we may still walk beside you even to a cross;  
for the glory of your holy name.

### LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

Luke 19: 28-40

*Use collect for Lent 6:1 (as above)*

### LITURGY OF THE PASSION

Psalm 31: 9-16

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Philippians 2: 5-11

Luke 22: 14 - 23: 56

*or Luke 23: 1-49*



## *Maundy Thursday*

The Christian eucharist comes directly from the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion. He gave new meaning to their fellowship meals by linking his own life with them. The Maundy Thursday eucharist, following the Jewish custom of reckoning days from sunset, marks the beginning of the great events that climax Christ's work. May we be one with him in this eucharist, and in his life, death and resurrection.

### SENTENCES

'I give you a new commandment,' says the Lord, 'that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.'

*John 13: 34*

*or*

Jesus said, 'If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.'

*John 13: 14*

### COLLECT

Infinite, intimate God;  
this night you kneel before your friends  
and wash our feet.

Bound together in your love, trembling,  
we drink your cup and watch.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

PSALM                    116: 1-2, 12-19

### READINGS

Exodus 12: 1-4, (5-10), 11-14

1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

John 13: 1-17, (31b-35)

## *Good Friday*

Good Friday is the most solemn day in the church's calendar. In the fourth century, Christian pilgrims marked the day by visiting the places where Jesus went on his last journey, and there watched and prayed as part of their celebration of what God had done in Christ. Let us in heart and mind walk with all those who have faithfully followed Jesus in the way of the cross.

### SENTENCES

Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.  
Therefore God has highly exalted him and has given him the name  
that is above every name. *Philippians 2: 8-9*

*or*

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own  
way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

*Isaiah 53: 12*

## COLLECTS

### YEAR A

Lord Jesus Christ,  
crucified for us,  
we kneel at the foot of your cross to watch with you.  
Help us to see the cost of our forgiveness  
so that we may be made new through your love;  
for the glory of your holy name.

### YEARS B & C

Crucified Saviour, naked God,  
You hang disgraced and powerless.  
Grieving, we dare to hope,  
as we wait at the cross  
with your mother and your friend.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

PSALM                    22

## READINGS

Isaiah 52: 13 - 53: 12  
Hebrews 10: 16-25  
*or* Hebrews 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9  
John 18: 1 - 19: 42



## *Holy Saturday - Easter Eve*

This Holy Saturday, Easter Eve, is an awesome pause in the running of the universe, a moment of profound silence. Jesus lies in the tomb, and we wait in prayer for God to declare that Yes to the work of Christ on the cross.

### SENTENCE

When we were baptised into Christ Jesus, we were baptised into his death; so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. *Romans 6: 3-4*

### COLLECT

Grant O God,  
that we who are baptised into the death  
of your Son Jesus Christ,  
may continually die to sin  
and be buried with him,  
that through the grave and gate of death  
we may pass to our joyful resurrection;  
for his sake, who died and was buried  
and rose again for us,  
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

PSALM                    31: 1-4, 15-16

### READINGS

Job 14: 1-14

or Lamentations 3: 1-9, 19-24

1 Peter 4: 1-8

Matthew 27: 57-66

or John 19: 38-42

## AT THE VIGIL

### YEAR A

#### SENTENCE

We have been buried with Christ by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. *Romans 6: 4*

#### COLLECTS

Eternal giver of life and light,  
this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ;  
renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism,  
that we may worship you in sincerity and truth,  
and shine as a light in the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*or*

Lord of the passover,  
you have lit this night with the radiance of Christ;  
renew in us our baptism,  
and bring us through the Red Sea waters  
to the promised land.  
Through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**YEAR B**

SENTENCE

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. *1 Corinthians 5: 7-8*

COLLECT

Lord God,  
you made this night bright  
with the radiance of the risen Christ;  
may we who have been raised with him in baptism  
reflect the light of his glory,  
and live with him for ever.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

## YEAR C

### SENTENCE

We have been buried with Christ by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. *Romans 6: 4*

### COLLECTS

Lord of the passover,  
you have lit this night with the radiance of Christ;  
renew in us our baptism,  
and bring us through the Red Sea waters  
to the promised land;  
for the glory of your holy name.

*or*

Eternal Giver of life and light,  
this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ:  
renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism,  
that we may worship you in sincerity and truth,  
and shine as a light in the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## READINGS

### OLD TESTAMENT & PSALMS

*Genesis 1: 1 - 2: 4a*

*Psalm 136: 1-9, 23-26*

*Genesis 7: 1-5, 11-18; 8: 6-18; 9: 8-13*

*Psalm 46*

*Genesis 22: 1-18*

*Psalm 16*

*Exodus 14: 10-31; 15: 20-21*

*for the Psalm: Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18*

*Isaiah 55:1-11*

*for the Psalm: Isaiah 12: 2-6*

*Baruch 3:9-15, 32 - 4:4 or Proverbs 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6*

*Psalm 19*

*Ezekiel 36:24-28*

*Psalm 42 and 43*

*Ezekiel 37:1-14*

*Psalm 143*

*Zephaniah 3:14-20*

*Psalm 98*

### NEW TESTAMENT

Psalm 114

Romans 6: 3-11

### GOSPELS

YEAR A                      Matthew 28: 1-10

YEAR B                      Mark 16: 1-8

YEAR C                      Luke 24: 1-12



## *Easter Day*

In this great celebration, we gather up all that has happened, from the birth in the manger to the great events of these last three days. In the Last Supper, Jesus offered his disciples a sign of his presence with them always. Let us, in this Eucharist, join with the countless throngs down the ages who have rejoiced in the triumph of God's love, won for us on the cross and proclaimed here in the greatest festival of all, as new life is made manifest in Christ.

### SENTENCES

The Lord has risen indeed, alleluia!

