

<b>Next Sunday</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Advent</b>
11.00 a.m.	Parish Communion	(Canon Ken)

### Summary of current Covid restrictions in the Diocese

**Face coverings:** It remains a legal requirement that face coverings are worn when entering and leaving the church building and when moving around. It remains vitally important that face coverings are worn during congregational singing because Covid-19 is an airborne virus. It is recommended that face coverings are worn during the whole service, but they may be removed when people are seated and not singing but that is a matter of personal preference.

**Entering and leaving the church building:** The Chief Medical Officer and Chief Scientific Advisor remain concerned about potential spread of the virus when people chat informally outside the doors of the church before and after services. In those more relaxed settings people tend to let down guard and can easily forget the risks from close contact with those who are not of their household. Please try to maintain social distancing which remains at 1 metre.

#### Parish Contacts

During the Vacancy the Rural Dean, Rev Canon Kevin Graham, Rector of St Bartholomew's, will be in charge of the parish with Canon Ken continuing in his usual role as Assistant Minister.

Contact details are as follows:

Canon Graham	07964 663 745
Canon Ken	07922 358 091
	Email 'kenmcreynolds@hotmail.com'



St Aidan's Parish Church  
 Enabling people to find a Living Faith in a Loving  
 God by Serving 'Christ in the Community'  
 Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Advent

Thanksgiving for the blessing of Harvest



**Opening Verse**

"The land has yielded its harvest:  
**God our God has blessed us."** (Psalm 67:6)

Minister:  
 All:

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it  
**Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice**

**Harvest Collect**

Creator of the fruitful earth,  
 you made us stewards of all things.  
 Give us grateful hearts today for all your goodness,  
 and steadfast wills to use your bounty well,  
 that the whole human family,  
 today and in generations to come, may, with us,  
 give thanks for the riches of your creation.  
 We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

**Amen**

**Hymn 37**

'Come ye thankful people come'

Recognising OUR failure and the failure of the NATIONS in the stewardship of God's creation, let us ask for God's forgiveness and a new desire to be those who share and distribute rather than hoard and use for ourselves alone.

We confess to you our lack of care for the world you have given us.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

We confess to you our failure to protect resources for others.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

May God deliver us from the spirit of self-preservation and greed and give us a new spirit of generous love. **Amen**

### **ACCLAMATION** *(Stand)*

Praise the Lord O my soul  
**And all that is within me praise his holy Name.**

Praise the Lord, O my soul  
**And forget not all his benefits.**

He forgives all your sin  
**And heals all your infirmities.**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy  
**Slow to anger and of great goodness.**

As far as the east is from the west  
**So far has he set our sins from us.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
**As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever, Amen.**

### **Address**

**Closing Hymn No 32** 'O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder'

### **The Blessing**

May the Father's hand  
keep you from stumbling,  
the footprints of Jesus  
give you confidence to follow,  
and the fire of the Spirit instil passion  
to be his faithful servants.  
And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit . . . .

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ, Amen.**

*This morning's special Harvest Offering  
is for the work of the Food Bank.*



*A special Alms Dish  
is at the back of the church  
for your contributions.*

### **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

Cheryl, Charlie, Billy, Libby, Jean, Derek & Jean and Jean's sister Maureen

### **SENIOR MEMBERS RESIDENT IN CARE HOMES**

Nan, Leslie, Lillian, Tom, Sally, Charlie, Violet, June & Alec

Let there be harvest in our own lives, and in the lives of those we know and love. We pray for those who are sick or troubled, for those who are lonely or who have suffered loss; and we pray for ourselves, that, whatever difficulties we face, our lives may be grateful and joyful. We pray for a harvest of deepened love and more faithful discipleship. Lord in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

In a moment of silent prayer we ask God to cause the radiance of his love and power to shine upon the barrenness of our own lives and bring to fruition the seed of faith once planted in our lives - a harvest for His glory.



### PARISH PRAYER

**Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you that in your redeeming love you have drawn us together.**

**We pray that you would deepen our love for you as members of your Church.**

**Strengthen our fellowship with each other and help us to worship you in spirit and in truth.**

**We pray that during this time of change, we will keep our eyes fixed on you and trust you for the future.**

**Help us to be faithful in our prayers for the continuing ministry in this community and guide us in all things to know and do your will, for the honour and glory of your name. Amen**

Source of all life, and giver of all that is good, hear our prayers and grant us all that is in accordance with your will.

In Jesus' name. **Amen**

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen**

***Stand up clap hands shout thank you, lord,  
Thank you for the world I'm in.  
Stand up clap hands shout thank you, lord,  
for happiness and peace within.***

I look around and the suns in the sky  
I look around and I think 'Oh my!'  
The world is such a wonderful place,  
And all because of the good Lord's grace.

*Chorus*

I look around and the creatures I see,  
I look around and it amazes me,  
That every fox and bird and hare  
Must fit in a special place somewhere.

*Chorus*

I look around at all the joy I've had,  
I look around and then it makes me glad  
That I can offer thanks and praise  
To him who guides me through my days.

### **Bible Reading Deuteronomy 8.1-18**

Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors. <sup>2</sup> Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. <sup>3</sup> He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. <sup>4</sup> Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years. <sup>5</sup> Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God disciplines you.

<sup>6</sup> Observe the commands of the LORD your God, walking in obedience to him and revering him. <sup>7</sup> For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; <sup>8</sup> a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; <sup>9</sup> a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills.

<sup>10</sup> When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. <sup>11</sup> Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. <sup>12</sup> Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, <sup>13</sup> and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, <sup>14</sup> then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

<sup>15</sup> He led you through the vast and dreadful wilderness, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. <sup>16</sup> He gave you manna to eat in the wilderness, something your ancestors had never known, to humble and test you so that in the end it might go well with you.

<sup>17</sup> You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” <sup>18</sup> But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

**Hymn 5** ‘If I were a butterfly’

### **Affirmation of Faith**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

**We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen**

### **Harvest Thanksgiving (Separate Leaflet)**

#### **Prayer of Intercession**

Lord of the harvest, the time of sowing and the time of reaping are yours. The time of weeping and the time of singing are yours, too. Thank you for the time of sowing and the time of reaping.

Let there be a harvest in your world. We pray for those places in the world where the crops have failed and for those where poverty is the result of human aggression and human greed.

We pray for a harvest of peace and plenty and ask that we may be your instruments to make these things a reality for those who are living, and dying, in pain.

Lord in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Let there be harvest in the hearts of children, women and men. We pray for those who are spiritually starved, who long for meaning in their lives and who need to belong. Give to your church patience and energy, boldness to speak out and the ability to listen.

We pray for a harvest of faith and of lives transformed by the Gospel.

Lord in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**