

## ¶ Phone-In Evening Prayers

20 August 2020

Commemoration of William and Catherine Booth  
Founders of the Salvation Army

**Reader 1** From the Gospel according to St Matthew

22. 1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

### Reflection & Prayer

**Leader** Let us ask the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name, to send the Spirit of his Son into our hearts as we pray:

**Reader 2** O Lord, the creator and redeemer of the world, we humbly pray for people of every race in every kind of need:

**Reader 1** Make your ways known to them, and reveal your salvation to all nations.

**Reader 2** May the whole Church be guided and governed by your Holy Spirit;

**Reader 1** let all who call themselves Christians be led into the way of truth and hold the faith in unity of spirit.

**Reader 2** We commend to your fatherly goodness all who are afflicted or distressed;

**Reader 1** comfort and relieve them according to their need, and grant them the love and consolation of your Spirit.

**Reader 2** Father, give a place of life and rest to those who have died in your peace:

**Reader 1** may we share with them in the glory of Jesus Christ, who died to save us all.

### Lord's Prayer and Blessing