*Luke 24: 34*

*or*

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*Psalms 118: 24*

### YEAR A

#### COLLECT

Glorious Lord of Life,  
we praise you,  
that by the mighty resurrection of your Son,  
you have delivered us from sin and death  
and made your whole creation new;  
grant that we who celebrate with joy  
Christ's rising from the dead,  
may be raised from the death of sin  
to the life of righteousness;  
for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever.

PSALM                    118: 1-2, 14-24

READINGS

Acts 10: 34-43

*or* Jeremiah 31: 1-6

Colossians 3: 1-4

*or* Acts 10: 34-43

John 20:1-18

*or* Matthew 28: 1-10

**YEAR B**

COLLECT

Living Christ, you are risen from the dead!

Love reigns!

You are life stronger than death;

raise our eyes to see you

as the new day dawns;

for the glory of your holy name.

PSALM                    118: 1-2, 14-24

READINGS

Acts 10: 34-43

*or* Isaiah 25: 6-9

1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

*or* Acts 10: 34-43

John 20: 1-18

*or* Mark 16: 1-8

## YEAR C

Jesus Christ our Saviour,  
you have delivered us from sin and death.  
You have brought with the dawn  
a new beginning and an empty tomb;  
grant us strength and humility  
to enter into life.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

PSALM                    118: 1-2, 14-24

## READINGS

Acts 10: 34-43

*or* Isaiah 65: 17-25

1 Corinthians 15: 19-26

*or* Acts 10: 34-43

John 20: 1-18

*or* Luke 24: 1-12



## *Ascension Day*

The early church wanted to savour the festival of Easter, and made it last for fifty days. That encouraged them to follow Luke's account of events, in which the lordship of Christ is proclaimed by the description of his ascension in glory to reign over all things. The message of the Ascension is the exaltation of Christ.

### **YEAR A**

#### SENTENCE

Jesus said to them: 'Go and make disciples of all nations; and remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

*Matthew 28: 19-20*

#### COLLECT

The heavens are open wide  
since Jesus our brother, our Redeemer,  
has entered through the veil.  
We thank you for his new and living way,  
by which we join the unnumbered millions  
who are with you forever.  
Praise to you our God; you answer prayer.

PSALMS                    47                                    93

#### READINGS

Acts 1: 1-11

Ephesians 1: 15-23

Luke 24: 44-53

## YEAR B

### SENTENCE

'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation,' says the Lord.

*Mark 16 :15*

### COLLECT

Eternal God,  
you have given your Son authority  
in heaven and in earth;  
grant that we may never lose  
the vision of his kingdom  
but serve him with hope and joy;  
for he is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever.

PSALMS                      47                                      93

### READINGS

Acts 1: 1-11

Ephesians 1: 15-23

Luke 24: 44-53

## YEAR C

### SENTENCE

God has raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named.

*Ephesians 1:20-21*

### COLLECT

Eternal God,  
by raising Jesus from the dead  
you proclaimed his victory,  
and by his ascension  
you declared him king.  
Lift our hearts to heaven  
that we may live and reign with him.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PSALMS                    47                    93

### READINGS

Acts 1: 1-11  
Ephesians 1: 15-23  
Luke 24: 44-53



## *The Day of Pentecost*

The great fifty days of Easter come to an end with the celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the church, and the empowering of the church in its witness to the good news. It is a crucial part of the Easter story itself, as the risen Christ continues his gracious work in and through us and all his faithful people.

### **YEAR A**

#### SENTENCE

‘Let anyone who is thirsty come to me,’ says the Lord; ‘and let the one who believes in me drink. For out of your heart shall flow rivers of living water.’ *John 7: 38*

#### COLLECT

Father,  
you have filled your people with the Spirit  
who rested first on your Son  
and united us in your Church;  
open the channels for your Spirit  
that we may freely work together,  
and your kingdom and your rule increase;  
for the glory of your holy name.

PSALM                    104: 24-34, 35b

#### READINGS

Acts 2: 1-21

*or* Numbers 11: 24-30

1 Corinthians 12 :3b-13

*or* Acts 2: 1-21

John 20: 19-23

*or* John 7: 37-39

## YEAR B

### SENTENCE

'A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you,'  
says the Lord; 'I will put my spirit within you and you shall live.'

*Ezekiel 3: 26; 37: 14*

### COLLECT

Almighty God,  
at the feast of Pentecost  
you sent your Holy Spirit to the disciples,  
filling them with joy and boldness  
to preach the gospel;  
send us out in the power of the same Spirit  
to witness to your redeeming love  
and draw all people to you  
and the Holy Spirit,  
one God now and for ever.

PSALMS            104: 24-34, 35b

### READINGS

Acts 2: 1-21

*or* Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Romans 8: 22-27

*or* Acts 2: 1-21

John 15: 26-27; 16: 4b-15

## YEAR C

### SENTENCE

God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who  
has been given to us. *Romans 5: 5*

### COLLECT

Living God,  
eternal Holy Spirit,  
let your bright intoxicating energy  
which fired those first disciples  
fall on us  
to turn the world again.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

PSALMS            104: 24-34, 35b

### READINGS

Acts 2: 1-21  
*or* Genesis 11: 1-9  
Romans 8: 14-17  
*or* Acts 2: 1-21  
John 14: 8-17, (25-27)

## *Trinity Sunday*

Trinity Sunday is unusual in the calendar of the church, in that it marks a piece of theology rather than a person or an event. It developed as a festival in the Middle Ages as a proclamation of God's threefold action in creating, redeeming and sanctifying us, and as a summation of all the events celebrated in the festivals of God's saving work in Christ and through the Holy Spirit.

### **YEAR A**

#### SENTENCE

Proclaim the Name: 'The Lord, the Lord, a God who is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.'

*Exodus 34: 6*

#### COLLECT

Father,  
you sent your Son to bring us truth  
and your Holy Spirit to make us holy;  
open our hearts to exalt you,  
open our lives to reveal you,  
our one true God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

PSALMS            8

#### READINGS

Genesis 1: 1 - 2: 4a  
2 Corinthians 13: 11-13  
Matthew 28: 16-20

## YEAR B

### SENTENCE

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.

