

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

Weekly Notices
17th March 2024
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Today's Collect

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today's Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

Next Week's Services
Sunday 24th March 2024: Palm Sunday

10.00 am	Church Lench	Benefice Family Service with Procession
6.30 pm	Harvington	Benefice Communion & Reading the Passion

A Morning Easter Holiday Club

Saturday 30th March, 10.00 am - 12.00 noon at St James', Harvington
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

God of all people in all places, we thank you for your Son Jesus who knew when his time had come to suffer. We thank you that he was willing to die for us. We thank you that he defeated death and lives in us and through us. We ask that the time will come soon when all people will live in peace and have true respect for others. We ask for a time of peace across the world in many nations including Gaza, Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and Haiti. We ask for a time of respect between people, where all realise that the words they use may cause upset, harm or danger to others. We pray for a world where hurtful language and insults can be challenged and taken seriously. We ask for a time when suffering at the hands of others will end. We thank you for your promise:

'I will be their God and they will be my people.'

God of all people in our nations, we thank you that you are our awesome God, our creator and leader, and our friend. We thank you that you have given us guides to help us live well and shown us how to show care and compassion. We pray for a time when compassion is shown to all people by all leaders, and that we too may have compassion for them. We pray for a time of peace and refuge for the royal family in the health and relationship issues that they are going through under the public gaze. We pray for a time of wisdom and compassion from our politicians as they balance political views with the needs of all people. We pray for a time when our leaders would be a positive example of wisdom and grace, and we pray for unity and hope in our struggling communities. We thank you for your promise:

'I will be their God and they will be my people.'

God of all time, we thank you for the changing seasons and opportunities for celebration and relaxation. We thank you for all those who work and live to bring joy and release to others through entertainment and the creative arts. We give thanks for those who have received awards in recognition of their abilities and the gifts you have given them. We pray for those whose work is under threat because of funding cuts, and ask that they will not feel devalued. We ask for a time when all people will be able to enjoy their leisure and times of rest and refreshment. We thank you for your promise:

'I will be their God and they will be my people.'

This 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.

This 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.

Psalm 119:9-16 continued

- 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.

This Week's Second Reading: *Hebrews 5:5-10*

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.'

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.

This 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

John 12:20-33 continued

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.

Liturgy of the Palms

Next Week's Psalm: *Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29*

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, 'His mercy endures for ever.'
- 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.
- 20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have become my salvation.

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 continued

- 22 The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.
- 24 This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Come, O Lord, and save us we pray. Come, Lord, send us now prosperity.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord.
- 27 The Lord is God; he has given us light; link the pilgrims with cords right to the horns of the altar.
- 28 You are my God and I will thank you; you are my God and I will exalt you.
- 29 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.

Next Week's Gospel Reading: *Mark 11:1-11*

¹When Jesus and his disciples were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, ²"Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Mark 11:1-11 continued

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.