

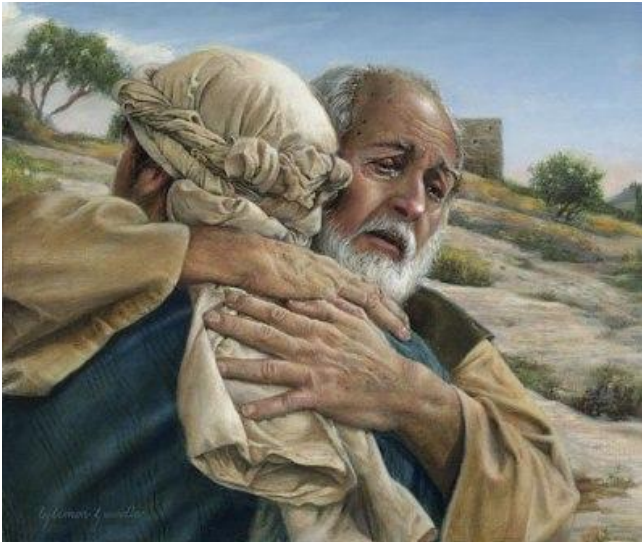
Dear friends,

The theme for this Sunday is Grace, judgement and mercy and my reflections on the liturgical readings can be accessed on YouTube via this link.

<https://youtu.be/RPMnD2AMJbY>

Or you can read it if you prefer on my Blog. <https://>

[revmartinjacques.blogspot.com/2020/07/theres-wideness-in-gods-mercy.html](https://revmartinjacques.blogspot.com/2020/07/theres-wideness-in-gods-mercy.html)



The Prodigal Son: The quintessential symbol of Grace and mercy.

## Tomorrow: Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July – Trinity 6 – Proper 11

The services are as follows. Note, there is now definitely a service at St. Michael's because the fete has been cancelled of course.

**9.30am** All saints E.B. Holy Communion with myself

**10am.** St. Peter's. Holy Communion with Rev. Karen Young

**11am** St. Michael's. Holy Communion with myself

**Mercy** by William Shakespeare (whoever *he* was)

The quality of mercy is not strain'd;

It droppeth as the gentle rain from Heaven

Upon the place beneath: it is twice bless'd;

**It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes:**

'Tis mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes

The throned monarch better than his crown:

His scepter shows the force of temporal power,  
The attribute to awe and majesty,  
Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings;  
But mercy is above his sceptered sway;  
It is enthroned in the hearts of kings,  
It is an attribute to God himself;  
And earthly power doth then show likest God's  
When mercy seasons justice.

**This prayer for God's Mercy** written in the 14<sup>th</sup> century is as radical a prayer now as when it was first written.

**Merciful Lord, it does not surprise me that you forget completely the sins of those who repent. I am not surprised that you remain faithful to those who hate and revile you. The mercy which pours forth from you fills the whole world. It was by your mercy that we were created, and by your mercy that you redeemed us by sending your Son. Your mercy is the light in which sinners find you and good people come back to you. Your mercy is everywhere, even in the depths of hell where you offer to forgive the tortured souls. Your justice is constantly tempered with mercy, so you refuse to punish us as we deserve. O mad Lover! It was not enough for you to take on our humanity; you had to die for us as well.**

**- Saint Catherine of Siena (1347-1380)**

Love and peace,  
Martin

Please note my new email address is [vicar@rmcommunity.co.uk](mailto:vicar@rmcommunity.co.uk)