*Isaiah 6: 3*

*or*

Christ Jesus came and preached peace to you all; through him we have access in the one Spirit to the Father.

*Ephesians 2: 17-18*

### COLLECT

God of unchangeable power,  
you have revealed yourself  
to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit;  
keep us firm in this faith  
that we may praise and bless your holy name;  
for you are one God  
now and for ever.

PSALMS            29

### READINGS

Isaiah 6: 1-8

Romans 8: 12-17

John 3: 1-17

## YEAR C

### SENTENCE

Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice?

‘The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.’

*Proverbs 8: 1, 22*

*or*

God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, Abba!  
Father!

*Galatians 4: 6*

### COLLECT

Trinity of Love,  
maker of man and woman in your image  
help us to accept ourselves as we are,  
and to know our need for each other.  
Hear this prayer for your love’s sake.

PSALMS            8

### READINGS

Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31

Romans 5: 1-5

John 16: 12-15



# *Thanksgiving for Holy Communion (Corpus Christi)*

Thursday after Trinity Sunday

## SENTENCE

I would feed you with the finest wheat-flour; and satisfy you with honey from the rock.

*Psalm 81: 16 (adapted)*

## COLLECTS

Living host, call us together,  
call us to eat and drink with you.  
Grant that by your body and your blood  
we may be drawn to each other  
and to you.

Everloving God,  
your Son Jesus Christ  
gave himself as living bread  
for the life of the world;  
give us such a knowledge of his presence  
that we may be strengthened  
and sustained by his risen life  
to serve you continually;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Father,  
your Son gave his disciples a sign  
by which to remember him  
until he comes again;  
as bread is broken and wine poured out  
may our eyes be opened to know him,  
Jesus our Lord.

PSALMS            116: 10-17

READINGS

Genesis 14:18-20

The blood of the covenant

1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

The institution of the Holy Communion

John 6: 51-58

The flesh and blood of Christ

## *Te Pouhere Sunday*

Second Sunday after Pentecost

In May 1992, the General Synod / Te Hinota Whanui adopted a revised Constitution / Te Pouhere, which established a three-Tikanga Church.

In 2002, on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that Constitution, the Synod/ Hinota thought it appropriate to commemorate the occasion of the revision of the Constitution / Te Pouhere of our three Tikanga Church on the first Sunday free from liturgical observance and nearest to that date. It was thus resolved that the second Sunday after Pentecost be adopted in The Calendar /Te Maramataka as 'Te Pouhere Sunday'.

A set of Lections (readings) were approved, along with a set of Collects (prayers) in the various languages of the Church described in the Constitution / te Pouhere.

This Sunday is a day on which it is appropriate then to remember and celebrate the Constitution of this Church and to focus worship on the three Tikanga character of this Church.

### SENTENCE

There is no longer Jew nor Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there no longer is male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

*Galatians 3: 28*

## COLLECTS

### **TIKANGA PASEFIKA**

#### FIJIAN

Kemuni na Kalou na Tamai keimami vakalomalagi. Keimami vakavinavinataka na Nomuni kauti keimami vata mai na veiyatuyanuanu e na yatu Pasefika me keimami mai duavata kei ira na wekai keimani mai Aotearoa Niu Siladi. Keimami vakacaucautaki Kemuni e na vuku i Jisu Karisito na neimami i Vakabula ka kauta mai na Rarama ka vakawabototaka na butobuto. Keimami vakavinavinakataki ira era a sokota mai na wasawasa me ra kauta mai na Rarama ka vakararamataki Ira na neimami qase e Tikanga Pasefika. Turaga keimami soqoni vata oqo me keimami vakacerecereya ka vakalagilagia na Yacamuni Tabu. Keimami vakavinavinakataka ka duavata kei ira na Tikanga Pakeha kei na Tikanga Māori Keimanu masu e na vuku I Jisu Karisito na neimami Turaga kai Vakabula.

Lord God, our heavenly Father We thank you for bringing us together from the various islands of the Pacific Ocean and joining us as one in Aotearoa New Zealand. We praise you for Jesus Christ our Saviour who had broken down the barrier of darkness to light. We pray and thank you for those who sailed the seas bringing the Light which illuminated the darkness of hearts and minds of our forefathers in Tikanga Pasefika. Lord we come together now to glorify you and rejoice in the togetherness of Tikanga Pakeha, Tikanga Māori and Tikanga Pasefika, in Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

## SAMOAN

Le Atua e lo matou faatuatuaga faamalosi 'au i lau Ekalesia ao saili i lau Afio i ana faiga faavae e ala i tu ma aga a tikanga tai tasi, ina ia faaalua ai lou mamalu ma tausi i lou alofa tunoa, e pei ona faaalua i lou alo o Iesu Keriso, le taula'iga o lo matou faamoemoe.

God of our faith, strengthen our Church as it seeks to show your love in the ministry of its three tikanga. Make us bold to seek new ways to best serve you showing your boundless love as you shown through Jesus Christ.

## TONGAN

'E 'Otua Mafimafi mo Ta'engata, ko e tufunga mo e fakatupu 'o homau 'univeesi, 'oku pātapata mo pōlepole 'a e Tolu'i Tikanga 'i homau ngaahi fonua' ko e kelesi ia 'a e 'afio ná, 'io 'a e Tikanga Maori, Tikanga Pakeha pea mo e Tikanga Pasifiká. Afeitaulalo kae fakatoka mai ho'o kelesi ma'a mautolu kae lava hano fakahoko mo fakakato homau ngaahi ngafa totonú ke langa fakataha ai 'a e Tolu ke taha pē, kae lava ke langilangi'ia ai ho Huafá 'i ho Siasí. 'Oku mau kole eni 'i he Huafá e Tamai, mo e 'Alo, pea mo e Laumälie Mä'oni'oni.

