

PARISH PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you that in your redeeming love you have drawn us together as members of your Church.

We pray that you would deepen our love for you, 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.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Billy, Libby, Jean, Julie, Derek & Jean and Jean's sister Maureen

We continue to remember Alice & Robert Redpath who laid to rest Alice's father, Charlie, on Wednesday.

SENIOR MEMBERS RESIDENT IN CARE HOMES

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

Notices

Monday 7.30 p.m. Special Meeting of Select Vestry
(In Church)

Next Sunday 11.00 a.m. Parish Communion (Canon Ken)

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'



Our Parish Prayer Line number is 07501 117 888

St Aidan's Parish Church
Enabling people to find a Living Faith in a Loving God by
Serving 'Christ in the Community'



First Sunday of Advent

Sunday 28th November 2021

Call to Worship

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

Therefore in the light of Christ, let us confess our sins and worship him as those redeemed through His sacrifice on the cross.

Let us worship him

The Lighting of the 1st Advent Candle



The Service of Morning Prayer as per The Book of Common Prayer (page 101)

Hymns for today

132 'Lo! He comes with clouds descending'
119 'Come thou long expected Jesus'
124 'Hark the glad sound'
677 'Shall we gather at the river'

ADVENT COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Psalm 25: 1-9

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
O my God, in you I trust;
**let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies triumph over me.**
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame,
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.
- 3 Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me,
**for you are the God of my salvation;
for you have I hoped all the day long.**
- 5 Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth
or my transgressions,
**but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,
according to your steadfast love.**
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.
- 8 He will guide the humble in doing right
and teach his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Bible Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.



ADVENT



The anticipation of Christmas with all the commercial pressure that comes with it, and all the expectations built around one twenty-four hour period in the whole year, makes it more and more difficult for us not to forget the important season upon which we enter today.

The season of Advent not only marks the beginning of the Church's liturgical year, but in it we are encouraged to prepare ourselves in heart and mind for a meaningful celebration of the Nativity of our Lord – his birth – which we celebrate on Christmas Day.

And yet that is not all!

The word “Advent” is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming,” which is a translation of the Greek word *Parousia*, and during this season we are also encouraged to reflect on, and prepare ourselves for, the return of Christ at the 2nd coming.



So this season, like Lent, is marked by many as a time of spiritual reflection, penance and fasting (but don't try fasting for the WHOLE of Advent!), allowing us to focus on
'the real reason for the season'.

So I hope there will be moments during Advent when YOU will be able to step back from the commercial hype and frenzied preparations and focus on Him who WAS and IS and IS to come – Jesus Christ our Lord!