

The Parish of Abbeydale & Millhouses

Loving God, valuing people, caring for His world

Sunday 26th November 2023

Christ the King - The Sunday next before Advent

This morning we welcome Rev'd Hugh Thomas who will be leading the service

at St John's	10.00am	Parish Communion
Hymns	48	At the name of Jesus
	671	Thou didst leave thy throne
	369	King of glory, King of peace
<i>Communion</i>	634	The King of love my shepherd is
	125	Crown him with many crowns

Readings	Ezekiel 34. 11-16, 20-24
	Ephesians 1. 15-end
	Matthew 25. 31-end

Collect	Post Communion Prayer
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. Amen	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. Amen

Welcome! It's good to see you.

We are the family of God and all are welcome at his table. If you are used to receiving **communion** you are welcome to do so here. If you do not wish to receive communion but would like to receive a blessing, please indicate this by bringing this leaflet up with you. Gluten free wafers are also available.

You may wish to use the prayer below to help you to **prepare for worship** this morning.

Both churches are equipped with a **hearing loop** system. Please switch your hearing aid to the 'T' setting.

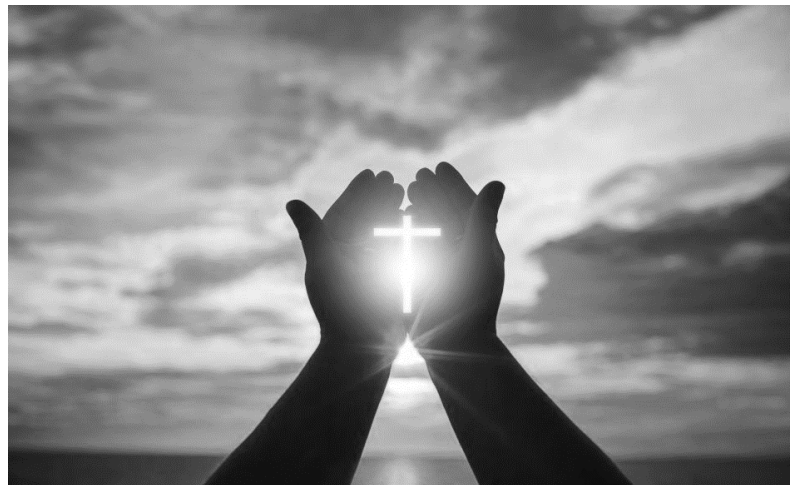
Toilet facilities: at Holy Trinity through the vestry door at the front of church on the right. At St John's at the back of church on the right. At both churches there are also toilets in the hall across the car park. All facilities are accessible.

You may wish to use this prayer as part of your preparation for worship

Lord Jesus, I receive your love
poured out for me
in bread and wine.

Accept this gift of my life,
brought to the altar
without conditions.

Do your work in me,
and let me be, like you,
taken, blessed,
and given for others;
for, in spite of my failings,
you know that I love you.
Amen

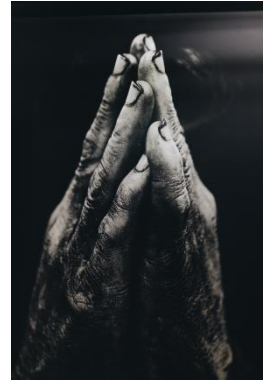


Prayers

We remember in our prayers....

- all in our church family who are unwell at this time,
in hospital or at home.

- those who feel isolated and lonely
- those who have no-one to pray for them
- those who are anxious
- those who have lost loved ones in recent weeks
- those whose years' mind falls at this time



We give thanks for the lives of all who have died recently.

Rest eternal grant unto them, oh Lord and let light perpetual shine upon them.

This week:

Pray **in the morning** for the day and its tasks; the world and its needs; the Church and her life; and **in the evening** for peace, individuals known to us personally and their needs.

Prayer diary

On pray for:

Mon	all self-supporting ordained ministers
Tue	education for all
Wed	the Christian message in all nativity plays
Thu	peace in troubled hearts
Fri	all with financial worries
Sat	harmony where there is division

Prayer requests can be left on the board in the Lady Chapel at HT and in the Baptistry at St John's.

They are gathered weekly, placed on the altar and offered to God at the Wednesday Eucharist.