Almighty and everliving God, author of creation, you have given us land where three tikanga boats have landed. Yes the Tikanga Pakeha, Tikanga Maori and Tikanga Pasefika. Grant us grace so that we may be able to fulfill our call in this province by bringing the three into one so that your name may be glorified in the Church we ask this in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

## **DIOCESE OF POLYNESIA**

### **ENGLISH**

Creator God, you make the sun to give light in the day, the moon and the stars for guidance at night, you divided the seas making a path through the waters. Grant that, sailing out in our canoes of Tikanga Pakeha, Tikanga Maori, and Tikanga Polynesia, we may follow the way you have charted for us and from our separate home ports find our common destination in you. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

### **HINDI**

Premi Parmeshwar jo sachi kushi ka maalik hai. Hum tujhe dhanyewaad dete hai aap ke priye putra hamara muktidata Prabhu Yishu Masih ke liye, jisne balidaan ho kar apne laho se har ek kul, bhasha, jaati aur log me se aap ke logo ko mol liya hai. Hum prathna karte hai ki jaise thino Tikanga milenge, tumahre shanti jo hame gyan deta hai aur aage bardhata hai humare hirde aur mano ko Prabhu Yishu me bachaye rakhe. Prabhu hume shakti dena ki hum ek sangati me rahe kar uss kushi ko baat sake. Humare Prabhu Yishu Masi jo sada aap me aur pavitra aathma me jiwith hai aur rajye kartha hai, sada kaal ke liye.

Loving God, the fountain head of real joy, we thank you for your dear Son our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who ransomed us from every tribe and people and nation and made us one in you. We pray that as the three tikanga meet your peace which transcends all understanding will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus enabling us to find the joy of living in unity through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever world without end.

## **TIKANGA PAKEHA**

God of the southern sea and of these islands, God of Norfolk Pine and Lofty Totara, God of spindle and sail, You brought us to this land of plenty and bound us here in sacred trust. Make us worthy of our covenant with You: Create in us a deeper belonging by Your grace, That we may partner Your ways together And serve Your purpose in each other. In the name of Christ our dolphin guide.

## **TIKANGA MAORI**

Te Rātapu o Te Pouhere

E Te Kai-raranga, ko koe te kai-whatu, ko mātou te muka i mahia ai e koe a Te Pouhere, te whāriki whakakotahi i ō mātau tikanga i Aotearoa puta noa i Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa. Nā tō ringa matau i whiriwhiri, e kitea ai te paruhi o te hoahoa, me te tauira i roto i ngā rerekētanga o tēnā o tēnā o mātau. Mā tōna kaha me te whakaaro kotahi te kaupapa e manaaki, tae rawa ki tōna puāwaitanga. Whakamaharatia mātau, nāu mātau i raranga, ā, mā tā mātau noho kotahi hei whāriki, e kitea ai tāu hoahoa i roto i te kotahitanga e kīa nei ko Te Pouhere.

Master weaver, you are the creator and we are the flax with which you have plaited Te Pouhere, a whāriki which unites our tikanga in Aotearoa and across Te Moananui a Kiwa. Your hand has woven us so that each tikanga is revealed in the perfection of its design, its pattern in the texture of our differences, and its strength in the unity of its purpose to shelter and support your promise. Remind us you have woven us so that no strand by itself reveals your design but together we are the whāriki, Te Pouhere.

## READINGS

Isa 42: 10-20

2 Cor 5: 14-19

Acts 10: 34-43

## GOSPELS

John 15: 9-17

*or* Matt 7: 24-29

*or* Luke 6: 46-49

*or* John 17: 6-26

## POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

Isaiah 61: 1-2a



*Sentences, Prayers and Readings  
for other Special Days*

## *Harvest Thanksgiving*

### SENTENCE

The earth has yielded its harvest; and you, our God, will bless us.

*Psalm 67: 6*

### COLLECTS

Living God,  
you made heaven and earth and sea  
and everything in them,  
and have provided for all our needs;  
help us to use the fruits of the earth wisely  
and to share them generously;  
through the one who sows with good seed,  
Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Creator and protector of all that lives,  
the riches of the earth are yours;  
grant that we who use and enjoy your gifts  
may never by folly or greed destroy them.

God, as we look at this harvest,  
we thank you for the skills we have learned  
to make it what it is;  
may we be grateful;  
may we be generous.

PSALMS            65: 1(2-7)-14            67            104: 13-29            148

READINGS

Deuteronomy 8: 1-10	Led to a rich land
<i>or</i> Deuteronomy 24: 19-22	A harvest of blessing
<i>or</i> Deuteronomy 26: 1-11	Offering the first fruits
Acts 14: 13-17	The kindness God shows
<i>or</i> 2 Corinthians 9: 6-end	Blessed in giving
John 6: 27-35	The bread of life
<i>or</i> John 4: 31-38	Harvest of eternal life

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

The eyes of all look to you, O Lord, and you give them their food in  
due season. *Psalm 145: 15*

## *Sea Sunday*

### SENTENCE

The sea is yours, O God, and you made it; the dry land also which your hands have fashioned.

*Psalm 95: 5*

### COLLECTS

Eternal Lord God,  
you alone have spread out the heavens  
and rule the raging of the sea;  
bless and keep all who go down to the sea in ships;  
preserve them in all dangers  
and bring them in safety to the haven where they would be,  
with a thankful remembrance of your mercies,  
to praise and glorify your holy name;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Creator God,  
you have made the sea beautiful and fearful;  
be with all who sail on it for work or pleasure  
and give them safe passage  
with Christ the voyager,  
who calmed the storm  
and strengthened his disciples' faith.

God of change and invention,  
be with those whose life is spent at sea.  
In storm, in calm, in harbour,  
be with them.  
Be with them in danger, boredom or temptation;  
for you are God,  
you are our hope and strength.

PSALMS                    107: 23-32                    33: 1-12

READINGS

Job 38: 1, 4-11

The boundaries of the sea

Acts 27: 27-32, 39-44

Paul shipwrecked on Malta

Mark 4: 35-41

Jesus, Lord of wind and wave

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Your path, O God, was in the sea and your way was through the  
great waters.

