

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

**Weekly Notices**

**17<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**Second Sunday Before Advent**

**Today's Collect**

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Today's Post Communion Prayer**

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**Next Week's Services:**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024: Christ the King**

9.30 am	Harvington	Holy Communion+
11.00 am	Abbots Morton	Holy Communion+
11.00 am	Church Lench	Family Service

*Please remember **Caring Hands** while you're shopping and add an extra item or two to your basket. They need toiletries and toilet rolls, tins and dried goods, and items that can be cooked via a kettle, single-ring hob or microwave.*

## For Prayer

What song shall we sing? **We will sing a song of praise.**

Lord, we come with grateful hearts. We think of all the good things you have done for us this week: beautiful sights, times with people we love, music enjoyed, exercise, food, a good book. Thank you for all the good times. And thank you for being our Saviour, for being our support, our friend, our all in all. We praise you for who you are.

What song shall we sing? **We will sing a song of praise.**

What song shall we sing? **We will sing a song of lament.**

Lord, we lift to you all the places of brokenness and pain within the world. We cry out to you for those held hostage, refugees in tented camps, those whose soundtrack is bombing and shelling. We pray for all who are displaced, seeking refuge or somewhere safe to bring up their children. We pray for all people who are at war. And we think of the forgotten places where there is drought, flooding, no food, no communication. We pray for those who are abused, victims of injustice, children who work in factories, those who are trafficked. We remember those who have suffered trauma as a result of the serious failures of safeguarding within the Church of England. We pray for Archbishop Justin Welby at this difficult time... *(pause)* We confess to you any part that we play in making your world a place of conflict and pain. But, most of all, we cry out to you: Lord, have mercy. What song shall we sing? **We will sing a song of lament.**

What song shall we sing? **We will sing a song of compassion.**

Lord, we turn, now, to those closer to home who need our prayers. We lift to you all those we know who are sick today, whether they have been sick for a long or a short time. Lord, relieve their suffering. We particularly pray for... *(pause)*. We pray for wisdom for MPs as they debate the Assisted Dying Bill in Parliament. We think of those we know who are sad. We think of stories we've heard on the news this week which have brought sorrow or sadness... *(pause)* We pray for those who are lonely or depressed, who can't see a way out of their troubles... We pray for all who have no one else to pray for them...

What song shall we sing? **We will sing a song of compassion.**

What song shall we sing? **We will sing a song of love.**

Lord, thank you for all those that we love and those who love us. We picture them now... our families; our friends; people at school or at work that make

### **For Prayer (continued)**

our lives better in some way. We thank you for this fellowship of followers of Jesus with whom we can share God's love, God's peace and God's challenge. We think of special moments in our lives full of love and joy... and we also remember those who find life hard: who have no-one to love and don't know if anyone loves them. Lord, wrap your arms of love around them and show us how we can be the love-bringers.

What song shall we sing? **We will sing a song of love.**

What song shall we sing? **We will sing a song of service.**

Lord, we come now to pray for the week ahead. We picture our Mondays, our Tuesdays... until we meet here together again next week. We think of those moments we find boring: touch them with newness, we pray. We look forward to moments that we enjoy: give them an extra sparkle this week, we pray. We pray for everyone we meet: help us to see you in them and for them to see you in each of us. Send us out from here ready to serve you, to be your hands and feet, to speak your words and listen for your voice.

What song shall we sing? **We will sing a song of service.**

As we go out from here, what songs shall we sing?

**We will sing songs of praise, songs of lament, songs of love, and songs of service. We will sing the songs of our lives as we mix our voice with your song, O God the great singer of life. Amen.**

### **This Week's First Reading: *Daniel 12:1-3***

In the third year of King Cyrus a word was revealed to Daniel. <sup>1</sup>'At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. <sup>2</sup>Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup>Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.'

## **This Week's Psalm: *Psalm 16:1-10***

- 1 Preserve me, O God, for in you have I taken refuge; I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord, all my good depends on you.'
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble in heart.
- 3 Though the idols are legion that many run after, their drink offerings of blood I will not offer, neither make mention of their names upon my lips.
- 4 The Lord himself is my portion and my cup; in your hands alone is my fortune.
- 5 My share has fallen in a fair land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 6 I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel, and in the night watches he instructs my heart.
- 7 I have set the Lord always before me; he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.
- 8 Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; my flesh also shall rest secure.
- 9 For you will not abandon my soul to Death, nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.
- 10 You will show me the path of life; in your presence is the fullness of joy and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

## **This Week's Second Reading: *Hebrews 10:11-25***

<sup>11</sup>Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins.

<sup>12</sup>But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, 'he sat down at the right hand of God', <sup>13</sup>and since then has been waiting 'until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.' <sup>14</sup>For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. <sup>15</sup>And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying, <sup>16</sup>'This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds', <sup>17</sup>he also adds, 'I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.' <sup>18</sup>Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup>by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), <sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup>And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup>not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

## **This Week's Gospel Reading: *Mark 13:1-8***

<sup>1</sup>As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!'

<sup>2</sup>Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'

<sup>3</sup>When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, <sup>4</sup>'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?' <sup>5</sup>Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. <sup>6</sup>Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. <sup>7</sup>When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. <sup>8</sup>For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.'

## **Next Week's First Reading: *Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14***

<sup>9</sup>As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. <sup>10</sup>A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousand served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgement, and the books were opened.

<sup>13</sup>As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. <sup>14</sup>To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

## **Next Week's Psalm: *Psalm 93:1-6***

- 1 The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel; the Lord has put on his glory and girded himself with strength.
- 2 He has made the whole world so sure that it cannot be moved.
- 3 Your throne has been established from of old; you are from everlasting.
- 4 The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their pounding waves.
- 5 Mightier than the thunder of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, the Lord on high is mightier.
- 6 Your testimonies are very sure; holiness adorns your house, O Lord, for ever.

## **Next Week's Second Reading: *Revelation 1:4b-8***

<sup>4</sup>Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup>'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

## **Next Week's Gospel Reading: *John 18:33-37***

<sup>33</sup>Pilate asked Jesus, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' <sup>35</sup>Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to

## *John 18:33-37 continued*

the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' <sup>37</sup>Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'