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

<u>Weekly Notices</u> 21st July 2024 Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Today's Collect

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today's Post Communion Prayer

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever.

Next Week's Services: Sunday 28th July 2024

9.30 am Harvington Holy Communion+
 11.00 am Abbots Morton Morning Service
 12.30 pm Church Lench Holy Baptism

Family Service Workshop
Saturday 27th July, 2.00 pm at All Saints', Church Lench
Join us for an afternoon of drama, music and fun

For Prayer

Uncontainable God, glorious, humble, eternal, we pray the vastness of your compassion and the greatness of your love into the lives of those on our hearts this morning

May they all feel your presence with them and be sustained by your Holy Spirit.

We pray for young people breaking up for the summer holidays: for those who will have a super time and for those who will not. We pray for those anxious about their future and for those who are exploited. May they all feel your presence with them and be sustained by your Holy Spirit.

We pray for those who feel under constant attack and especially for children in war zones: those places in the headlines and those places that rarely make the news. We pray for all affected by war and violence: people, animals and the earth itself.

May they all feel your presence with them and be sustained by your Holy Spirit.

We pray for Teddy and Wilfred who have been or will be christened shortly, and for Rosalind who is being confirmed this Sunday. May they all feel your presence with them and be sustained by your Holy Spirit.

We pray for families as the summer holidays begin may it be a time of refreshing, a time of growing together, a time of fun, a time for reflection and building good memories, and during this time.

May they all feel your presence with them

and be sustained by your Holy Spirit.

And we pray for one another, for your Church and for all who have no one to name them in prayer today... May we and they all feel your presence

and be sustained by your Holy Spirit. Amen

This Week's First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. 4 will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. ⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

This Week's Psalm: Psalm 23:1-6

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He shall refresh my soul and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalm 23:1-6 continued

- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
- 6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

This Week's Second Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

¹¹Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called 'the uncircumcision' by those who are called 'the circumcision' – a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands – ¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. 15He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. 17So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; 18 for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation

Ephesians 2:11-22 continued

of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

This Week's Gospel Reading: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

The apostles returned from their mission. 30 They gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. 32 And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. 33 Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. 53When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. 54When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, 55 and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. 56 And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Next Week's First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44

⁴²A man came bringing food from the first fruits to Elisha, the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, 'Give it to the people and let them eat.' ⁴³But his servant said, 'How can I set this before a hundred people?' So he repeated, 'Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, "They shall eat and have some left."' ⁴⁴He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

Next Week's Psalm: Psalm 145:10-19

- 10 All your works praise you, O Lord, and your faithful servants bless you.
- 11 They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your mighty power,
- 12 To make known to all peoples your mighty acts and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.
- 14 The Lord is sure in all his words and faithful in all his deeds.
- 15 The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all those who are bowed down.
- 16 The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season.
- 17 You open wide your hand and fill all things living with plenty.
- 18 The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving in all his works.
- 19 The Lord is near to those who call upon him, to all who call upon him faithfully.

Next Week's Second Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

Next Week's Gospel Reading: John 6:1-21

¹Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. 3Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. 4Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. 5When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' 'He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. 7Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' 8One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Jesus, 9'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' 10 Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. 12When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' 13So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people

John 6:1-21 continued

saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.' ¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.