*Psalm 77: 19*



## *Social Services Sunday*

### SENTENCE

Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

*Amos 5: 24*

### COLLECTS

God of compassion, you thirst for justice;  
give to all who follow Christ  
the vision of your kingdom  
and the gifts of your Spirit  
to work for its coming;  
through the one who alone satisfies all our thirst,  
Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Just and all-seeing God,  
you reach out to the poor and the sick;  
you love the criminal, the cripple, the disadvantaged,  
and those who work with them;  
help us to build a fair community;  
help us to understand your will.

PSALMS                    72: 1-7                    146: 5-10

### READINGS

Micah 6: 8-12	Justice and mercy
James 2: 14-17	Faith in action
Matthew 25: 31-45	The true servant of Christ

### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you."

*John 13: 15*

## *Aotearoa Sunday*

### SENTENCE

Titiro ki te toka i haua mai ai koutou, ki te rua kohatu i keria mai ai koutou.

*Ihaia 51: 1*

Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.

*Isaiah 51: 1*

### COLLECTS

E te Atua aroha,  
e to matou Matua i te rangi,  
he maha nga tau i tohe ai te iwi Maori  
mo tetahi o ratou ake  
kia tu hei matua, hei pihopa, hei arataki i a matou,  
kia mau tonu ai te ha o te maoritanga  
i roto i a matou karakia me a matou whakahaere,  
i te mea kua whiwhi matou ki ta matou i wawata ai,  
e inoi atu ana matou ki a koe  
kia tohungia, kia manaakitia tau pononga a ...  
kua karangatia nei hei pihopa mo Aotearoa;  
meinga a ia hei pononga pono, pononga tuturu  
kia whiwhi ai matou ki nga hua o tou Wairua Tapu;  
ko Ihu Karaiti hoki to matou Ariki. Amine.

Loving God,  
our Father in heaven,  
you have granted the long-felt desire of  
the Maori people for a bishop  
to guide them in holiness and in Maoritanga;  
bless your servant *N*,  
Te Pihopa o Aotearoa;  
keep *him* a faithful servant,  
strengthened, with us all,  
by the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus of Nazareth, Saviour,  
o te whakapapa o Rawiri,  
inspire Te Pihopatanga o Aotearoa.  
Bless all who serve the church in this land,  
and give us new taonga to add to what we have;  
a plentiful harvest to follow the planting.

God of all races and peoples,  
you have given your Maori people  
a unique contribution to make  
to the rich diversity of your church;  
strengthen the bishops, clergy and people  
of Te Pihopatanga o Aotearoa,  
that by their worship and service  
they may proclaim your love  
and bear faithful witness to the good news;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

PSALMS                      114                      136: 1-9, 25-26

READINGS

Deuteronomy 6: 1-9                      Handing on God's teaching

Colossians 1: 3-14 Praying for each other

Mark 4: 26-34                      The kingdom is like a seed

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Koia e mohio nei ki te rangatiratanga o te rangi, mana e whakaatu mai  
nga mea hou, nga mea tawhito, mai roto i tona whare taonga.

*Matiu 13: 52*

Whoever knows the kingdom of heaven will bring out from the  
storehouse treasures old and new.     *Matthew 13: 52 (adapted)*



*Sentences, Prayers and Readings  
for Various Occasions*

## *For the Unity of the Church*

### SENTENCE

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in harmony with one another in accord with Christ Jesus, so that together we may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Romans 15: 5, 6 (adapted)*

### COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
you have called us  
in the body of your Son Jesus Christ  
to continue his work of reconciliation  
and reveal you to all the world;  
forgive us the sins which tear us apart;  
give us courage to overcome our fears  
and to seek that unity  
which is your gift and your will;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Lord Christ,  
you command us to love one another;  
make your people one together;  
give us acceptance, give us trust,  
anoint us with the precious oil of your Spirit.

PSALMS                    122                    133

READINGS

Isaiah 35	The return
Ephesians 4: 1-6	One body
John 17: 11b-23	That they may all be one

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

There is one body and one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

*Ephesians 4: 4-6*



## *For the Missionary Work of the Church*

### SENTENCE

Your throne O Lord has stood firm from of old, from all eternity you are God. *Psalm 93: 2*

### COLLECTS

Loving God,  
you have called your church  
to bear witness that in Christ  
you are reconciling all people to yourself;  
help us so to proclaim your love in word and deed,  
that all may grasp the hope  
that is in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Of your love  
you made us, Maker of all;  
empower your church in witness to your world  
to live and proclaim that love.

PSALMS                      67                      96

### READINGS

Isaiah 49: 5-13	To the end of the earth
Ephesians 2: 13-22	Brought near in Christ
Matthew 28: 16-20	To all people everywhere

### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation." *Mark 16: 15*

## *For a Synod or Conference*

### SENTENCE

Let us clothe ourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony; and let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

*Colossians 3: 14, 15 (adapted)*

### COLLECTS

Jesus,  
you are here for us, who gather in your name;  
lead us on in faith  
to reach out in hope,  
in self-denying, cross-bearing love  
to build your church.

*(for a synod)*

Everloving God,  
you have given your Holy Spirit to your church  
to lead us into all truth;  
bless with your Spirit's gracious presence  
the members of this synod;  
keep *us/them* steadfast and united in love,  
that *we/they* may reveal your glory  
and prepare the way for your commonwealth of love;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

*(for a conference)*

Gracious and eternal God,  
you guide those who trust you,  
you give us light upon our path;  
give us in all our uncertainties  
the wisdom to know your way,  
that by your Spirit at work in us  
we may not stumble,  
but walk in your truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

PSALMS                    19: 7-14                    25: 1-9

#### READINGS

Numbers 9: 15-23	Waiting on the Lord
<i>or</i> Micah 6: 6-8	What the Lord requires
2 Corinthians 4: 1-10	Our ministry
<i>or</i> Philippians 2: 1-11	The mind of Christ
Luke 14: 27-33	Counting the cost
<i>or</i> John 15: 1-8	The vine and the branches

#### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am  
there among them."  
*Matthew 18: 20*



## *For the Guidance of the Holy Spirit*

### SENTENCE

The Spirit of truth will guide you into all the truth.