Readings

Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24 | *God the True Shepherd*

For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Ephesians 1.15-end | *Paul's Prayer*

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Gospel: Matthew 25.31-end | *The Judgement of the Nations*

‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

Notices

Notice from the Churchwardens

After a meeting with the Area Dean on Monday 25th September, the Wardens are pleased to announce that the Service for Licensing and Installation of Rev'd Nicholas Noble is planned for Sunday 17th December 2023 at 6.00pm at Holy Trinity Church. The Service will be led by Bishop Pete and will be followed by refreshments.

Decorating Holy Trinity Church

We will be decorating the church for Christmas and Nicholas' Induction on Friday 15th December. We will need good evergreens such as ivy, laurel and holly, especially variegated holly with or without berries. It would be a big help if this could be left in church during the week, but help could be arranged if this is difficult. Please let me know and thank you in advance. Pat Gregory

Community of the Cross of Nails – Litany of Reconciliation – 2023 dates

Thursday 21st December at 1200 noon at St John's by the war memorial. All welcome.

Christmas at The Grace Food Bank – from Chris Wrigley

Firstly, thank you for all your support throughout this year. As you can imagine it has been a demanding one for the Foodbank. This Christmas, I'm asking if we, at St John's and Holy Trinity, could please concentrate on the following items for our Christmas Wish List: Christmas biscuits, Pringles, Cheddars, Fizzy grape juice, tins of Salmon or Ham, sachets of Custard, small biscuits for Cheese.

This needs to be packed at the Foodbank in the early part of December, and so it would be helpful if your wonderful gifts could be put in the Foodbank boxes at the back of the respective churches by Sunday 3rd of December.

On behalf of those who are in need at this time "Thank you so much". Chris

A Plea for Help!!

TRIO is a significant outreach tool showing the Parish that we, as a church are very much alive. Many non-church attenders really appreciate the magazine but unfortunately some areas of the Parish did not receive their Harvest magazines because they were undelivered. Currently we have 69 deliverers, 20 of whom are not church members.

Most of our able congregation are already deliverers for TRIO, but unfortunately age and infirmity mean that with every edition one or two deliverers feel unable to continue.

Three more folk have informed me they do not wish to continue and we have several folk well into their 80s and even 90's.

THE SITUATION IS GETTING DESPERATE and the Christmas edition is out on 2nd December. So my plea, (and my prayer), to you all is to ask a neighbour, friend relative if they can spare about 45 mins, just four times a year, (only three hours per year!!), to deliver for us. Not a lot to ask!! Several of the 20 non-church folk whom I have recruited were actually delighted to help - even those who do not live in the parish... So don't be shy - just ask, PLEASE. Pat Jackson, TRIO Editor
0114 281 7557 pat.jackson@blueyonder.co.uk

ADVENT COURSE: Churches Together in Abbeydale are inviting us to an Advent study course - *Travelling Light* - at the Parish Centre, Mother of God Church, Abbeydale Road.

7.30pm till 9.00pm on Thursdays 30th November, 7th, 14th & 21st December.

All welcome.

Women's Refuge

Mother's Union are gathering small toiletry gifts for the ladies and clean, tidy books for the children this Christmas. The children range from very young up to sixteen. One of the two refugees in Sheffield is local.

There will be a box at the back of St. John's during November for donated items. Many thanks in advance. Margaret Minns

Diary

*Our churches are open this week for private prayer from 10.00am as follows:
Holy Trinity Mon-Sat; St John's Mon-Thu*

There will be no 8.00am Communion Services until further notice

Mon 27th Nov	9.30am	Morning Prayer	HT & Zoom
	10.30am	Coffee Morning	650 Abbey Lane
	1.30pm	Handbell Practice	94 Room St John's
	6.30pm	Snooker	St John's Hall
Wed 29th Nov	10.00am	Community Café	Holy Trinity
	10.00am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity
Thurs 30th Nov	9.30am	Morning Prayer	HT & Zoom
	10.00am	Trinity Tots	Holy Trinity
	11.00am	Lunch Club	St John's
	2.00pm	Carpet Bowls	St John's
Fri 1st Dec	7.30pm	Choir Practice	St John's
Next Sunday 3rd December – The First Sunday of Advent			
	10.00am	Christingle	Holy Trinity
	6.30pm	Advent Carol Service	St John's
Looking Ahead			
17th Dec	6.00pm	The Service for Licensing and Installation of Rev'd Nicholas Noble by Bishop Pete	Holy Trinity
19th Dec	7.30pm	Christmas Concert	St John's

Items for next week's pew sheet to Bev by **latest 5.00pm Wednesday**, please.

Parish Office: 0114 249 0377 | htmillhousesoffice@yahoo.co.uk