

Wednesday 20th May 2020 – Alcuin of York, Abbot of Tours

Alcuin was descended from a noble Northumbrian family. Although the date and place of his birth are not known, he was probably born in the year 735 in or near York. He entered the cathedral school there as a child, continued as a Scholar and became Master. In 781, he went to Aachen as adviser to Charlemagne on religious and educational matters and as Master of the Palace School, where he established an important library. Although not a monk and in deacon's orders, in 796 he became Abbot of Tours, where he died in the year 804. Alcuin wrote poetry, revised the lectionary, compiled a sacramentary and was involved in other significant liturgical work.

Collect

**God of wisdom, eternal light,
who shone in the heart
of your servant Alcuin,
revealing to him
your power and pity:
scatter the darkness
of our ignorance
that, with all our heart
and mind and strength,
we may seek your face
and be brought with all your saints
to your holy presence;
through Jesus Christ
your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

**Merciful God,
who gave such grace
to your servant Alcuin
that he served you
with singleness of heart
and loved you above all things:
help us,
whose communion with you
has been renewed
in this sacrament,
to forsake all that holds us back
from following Christ
and to grow into his likeness
from glory to glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3

¹⁰ I celebrate and shout because of my Lord God. His saving power and justice are the very clothes I wear. They are more beautiful than the jewellery worn by a bride or a groom.¹¹ The Lord will bring about justice and praise in every nation on earth, like flowers blooming in a garden.¹ Jerusalem, I will speak up for your good. I will never be silent till you are safe and secure, sparkling like a flame.² Your great victory will be seen by every nation and king; the Lord will even give you a new name.³ You will be a glorious crown, a royal headband, for the Lord your God.

Psalm 123:1-4

¹ Our LORD and our God, I turn my eyes to you, on your throne in heaven. ² Servants look to their master, but we will look to you, until you have mercy on us. ³ Please have mercy, LORD! We have been insulted more than we can stand, ⁴ and we can't take more abuse from those proud, conceited people.

Colossians 3:12-16

¹² God loves you and has chosen you as his own special people. So be gentle, kind, humble, meek, and patient. ¹³ Put up with each other, and forgive anyone who does you wrong, just as Christ has forgiven you. ¹⁴ Love is more important than anything else. It is what ties everything completely together. ¹⁵ Each one of you is part of the body of Christ, and you were chosen to live together in peace. So let the peace that comes from Christ control your thoughts. And be grateful. ¹⁶ Let the message about Christ completely fill your lives, while you use all your wisdom to teach and instruct each other. With thankful hearts, sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

John 4:19-24

¹⁹ The woman said, "Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ My ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews say Jerusalem is the only place to worship." ²¹ Jesus said to her: Believe me, the time is coming when you won't worship the Father either on this mountain or in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans don't really know the one you worship. But we Jews do know the God we worship, and by using us, God will save the world. ²³ But a time is coming, and it is already here! Even now the true worshipers are being led by the Spirit to worship the Father according to the truth. These are the ones the Father is seeking to worship him. ²⁴ God is Spirit, and those who worship God must be led by the Spirit to worship him according to the truth.