

ARCH Group's aim: "To show our love for God and You"

Weekly Notices

21st July 2019

Fifth Sunday after Trinity

This Week's Activities

Tuesday: 8.30 am NO prayers at Church Lench

9.45 am Holiday club at *****

Wednesday: 10.00 am Holiday club at *****

Thursday: 10.00 am Holiday club at *****

Friday: 7.30 pm *Proms in the Pews* at St Peter's, Rous Lench

Saturday: 9.00 am Benefice prayers at The Rectory, Harvington

9.30 am **St James' gardening team working in church gardens**

Future Activities: August

Thursday 1st **Revd Richard's sponsored row in aid of Holland House** (*see below*)

Saturday 3rd 9.00 am Benefice prayers at The Rectory, Harvington

11.00 am Knit & Natter at Rous Lench Village Hall

Friday 9th 7.30 pm Film night at Harvington Village Hall

Monday 12th Stop date for September issue of the ARCH Messenger

Revd Richard's sponsored row in aid of Holland House Retreat Centre

On Thursday 1st August, Bishop Robert Paterson, Ian Spencer (Warden of Holland House) and I will be rowing a small boat from Stratford

Marina to Holland House in Crophorne, a distance of

24.5 miles

If you would like to sponsor us for this arduous enterprise, please let me know (870527, rector@archbenefice.org.uk). Thank you!

Next Week's Services: Sunday 28th July 2019

8.30 am	Abbots Morton	Holy Communion*
9.30 am	Harvington	Holy Communion+
11.00 am	Church Lench	Family Service
6.30 pm	Harvington	Evensong

Today's Collect

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today's Post Communion Prayer

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For Prayer

Give thanks for the schools in our community, for the excellent teaching staff and for the opportunities provided by them to explore, learn and be wowed by life

Come Holy Spirit, come and fill us this day and every day

Pray for the Conservative Party as it makes the decision who should be the next Prime Minister

Pray for the preparations for the Holiday Club and give thanks for all those involved – **it's now fully booked!** Adult volunteers welcome

Pray for Messy Church and the plans being made and for volunteers

Pray for the leavers and all those at school as they prepare for the next stage in their lives

Pray for those affected by hunger – especially during the school holidays when free school meals stop

This Week's First Reading: *Amos 8:1-12*

¹This is what the Lord GOD showed me – a basket of summer fruit. ²He said, ‘Amos, what do you see?’ And I said, ‘A basket of summer fruit.’ Then the LORD said to me, ‘The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by. ³The songs of the temple shall become wailings on that day,’ says the Lord GOD; ‘the dead bodies shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!’

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵saying, ‘When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practise deceit with false balances, ⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, **and selling the sweepings of the wheat.**’ ⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. ⁸Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who lives in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt? ⁹On that day, says the Lord GOD, I will make the sun go down at noon, and darken the earth in broad daylight. ¹⁰I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on all loins, and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son, and the end of it like a bitter day. ¹¹The time is surely coming, says the Lord GOD, when I will send a famine on the land; not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD. ¹²They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD, but they shall not find it.

This Week's Psalm: *Psalm 52:1-9*

- 1 Why do you glory in evil, you tyrant, while the goodness of God endures continually?
- 2 You plot destruction, you deceiver; your tongue is like a sharpened razor.
- 3 You love evil rather than good, falsehood rather than the word of truth.
- 4 You love all words that hurt, O you deceitful tongue.
- 5 Therefore God shall utterly bring you down; he shall take you and pluck you out of your tent and root you out of the land of the living.
- 6 The righteous shall see this and tremble, they shall laugh you to scorn, and say:
- 7 **'This is the one who did not take God for a refuge, but trusted in great riches and relied upon wickedness.'**
- 8 But I am like a spreading olive tree in the house of God; I trust in the goodness of God for ever and ever.
- 9 I will always give thanks to you for what you have done; I will hope in your name, for your faithful ones delight in it.

This Week's Second Reading: *Colossians 1:15-28*

¹⁵Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,

Colossians 1:15-28 continued

so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. ²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him – ²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my **flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions** for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant **according to God's commission that was given to me for you,** to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them 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. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Luke 10:38-42*

³⁸Now as Jesus and his disciples went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at **the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying.** ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do **all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.'** ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

Next Week's First Reading: *Hosea 1:2-10*

²When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, 'Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, **for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD.'** ³So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. ⁴And the LORD said to him, 'Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. ⁵On that day I will **break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.'**

⁶She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the LORD said to him, 'Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. ⁷But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen.'⁸When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. ⁹Then the LORD said, 'Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God.'

¹⁰Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people', it shall be said to them, 'Children of the living God.'

Next Week's Psalm: *Psalm 85:1-7*

- 1 Lord, you were gracious to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- 2 You forgave the offence of your people and covered all their sins.
- 3 You laid aside all your fury and turned from your wrathful indignation.
- 4 Restore us again, O God our Saviour, and let your anger cease from us.
- 5 Will you be displeased with us for ever? Will you stretch out your wrath from one generation to another?
- 6 Will you not give us life again, that your people may rejoice in you?
- 7 Show us your mercy, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

Next Week's Second Reading: *Colossians 2:6-19*

Brothers and sisters, ⁶as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

¹⁶Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. ¹⁷These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. ¹⁸Do not

Colossians 2:6-19 continued

let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, ¹⁹and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

Next Week's Gospel Reading: *Luke 11:1-13*

¹He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' ²He said to them, 'When you pray, say: **Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. ³Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. **And do not bring us to the time of trial.'****

⁵And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him."

⁷And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and **give you anything.**" ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the **heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!**