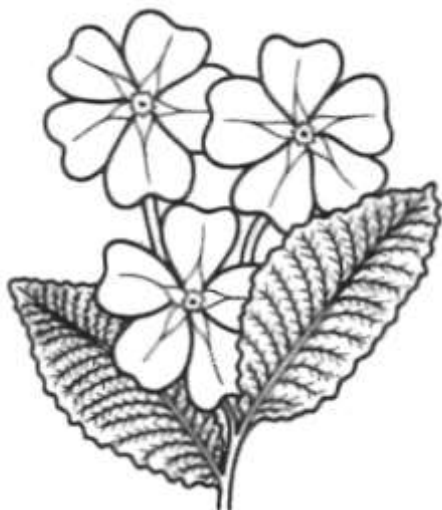


ARCH Group's aim: *"To show our love for God and You"*

Weekly Notices
10th March 2024
Mothering Sunday



Today's Collect

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today's Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week's Services: Sunday 17th March 2024

8.30 am	Church Lench	Holy Communion*
9.30 am	Harvington	Holy Communion+
11.00 am	Rous Lench	Morning Service

ARCH Messenger: The stop date for the next issue of the *ARCH Messenger* is **tomorrow, Monday 11th March.**

A Morning Easter Holiday Club

On **Saturday 30th March** an Easter Holiday Club will take place at St James', Harvington between **10.00 am and 12 noon**. There will be a range of Easter-related activities: building an Easter Garden that you can take away, games, story and a special hunt to help us prepare for the **BIG DAY – EASTER!!**

A small charge of £5 will be made to cover materials

Book your place through holidayclub@archbenefice.org.uk or phone **870527**. *Space is limited so PLEASE book early*

For Prayer

Loving God, we pray for your Church worldwide, for its leaders and all its people. May it feed the faithful with your word, and nurture those who are hungry in spirit. May it cherish the abandoned and rejected, protect the weak, and bind the wounds of those who look for forgiveness and healing.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for all who have formed and nourished our own faith. When we meet with challenge, doubt or difficulty, keep us always conscious of your love guiding and sustaining us.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ who suffer hardship or persecution for your sake. Give them courage and strength in the situations which force them to face the cost of loving you.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for your world. Teach us to value the earth and its gifts above the satisfaction of our own greed, so that the whole human family may share its fruits in peace. We pray for all those whose lives are ravaged by poverty, famine and disease.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we thank you for all who show us special love and care, in our families, our church, and the places where we live and work. Help us to realise the cost of that love, and to return it selflessly.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for those who live daily with grief and loss, especially those separated from children through quarrels, resentment or misunderstanding. We pray too for those who have lost a child.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Finally, we pray for a moment in silence, bringing our particular thanksgivings and petitions to the Lord.

Joining our prayers with those of Mary, the mother of God, and all the saints, we commend ourselves and one another to your unfailing love.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

This Week's First Reading: *1 Samuel 1:20-28*

²⁰Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the LORD.'

²¹The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. ²²But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' ²³Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only - may the LORD establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. ²⁴When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh; and the child was young. ²⁵Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. ²⁶And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. ²⁷For this child I prayed; and the LORD has granted me the petition that I made to him. ²⁸Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD.' She left him there for the LORD.

This Week's Psalm: *Psalms 127:1-4*

- 1 Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain.
- 2 Unless the Lord keeps the city, the guard keeps watch in vain.

Psalm 127:1-4 continued

- 3 It is in vain that you hasten to rise up early and go so late to rest, eating the bread of toil, for he gives his beloved sleep.
- 4 Children are a heritage from the Lord and the fruit of the womb is his gift.

This Week's Second Reading: *Colossians 3:12-17*

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *John 19:25b-27*

²⁵Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Next Week's First Reading: *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the LORD', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Next Week's Psalm: *Psalms 119:9-16*

- 9 How shall young people cleanse their way to keep themselves according to your word?
- 10 With my whole heart have I sought you; O let me not go astray from your commandments.
- 11 Your words have I hidden within my heart, that I should not sin against you.
- 12 Blessed are you, O Lord; O teach me your statutes.
- 13 With my lips have I been telling of all the judgements of your mouth.
- 14 I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies than in all manner of riches.
- 15 I will meditate on your commandments and contemplate your ways.
- 16 My delight shall be in your statutes and I will not forget your word.

Next Week's Second Reading: *Colossians 3:12-17*

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; ⁶as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.'

Colossians 3:12-17 continued

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Next Week's Gospel Reading: *John 12:20-33*

²⁰Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. ²⁷'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' ³⁰Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.