*John 16: 13 (adapted)*

### COLLECTS

God, Holy Spirit,  
you work within us and around us;  
grant that we may see and know  
what we ought to do,  
and have grace and power  
faithfully to fulfil the same;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Spirit of God  
brooding on the waters,  
guide us into all the truth;  
show us where we should go;  
inspire us with love,  
and strengthen our resolve.

PSALMS                    25: 1-9                    139: 1-11

### READINGS

Wisdom 9: 13-17	Wisdom through the Spirit
<i>Or</i> Isaiah 30: 15-21	The Lord will guide you
1 Corinthians 12: 4-13	Spiritual gifts
John 14: 23-26	The Spirit will teach you

### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit  
that has been given to us.

*Romans 5: 5*

## *For a New Beginning in Ministry*

### SENTENCE

O sing to the Lord a new song; give praise in the assembly of the faithful; let the people of God rejoice in their maker.

*Psalm 149: 1, 2*

### COLLECTS

Gracious and eternal God,  
through your Son you have called us  
into the fellowship of your church;  
hear our prayers for all your faithful people,  
that in the ministry which you have given us  
we may be instruments of your love;  
[and give your servant *N*  
the gifts of grace *s/he* needs for *her/his* task;]  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Praise to you, empowering God,  
for the people you have raised up  
to serve you in this place;  
send your Holy Spirit now  
on your servant *N*;  
be with us we pray,  
as together we serve your purpose  
and your kingdom.

PSALMS            15                    95: 1-7

READINGS

Numbers 11: 16, 17, 24-29	Sharing the burden
Ephesians 4: 7-16	Gifts in the church
Luke 12: 35-44	The faithful servant

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last."

*John 15: 16*

## *For Social Responsibility*

### SENTENCE

You O God have not despised or abhorred the poor in their affliction, but you heard them when they called to you.      *Psalm 22: 24*

### COLLECTS

Gracious and everloving God,  
your Son has taught us  
that what we do for anyone else, however unimportant,  
we do for you;  
give us the determination to be the servant of others  
as he was servant of all,  
who gave up his life for love of us,  
but lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

God, you are justice and peace;  
to the powerful give a conscience,  
to the oppressed, strength,  
to the rich give generosity,  
to the poor, security;  
guide us in your way, not ours;  
let your kingdom come.

PSALMS                    72: 1-4, 12-14    146

READINGS

Deuteronomy 10: 12-20 <i>or</i> Amos 5: 21-24	God's justice Let justice prevail!
James 2: 5-9, 12-17 <i>or</i> 1 Peter 4: 7-11	Faith and works Giving service
Matthew 10: 32-42 <i>or</i> Matthew 25: 31-46	For Christ's sake The final judgement

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets."                    *Matthew 7: 12*

## *For Education*

### SENTENCE

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. *Wisdom 6: 12*

### COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
you are the end of all our searching  
and the fount of all wisdom;  
grant to all who teach and all who learn  
in our schools, colleges and universities  
a passion for truth and understanding,  
that they may serve the world  
for the betterment of our common life;  
through Jesus Christ, your word of truth.

God, you are the fountain of wisdom and knowledge;  
when we teach, give us the gifts we need,  
give us willingness to learn always;  
and with our new insights  
we shall know you and your world.

PSALMS                    25: 3-9                    119: 97-104

### READINGS

Proverbs 2: 1-12a	The reward of seeking wisdom
James 3: 13-18	Real wisdom
Luke 10: 21-24	Wisdom hidden from the wise

### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get understanding. *Proverbs 3: 13*

## *For the Peace of the World*

### SENTENCE

Agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

*2 Corinthians 13: 11*

### COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
the source of all true harmony;  
guide with your wisdom  
those who govern the nations of the world,  
that all your children may come and go in peace  
and the earth be filled with the knowledge of your love;  
through Jesus Christ, the prince of peace.

Praise to you, O God,  
for all who work for peace,  
for all who are your children.  
May your Holy Spirit  
give peace among the nations,  
peace in our dealings with one another,  
and peace in our hearts.

PSALMS                      72: 1-7                      85: 7-13

### READINGS

Micah 4: 1-5	Swords into ploughshares
1 Timothy 2: 1-6	Prayer for all people
Matthew 5: 43-48	You must be perfect

### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

*John 14: 27*

## *For the Sick*

### SENTENCE

O Lord my God, I call for help by day, and I cry out to you by night.

*Psalm 88: 1*

### COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
giver of life and health;  
comfort and restore those who are sick,  
that they may be strengthened in their weakness  
and have confidence in your unfailing love;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Creator of us all,  
we pray for those who are ill;  
bless them and those who serve their needs,  
that they may put their whole trust in you  
and be filled with your peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus, lay your healing hand  
upon the sick in body and in spirit;  
you are the healer of this world's ills;  
with your Spirit,  
anoint every one of us in our infirmity  
and make us whole.

PSALMS                    20: 1-5                    42: 1-7                    86: 1-7

READINGS

1 Kings 17: 17-24

*Or* 2 Kings 20: 1-5

2 Corinthians 12: 7-10

*Or* James 5: 13-16a

Mark 2: 1-12

*Or* Luke 7: 1-10

Elijah's prayer

Hezekiah's sickness and recovery

Content with my weakness

Effects of prayer

Jesus heals

Jesus heals

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness

*2 Corinthians 12: 9*

# *The Feast of the Consecration or Dedication of a Church*

## SENTENCE

Open to me the gates of the temple, that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

*Psalm 118: 19*

## COLLECTS

Everloving God,  
to your glory we celebrate  
the *dedication/consecration* of this house of prayer;  
we praise you for the many blessings  
you have given to those who worship here;  
may all who seek you in this place find you,  
and, being filled with the power of your Spirit,  
become a living temple acceptable to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

The heaven of heavens is yours, O God,  
your Spirit rules the world;  
you are everywhere  
and in everything we do;  
bless this house for us  
to be your symbol in the world.

