

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

### Weekly Notice – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025

#### Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

#### Today's Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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 forever.

#### Today's Post Communion

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Next Week's services: Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September

8:30 am	Rous Lench	Holy Communion
9:30 am	Harvington	Morning Worship
11:00 am	Church Lench	Holy Communion
12:00 am	Abbots Morton	Baptism

*Please remember **Caring Hands** (charity supporting local poverty), whilst shopping to add an extra item or two to your basket. They need toiletries, toilet rolls, tins, dried goods, and items that can be cooked via a kettle, single ring hob or microwave.*

## Prayers of Intercession

Our God, whose son Jesus Christ our Lord showed the world His majesty and His humility, keep us ever focused on you so that stirred to demonstrate our humility; so that the glory of Jesus represent can be shown in all the world. You know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in our asking; have compassion on our weakness and give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not ask, and for our blindness we cannot ask.

Lord of humility **Hear our prayer.**

As we sit at our tables and eat, remind us of those who have little to eat, remind us of the humility of Christ. As we are tempted to ignore those who are not like us, remind us that Christ ignores no-one, and all are invited to His heavenly banquet.

Lord of humility Hear our prayer We think especially this week of all those who are heading back to school, work and new beginnings. Give them strength to face the new challenges ahead in the weeks to come. Help us to remember that if we work together life is easier and the reward greater.

Lord of humility **Hear our prayer.**

We bring to you Lord all those who suffer in mind, body or soul, remembering that when the banquet of our lives is over you are always there, waiting for us, sheltering us and covering us with your love. Let us remember always to share and leave space at our table for your love.

Lord of humility **Hear our prayer.**

**Today's First Reading: *Jeremiah 2.4-13***

<sup>4</sup> Hear the word of the LORD, you descendants of Jacob, all you clans of Israel.<sup>5</sup> This is what the LORD says: "What fault did your ancestors find in me, that they strayed so far from me?

They followed worthless idols and became worthless themselves. <sup>6</sup> They did not ask, 'Where is the LORD, who brought us up out of Egypt and led us through the barren wilderness, through a land of deserts and ravines, a land of drought and utter darkness, a land where no one travels and no one lives?' <sup>7</sup> I brought you into a fertile land to eat its fruit and rich produce. But you came and defiled my land and made my inheritance detestable. <sup>8</sup> The priests did not ask, 'Where is the LORD?' Those who deal with the law did not know me; the leaders rebelled against me. The prophets prophesied by Baal, following worthless idols. <sup>9</sup> "Therefore I bring charges against you again," declares the LORD. "And I will bring charges against your children's children."<sup>10</sup> Cross over to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and observe closely; see if there has ever been anything like this: <sup>11</sup> Has a nation ever changed its gods? (Yet they are not gods at all.) But my people have exchanged their glorious God for worthless idols. <sup>12</sup> Be appalled at this, your heavens, and shudder with great horror," declares the LORD.

<sup>13</sup> "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

**This Week's Psalm:** *Psalm 81.1-11.*

1. Sing for joy to God our strength; shout aloud to the God of Jacob!
2. Begin the music, strike the timbrel, play the melodious harp and lyre.
3. Sound the ram's horn at the New Moon, and when the moon is full, on the day of our festival;
4. this is a decree for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.
5. When God went out against Egypt, he established it as a statute for Joseph. I heard an unknown voice say:
6. "I removed the burden from their shoulders; their hands were set free from the basket.
7. In your distress you called and I rescued you, I answered you out of a thundercloud; I tested you at the waters of Meribah.
8. Hear me, my people, and I will warn you— if you would only listen to me, Israel!
9. You shall have no foreign god among you; you shall not worship any god other than me.
10. I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of Egypt. Open wide your mouth and I will fill it.
11. "But my people would not listen to me; Israel would not submit to me.

**This Week's Second Reading:** *Hebrews 13.1-8,15-16.*

<sup>1</sup> Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters.<sup>2</sup> Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.<sup>3</sup> Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering. <sup>4</sup> Marriage should be honoured by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. <sup>5</sup> Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

<sup>6</sup> So we say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?” <sup>7</sup> Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

<sup>15</sup> Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. <sup>16</sup> And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

**Today’s Gospel Reading: *Luke 14.1,7-14***

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

<sup>7</sup> When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: <sup>8</sup> “When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. <sup>9</sup> If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. <sup>10</sup> But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests.

<sup>11</sup> For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” <sup>12</sup> Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbours; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

**Next Week's First Reading: *Jeremiah 18.1 – 11.***

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: <sup>2</sup> “Go down to the potter’s house, and there I will give you my message.” <sup>3</sup> So I went down to the potter’s house, and I saw him working at the wheel. <sup>4</sup> But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. <sup>5</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to me. <sup>6</sup> He said, “Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?” declares the LORD. “Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel. <sup>7</sup> If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, <sup>8</sup> and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. <sup>9</sup> And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, <sup>10</sup> and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it.

<sup>11</sup> “Now therefore say to the people of Judah and those living in Jerusalem, ‘This is what the LORD says: Look! I am preparing a disaster for you and devising a plan against you. So turn from your evil ways, each one of you, and reform your ways and your actions.’”

**Next Week's Psalm: *Psalms 139 1-5, 12-18.***

1. You have searched me, LORD, and you know me.
2. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.
3. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.
4. Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely.
5. You hem me in behind and before,
12. even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.
13. For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.
14. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
15. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

16. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

17. How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them!

18. Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand— when I awake, I am still with you.

**Next Week's Second Reading: *Philemonn 1-21*.**

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker— <sup>2</sup> also to Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier—and to the church that meets in your home: <sup>3</sup> Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup> because I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. <sup>7</sup> Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.

<sup>8</sup> Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, <sup>9</sup> yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul—an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus— <sup>10</sup> that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. <sup>11</sup> Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me.

<sup>12</sup> I am sending him—who is my very heart—back to you. <sup>13</sup> I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. <sup>14</sup> But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favour you do would not seem forced but would be voluntary. <sup>15</sup> Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back forever— <sup>16</sup> no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup> If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back—not to mention that you owe me your very self.

<sup>20</sup> I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

**Next Week's Gospel Reading: *Luke 14.25-33*.**

<sup>25</sup> Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said:<sup>26</sup> “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

<sup>28</sup> “Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? <sup>29</sup> For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, <sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This person began to build and wasn't able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup> “Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won't he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.