



THE PARISH OF

HOLY TRINITY

BOLTON LE SANDS

& ST MARK'S NETHER KELLET



The Link

Sunday, 26th November, 2023

Sunday before Advent

'Putting it into practice'

St Mark's 10.30am - Morning Prayer Service

Holy Trinity 9.15am - All-Age Family Service

Holy Trinity 10.30am - Confirmation Service with Bishop Jill Duff

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HYMNS (Ancient and Modern):

748 O Jesus I have Promised

725 Make me a Channel of your peace

604 Brother, sister, let me serve you

Service Booklet: My Lighthouse

COLLECT:

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **All: Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING:

Today's reading is from the book of **James**.

James 1:22-25

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew**.

All: Glory to you, O lord.

Matthew 7:13-29

'Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

'Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles? In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will know them by their fruits.

‘Not everyone who says to me, “Lord, Lord”, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only one who does the will of my Father in heaven. On that day many will say to me, “Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many deeds of power in your name?” Then I will declare to them, “I never knew you; go away from me, you evildoers.”

‘Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!’

Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

PRAYERS:

We pray for our communities and in particular for all living on Acorn Meadow, Addington Road, Alpine View, Ashmeadow Road and Ashmeadow Grove.

We joyfully pray for Reginald Kidd who is to be Christened this Sunday, and for his parents, family and friends. We also pray for all who are to be confirmed by Bishop Jill this Sunday morning, as we get ready to support them in their continued journeys of faith.

We pray for those who are sick or in need: Rodney, Ollie, Paul, Roz, Peter Hilling and Jeanne Smith.

We pray for the family and friends of those who have recently died: Teresa Mason, Brian Mason, and Joseph Peel.

From our Book of Remembrance, we remember in prayer: Bertha Houghton, Eric Cross, Colin Lewis Sutton, Ann Marie Coxon, Elizabeth Deacon, Victor (Vic) Thornber, Peter Morkin, Valerie Jean Gardiner, Maureen Bannister, John Mather, Wilson Bowker, Edward Wilson Bowker, George Ralph Melton, Jean Vivian Helliwell, Mary Edith Thompson Morris, Hilda Muriel McDermott, John Dixon, Eleanor Beatty and Thomas Beatty.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **All: Amen.**

Notices and Announcements

MU Cake Stall at the Advent Fair 🍰🍵: The Mothers' Union are running the Cake Stall at this year's Advent Fair. We would very much appreciate it if anyone in the congregation can **bake** for us. Items can be left in Church either Friday 1st December or Saturday 2nd December.

Advent Fair 🎅🌲🔔: At the back of church you will find a list of things we need "Advent Fair Shopping List". Also there are order forms for wreaths and flowers. You can also order them on the parish website.

✝ Our Upcoming Services and Events ✝

Sunday, 26th November, 12.30pm: Christening of Reginald Kidd

Tuesday, 28th November, 11am: Funeral Service for the late Brian Mason.

Tuesday, 28th November, 7pm: Prayer Meeting, Vicarage Meeting Room.

Wednesday, 29th November, 10am: Wednesday Communion Service

Wednesday, 29th November, 7.30pm: Church Christmas Choir Practice

Thursday, 30th November: St Andrew's Day (Scotland)

Thursday, 30th November, 7pm: Music Evening at St Mark's

Friday, 1st December, 9.30am: Shining Stars, Christchurch URC.

Friday, 1st December, 11am: Funeral Service for the late David Mason.

Friday, 1st December, 7pm: Christingle Service, Holy Trinity. Advent Fair starts after the service.

Saturday, 2nd December 10 am-4pm: Advent Fair, Holy Trinity.

Sunday, 3rd December: First Sunday of Advent

Sunday 3rd December, 9am: Holy Communion Service (Common Worship), St Mark's

Sunday 3rd December, 10.30am: Family Communion Service, Holy Trinity.

Sunday, 3rd December 11.30am -1pm: Advent Fair, Holy Trinity.