PSALMS                      84                      122

## READINGS

1 Kings 8: 22-30	My name shall be there
1 Peter 2: 1-10	A spiritual house
John 2: 13-22	A new temple

## POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

*1 Corinthians 3: 16*

## *For the Ministry of the Church and Ordinands [Ember Days]*

Weekdays following the Day of Pentecost and the week preceding St Andrew's Day.

On these days prayer is offered for all who serve the church in various ministries, ordained and lay, and for all to be ordained or commissioned to these ministries.

### SENTENCE

Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers to harvest the crop.

*Luke 10: 2 (adapted)*

### COLLECTS

*(For deacons, priests and those to be ordained)*

Holy Spirit,  
we pray you, comfort and encourage  
all deacons and priests  
and the men and women soon to find themselves ordained;  
may they bring joy and comfort from the Scriptures;  
may they bring strength  
through the risen body and the saving blood of Jesus.

## *For Work and Conservation [Rogation Days]*

The day before and the day after the Feast of St Francis of Assisi  
(October 4)

Prayers may be offered on these days for God's blessing on the fruits of the earth and the labours of all in farming and fisheries, industry and commerce.

### SENTENCE

May your favour O Lord our God be upon us, and prosper the work of our hands.

*Psalm 90: 17*

### COLLECTS

Gracious God,  
the source of all good,  
you have provided the resources of the world  
to maintain the life of your children,  
and have so ordered our life  
that we are dependent on one another;  
bless all people in their daily work,  
and as you have given us the knowledge  
to produce plenty,  
so give us the will to make it available to all;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God of our beautiful country,  
give us care and skill  
in cultivating and managing  
what you have given us,  
and we shall make it truly  
your own land.

Everloving God,  
 you have so ordered the world  
 that it produces its fruits in their seasons;  
 guide the labours of all who work  
 on the land or at sea,  
 in our industries and business houses,  
 that we may use the resources of the earth  
 to your glory,  
 for our own well-being,  
 and for the relief of those in need;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PSALMS                    104: 1, 13-15, 24-32

107: 33-43

READINGS

Deuteronomy 8: 6-10

A good land

*or* Job 28: 1-11

Human work

*or* Jeremiah 14: 1-9

God our only hope

*or* Ezekiel 34: 25-31

The Lord's care

Romans 8: 18-25

The hope of creation

*or* 1 Corinthians 3: 6-9a

God gives the growth

*or* 1 Corinthians 3: 10-14

Building safely

*or* 1 Timothy 6: 6-10, 17-19

Godliness with contentment

Matthew 6: 19-24

Heavenly treasure

*or* Mark 4: 26-32

Growing seeds

*or* Luke 11: 5-13

God's greater giving

*or* Luke 13: 13-31

The rich fool

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

You Lord will give prosperity, and our land shall yield its harvest.

*Psalms 85: 12*

Gracious God,  
the giver of all good gifts,  
by your Holy Spirit you have appointed  
various orders of ministry in your church;  
hear our prayers for all deacons and priests  
and for those to be ordained to those offices;  
maintain them in truth  
and renew them in holiness,  
that they may faithfully serve you  
to the glory of your name  
and the good of your church;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

*(For lay ministers with particular responsibilities in the church)*

Everloving God,  
your Son entrusted his followers  
with a ministry of love and healing in the world;  
inspire the hearts of many  
to give themselves to the exercise  
of responsible leadership in your church,  
that we may witness to your grace  
and bring all people within your commonwealth of love;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Praise to you,  
God of the eternal promise,  
for the caring men and women  
who dedicate themselves,  
with and through your church,  
to bring the gospel to those around them;  
may the people hear;  
may they hear good news.

PSALMS                    40: 1-14                    145: 1-7

READINGS

Exodus 19: 3-8	Promise of a covenant
<i>or</i> Numbers 27: 15-23	A shepherd for the congregation
<i>or</i> 1 Samuel 3: 1-10	The call of Samuel
Acts 20: 20-35	The work of an apostle
<i>or</i> 1 Corinthians 3: 3-11	Fellow workers for God
<i>or</i> 1 Peter 4: 7-11	Stewards of God's gifts
Matthew 9: 35-38	The harvest
<i>or</i> Luke 12: 35-43	Faithful servants
<i>or</i> John 4: 31-38	Sent to reap

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last."  
*John 15: 16*



## *For Preparation before Feasts [Vigils]*

### SENTENCE

Let the heart of those who seek the Lord rejoice; turn for help to the Lord your strength and constantly seek God's presence.

*Psalm 105: 3, 4*

### COLLECTS

Gracious and loving God,  
your Son Jesus Christ  
prepared himself by vigil and prayer  
for his work and witness;  
strengthen us in heart and mind  
by this remembrance of your grace  
to bear witness to your great love  
and to work for your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God, we thank you for the bright days and festivals,  
and especially for tomorrow.  
Praise to you for the feast of *N*;  
give a us new heart to go on our way  
to turn the world again.

