



VESPERS

On the Commemoration of Vincent, Deacon of Saragossa

Martyr c. 304

2026 Jan 22

As members of a parish in the Diocese of New Westminster, we acknowledge that we are gathered from a variety of locations within the traditional and unceded ancestral territory of the Coast Salish people, including but not limited to, the halq'-emylém speaking Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Tseil-watuth, and Tsawwassen nations.

The Preparation

Officiant

Today we remember Vincent, a Spanish deacon who suffered for the faith around the year 304. He was arrested with the bishop of Saragossa, a man named Valerius. Because Valerius stammered, he often relied on Vincent to give the homily on his behalf. When the two were brought before the Roman governor, Vincent turned to Valerius and said, “Father, if you order me, I will speak.” The bishop responded, “Son, as I committed you to dispense the word of God, so I now charge you to answer in vindication of the faith which we defend.” Vincent spoke and held back nothing either in his defence of the faith or in his condemnation of paganism. The governor was enraged by the deacon’s effrontery. He sentenced Valerius to exile, but ordered Vincent to the horrors of the torture chamber. For several hours Vincent endured the worst torments that the ancient world could devise. In the end his body surrendered its life because his spirit refused to surrender Christ. Vincent’s endurance caused the Church to stand in awe of him — and to recognize how he came by the strength that he needed. In the early fifth century Augustine of Hippo told his flock: “If you were to consider Vincent’s martyrdom nothing more than human endurance, his act is unbelievable. But Vincent ceases to be a source of astonishment, once you recognize the power to be from God.” From: **For All the Saints**, Anglican Church of Canada

The Preparation

Officiant

O God, make speed to save us,
O Lord, make haste to help us.

From the rising of the Sun to its setting
your glory is proclaimed in all the world.

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever.
Amen.

Act of Praise

We Praise You, Father, for Your Gift

Common Praise 33

Cantor or Officiant

We praise you, Father, for your gift of dusk and nightfall over earth, foreshadowing the mystery of death that leads to endless day.

Within your hands we rest secure, in quiet sleep our strength renew; yet give your people hearts that wake in love of you, unsleeping Lord.

Your glory may we ever seek in rest, as in activity, until its fullness is revealed, O source of life, O Trinity.

The Psalm

Psalm 31: 1 - 5

Psalmist

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.

Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O Lord, O God of truth.

The Psalm Prayer

Helper of the helpless, comfort of the afflicted, may your servants who stand in the midst of evil find strength in the knowledge of your presence, and praise you for the wonders of your love; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Amen.

The Reading

Luke 12: 4 - 12

Reader

Jesus said, “I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body and after that can do nothing more. But I will show you whom to fear: fear the one who, after killing, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear that one! Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten in God’s sight. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before others, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God, but whoever denies me before others will be denied before the angels of God. And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. When they bring you before the synagogues, the rulers, and the authorities, do not worry about how or what you will answer or what you are to say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that very hour what you ought to say.”

Response

*After a brief period of reflection,
the Reader says:*

Blessed are the meek for they shall
inherit the Earth.

Thanks be to God.

The Affirmation of Faith

Officiant

Let us affirm our faith as we recite The Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the father almighty,
creator of heaven and Earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day, he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life
everlasting. Amen.**

Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings

Officiant

God who welcomes all in love, receive our prayers for the good of the church and the concerns of those in need, as we respond to the bidding “God of every land and nation” with “Hear our Prayers”.

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for The Diocese of Port Sudan – Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan, the Rt. Revd. Abdu Elnur, Bishop; and for the members and associates of the Society of Ordained Scientists as they strive to bring faith to the scientific community, science to the church, and both to the world at large. God of every land and nation, **Hear our Prayers.**

In the Anglican - Lutheran - Moravian cycle, we pray for The Rev. Dr. Eileen Scully, Director, and the staff of Faith, Worship, and Ministry; Bishop Carla Blakely, the people and rostered ministers of the Eastern Synod; The Rev. Melissa Johnson, president of the Eastern District Executive Board of the Moravian Church Northern Province; and for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and the ecumenical work and witness of our churches. God of every land and nation, **Hear our Prayers.**

Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings (Cont'd)

In our Diocesan cycle, we pray for Archdeacon Nick Pang, (Vancouver) Executive Archdeacon ; St. John the Apostle, Port Moody - The Revd Vivian Lam, The Revd Anne Anchor; St. Matthew, Abbotsford - The Revd James Hwang. God of every land and nation, **Hear our Prayers.**

In this parish of Holy Trinity Cathedral, we pray for John, our Archbishop; Stephanie, our Priest; Bishop Benny and the people of Northern Philippines; our sister parish of St. Gabriel the Archangel in Lubon; and any others you wish to name, either silently or aloud. God of every land and nation, **Hear our Prayers.**

God of all that is, you have created all people and you dwell among us in Jesus Christ. Listen to the cries of those who pray to you, and grant that, as we proclaim the greatness of your name, all people will know the power of love at work in the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Officiant

God of boundless compassion,
who made your holy deacon Vincent a worthy partner
in the sufferings of Christ, strengthen us to endure all
adversity with invincible and steadfast faith, that our
assurance of your saving justice may vanquish all
dangers that assault our bodies and all wounds that
would harm our souls; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

The Sending Forth

Deacon (or Officiant)

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Officiant

May Christ, when he comes, find us watching
and waiting.
Amen.