



THE PARISH OF

# HOLY TRINITY

BOLTON LE SANDS



& ST MARK'S NETHER KELLET



## The Link

Sunday, 3rd December, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

*'Putting it into practice'*

St Mark's 9am - Holy Communion Service (Common Worship)

Holy Trinity 10.30am - Family Communion Service

## **HYMNS (New Hymns and Worship):**

**28** Blessed Assurance

**309** Take my life and let it be

**Back cover** - In Christ Alone

**362** When we walk with the Lord

## **COLLECT:**

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **All: Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING:**

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

### Deuteronomy 11:18-21

You shall put these words of mine in your heart and soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and fix them as an emblem on your forehead. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the Lord swore to your ancestors to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth.

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: Ancliffe Lane, Ash Tree Grove, Back Lane, Brier Lea Road, and Broadlands Drive.

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, Bryon Mason, Joseph Peel, David Mason.

From our Book of Remembrance, we remember in prayer: Arthur Chesworth, Michael Rigg Bowker, Andrew John Perks, Kathleen Isobel Gordon and Annie Rachel Parker.

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

O lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## Notices and Announcements

**Flowers in Church** 🌸: The flowers at the Book of Remembrance are in Loving Memory of the Bell family.

### Advent 2023 Meditation on Zoom

Join us for a **15 minute meditation each evening at 6.30pm on Zoom**. We will be using the booklet "Revealing Jesus" from Blackburn diocese. Download here: <https://tinyurl.com/Revealingjesus23>



### ✝ Our Upcoming Advent Services and Events ✝

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

**Tuesday, 5th December, 1.30pm:** First Tuesday Hub, Holy Trinity.

**Tuesday, 5th December, 7pm:** Compassionate Friends Service, Holy Trinity.

**Tuesday, 5th December, 7.45pm:** Prayer Meeting, Vicarage Meeting room.

**Wednesday, 6th December, 10am:** Wednesday Communion Service, Holy Trinity.

**Wednesday, 6th December, 1pm:** Order deadline for wreaths and flowers

**Wednesday, 6th December, 2pm:** MU Christmas Party at Community Centre

**Wednesday, 6th December, 7.30pm:** Church Christmas Choir Practice

**Friday, 8th December:** Feast of the Immaculate Conception

**Friday, 8th December, 9.30am:** Shining Stars, Christchurch URC

**Saturday, 9th December, 9am:** Men's Breakfast

**Sunday, 10th December, 9am:** Sunday Service St Mark's

**Sunday, 10th December, 9.15am:** Family Service, Holy Trinity

**Sunday, 10th December, 10.30am:** Sunday Communion Service, Holy Trinity and on Zoom