PSALMS                    112                    125

### READINGS

Isaiah 26: 3-9	Trust in the Lord for ever
Romans 13: 10-14	Put on Christ
Luke 13: 31-35	Longing for Christ's coming

### POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "Those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

*Matthew 10: 39*



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Martyrs of Asia, Saints and	October 6	316
Martyrs of Europe, Saints and	July 30	220
Martyrs of Japan	February 5	38
Martyrs of Melanesia	September 27	304
Martyrs of Papua New Guinea	September 2	272
Martyrs of the Americas, Saints and	April 8	94
Martyrs of the Anglican Communion, Saints and	November 8	362
Martyrs of the Melanesian Brotherhood	April 24	108
Martyrs of the Pacific, Saints and	September 7	280
Martyrs of Uganda	June 3	164
Mary and Martha of Bethany	July 28	216
Mary, Birth of the Blessed Virgin	September 8	282
Mary Magdalene	July 22	208
Mary MacKillop	August 8	238

Mary, the Mother of Jesus	August 15	250
Matthew the Apostle	September 21	296
Matthias the Apostle	May 14 (alt. February 24)	136
Maundy Thursday	varies	427
Maurice, Frederick Denison	April 1	88
Mechtild of Magdeburg	November 20	378
Melanesia, Martyrs of	September 27	304
Melanesian Brotherhood, Martyrs	April 24	108
Men of the Old Testament, Holy	December 9	396
Merton, Thomas	December 10	398
Methodius and Cyril	February 14	42
Michael and All Angels	September 29	306
Ministry, New Beginning in	any day	480
Ministry of the Church		
Weekdays after Pentecost/before St Andrew		489
Missionary Work of the Church	any day	475
Mokomoko, and Carl Sylvius Volkner	March 2	60
Monica	August 27	262
More, Thomas	July 6	198
<b>N</b>		
Naming of Jesus	January 1	2
Nathanael, (Bartholomew) the Apostle	August 24	260
New Beginning in Ministry	any day	480
New Testament, Holy Women of the	October 30	348
Ngakuku	May 14	134
Nicholas	December 6	390
Ninian	September 16	288
Nightingale, Florence	August 13	246

**O**

Old Testament, Holy Men of the	December 9	396
Old Testament, Holy Women of the	August 16	252
Ordinands, Ministry of the Church and Weekdays after Pentecost/before St Andrew		489
Oswald	August 5	230

**P**

Pacific, Saints and Martyrs of the	September 7	280
Palm Sunday	varies	422
Papua New Guinea, Martyrs of	September 2	272
Patrick	March 17	70
Patteson, John Coleridge	September 20	294
Paul, Peter and, Apostles	June 29	192
Paul, Conversion of	January 25	22
Peace of the World	any day	485
Pentecost, The Day of	varies	445
Perpetua and her Companions	March 7	64
Peter, Paul and, Apostles	June 29	192
Peter, Confession of	February 22	52
Philip, James and, Apostles	May 1	118
Polycarp	February 23	54
Preparation before Feasts	any day	495
Presentation of Jesus in the Temple	February 2	34

**R**

Raphael	October 24	340
Reformers, English, and Martyrs	October 16	328
Richard of Chichester	April 3	90
Ridley, Nicholas	October 16	328

Rogation Days	Days before/after St Francis (October 4)	490
Roger of Taizé, Brother	August 16	254
Rose of Lima	August 23	258
Ruatara	May 11	128

## S

Saints and Martyrs of Africa	February 20	50
Saints and Martyrs of Asia	October 6	316
Saints and Martyrs of Europe	July 30	220
Saints and Martyrs of the Americas	April 8	94
Saints and Martyrs of the Anglican Communion		
	November 8	362
Saints and Martyrs of the Pacific	September 7	280
Sava	January 14	14
Schweitzer, Albert	September 4	274
Sea Sunday	Second Sunday in July	
	or on a Sunday as determined by local custom	464
Selwyn, George Augustus	April 11	100
Seraphim of Sarov	January 2	4
Sergius of Radonezh	September 25	300
Sick	any day	486
Silas	July 13	202
Simeon, Charles	November 12	368
Simon, Jude and, Apostles	October 28	346
Singh, Sadhu Sundar	June 19	180
Social Responsibility	any day	482
Social Services Sunday	Fourth Sunday in July	467
Stephen	August 3 (alt. December 26)	226
Sumner, Mary	August 9	240
Swithun	July 15	204

Synod or Conference	any day	476
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## T

Tamihana, Wiremu	June 23	186
Taratoa, Henare Wiremu	June 21	182
Tarore of Waharoa	October 19	334
Taumataakura, Piripi	May 15	138
Te Ahu, Ihaia	May 13	132
Te Kiri Karamu, Heni	April 29	116
Te Manihera, Kereopa and, of Taranaki	March 12	68
Te Pouhere Sunday	Second Sunday after Pentecost	454
Te Rauparaha, Tamihana	May 18	144
Te Tauri, Wiremu	May 17	142
Te Wera Hauraki	May 16	140
Te Whiti o Rongomai	November 6	358
Teresa of Avila	October 15	326
Teresa of Calcutta, Mother	September 5	276
Thanksgiving for Holy Communion		
	Thursday after Trinity Sunday	452
Theodore of Tarsus	September 19	292
Thomas of Canterbury	December 29	412
Thomas the Apostle	July 3 (alt. December 21)	194
Timothy, Titus and	January 26	24
Titus, Timothy and	January 26	24
Transfiguration of the Beloved Son	August 6	232
Trinity Sunday	varies	448
Tyndale, William	October 7	318

## U

Uganda, Martyrs of	June 3	164
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Underhill, Evelyn	June 15	178
United Nations Day	October 24	342
Unity of the Church	any day	472

## V

Vianney, John Baptist	August 4	228
Vigils	any day	495
Vincent	January 22	20
Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth	May 31 (alt. July 2)	160
Volkner, Carl Sylvius and Mokomoko	March 2	60

## W

Waitangi Day	February 6	40
Waitoa, Rota	May 22	148
Wesley, John and Charles	March 3 (alt. May 24 with Methodists)	62
Whitsunday	varies	444
Wilberforce, William	July 29	218
Williams, Henry	July 16	206
Williams, Marianne	December 16	404
Willibrord	November 7	360
Women of the New Testament, Holy	October 30	348
Women of the Old Testament, Holy	August 16	252
Work and Conservation	Days before/after St Francis (October 4)	490
Wycliffe, John	December 31	416

## X

Xavier, Francis	December 3	388
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