

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

Weekly Notices

29th September 2024

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Today's Collect

God, our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today's Post Communion Prayer

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever.

Next Week's Services: Sunday 6th October 2024

8.30 am	Rous Lench	Holy Communion*
9.30 am	Harvington	Morning Service
11.00 am	Church Lench	Harvest Communion Service
6.30 pm	Harvington	Holy Communion*

Give thanks for the ministry, wisdom and faithful example of the Christian life and service of **Bishop John Inge who is retiring as Bishop of Worcester next week.** Pray for joy, peace and blessing for him and H-J in their retirement.

November issue of the *ARCH Messenger*

The stop date for the November issue of the *ARCH Messenger* is **next Monday, 7th October.**

For Prayer

Gracious God we bring to you the people, places and issues of the Middle East in all its pain and confusion. We pray for the leaders of Lebanon, Israel and all the nations and factions that they may have compassion for each other and wisdom to find a peaceful way forward. Be especially close to those who have lost loved ones, those who have been injured, those who have lost their homes and those who live in fear. We pray for the peace which the world cannot give. Show us the practical and spiritual ways

To share your love with those who need it.

Gracious God our prayers continue for Gaza and for all the trouble spots of the world. We commend to you the United Nations and all world leaders as they seek to promote harmony between the nations. We pray for the coming of your kingdom when women, men, boys and girls will no longer have to live in fear of bullet and bomb. Show us the practical and spiritual ways

To share your love with those who need it.

Gracious God we commend to you our government, parliament and all political parties as they seek to discern the best way forward for our nation. May they be guided by kingdom values of righteousness, justice and mercy. May we all walk justly, love mercy and walk humbly with you our God. Show us the practical and spiritual ways

To share your love with those who need it.

Gracious God, you gave your Son to be our saviour and to show us how to live by his words and actions. You gave us an example of love and compassion. We pray for our churches that we may have the vision and imagination to serve you creatively and to offer comfort and support to those in need. Show us the practical and spiritual ways

To share your love with those who need it.

Gracious God, so many people in your world are suffering in so many ways. There are those who live in fuel poverty; those who are dependent on food banks; those whose lives are crippled by debt. We commend them to you. We remember all who are sick, those awaiting treatment, those anxiously waiting for the results of tests for themselves or for those whom they love. We especially pray for... may our prayers of faith bring healing and relief. Show us the practical and spiritual ways

To share your love with those who need it.

May we know what to do; may we know what to say; may we know how to pray. We ask in Jesus' name. **Amen**

This Week's First Reading:

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

⁴The rabble among the people had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, 'If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.'

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, 'Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favour in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, "Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child," to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, "Give us meat to eat!" ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once – if I have found favour in your sight – and do not let me see my misery.'

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, 'Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.'

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 continued

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.'

²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, 'My lord Moses, stop them!' ²⁹But Moses said to him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!'

This Week's Psalm: *Psalm 19:7-14*

- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter also than honey, dripping from the honeycomb.
- 11 By them also is your servant taught and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often they offend? O cleanse me from my secret faults!
- 13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins lest they get dominion over me; so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

This Week's Second Reading: *James 5:13-20*

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Mark 9:38-50*

³⁸John said to Jesus, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' ³⁹But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.

⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to

Mark 9:38-50 continued

the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

Next Week's First Reading: *Genesis 2:18-24*

¹⁸The LORD God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.'¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.²³Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.'²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Next Week's Psalm: *Psalms 8:1-10*

- 1 O Lord our governor, how glorious is your name in all the world!
- 2 Your majesty above the heavens is praised out of the mouths of babes at the breast.

Psalm 8:1-10 continued

- 3 You have founded a stronghold against your foes, that you might still the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have ordained,
- 5 What are mortals, that you should be mindful of them; mere human beings, that you should seek them out?
- 6 You have made them little lower than the angels and crown them with glory and honour.
- 7 You have given them dominion over the works of your hands and put all things under their feet,
- 8 All sheep and oxen, even the wild beasts of the field,
- 9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.
- 10 O Lord our governor, how glorious is your name in all the world!

Next Week's Second Reading: *Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12*

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere, 'What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honour, ⁸subjecting all things under their feet.' Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 continued

that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying, 'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.'

Next Week's Gospel Reading: *Mark 9:38-50*

²Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' ³He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' ⁴They said, 'Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.' ⁵But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." ⁷"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹Jesus said to them, 'Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.'

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.

¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.