

**Sunday 19th November 2023**



**Office: St Leonards Hall Church, Racecourse Drive, Tasley, Bridgnorth WV16 4NR Tel: 01746 767174**

*open to personal callers—Mon 11-12.30,*

*Tue, Wed, Thu 8.30-11.30*

email [bridgnorthteamministry@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bridgnorthteamministry@yahoo.co.uk)

Linking the parishes of Bridgnorth, Tasley, Astley Abbotts, Oldbury,

Quatford, Morville, Aston Eyre, Acton Round, Monkhopton

**Sunday 19th November Second Sunday before Advent (Green)**

9.00 Morning Prayer Astley Abbotts

10.30 Holy Communion St Mary’s

10.30 Holy Communion Tasley

10.30 Family Communion St Leonard’s HC

10.30 Coffee in church Oldbury

11.15 Morning Prayer Morville

**Tuesday 21st November**

12.30 St Mary’s Connect Shakespeare

**Thursday 23rd November**

10.00 Little Stars St Mary’s

**Saturday 25th November**

10.00 Saturday Café and Christmas Shopping Morning St Mary’s

**GOOD Friday 7th April**

10 – 12noon Warm Hub St James HC

10.00 Walk of Witness from St Leonard’s HC

12.00 – 3.00 Good Friday Reflections St Mary’s

19.00 Easter Concert St Mary’s

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**NEXT WEEK’S READINGS: 26th November - Sunday next before Advent (Red or White Ephesians 1:15-end, Matthew 25:31-end and Psalm 95:1-7**

**There will be at least one Communion service every Sunday within the Benefice so if your church hasn’t got a Communion service on a particular Sunday you will be most welcome at any other church where a Communion service is taking place. Hopefully should you wish to continue to attend your regular church there will be a Morning Prayer or Family Service there. If for any reason any particular church cannot offer a service we will endeavour to give congregations two weeks notice.**

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**Sunday 26th November Sunday next before Advent (Red or White)**

9.00 Life and Soul Astley Abbotts

10.00 Holy Communion Aston Eyre

10.30 Family Communion St Mary’s

10.30 Life and Soul Tasley

10.30 Morning Prayer Quatford

11.15 Holy Communion Morville

**Wednesdays – 10.30am Mid week Communion – St Mary’s**

Hon. Assistant Ministers: Revd. Marjorie Brooks, Revd Simon Boxall, Revd Clive Parr and Revd. Preb. Dr. David Chantrey, Anna Chaplain and Team Reader: Jane Peeler

**Vacancy latest news**: The Bishop has sent all PCC secretaries and church wardens the latest news about plans to purchase a new Rectory. Please ask about them. This will, of course, be on the agenda for the Joint Team Council at their next meeting on Tuesday 21st November in St Mary’s.

The Bishop has also suggested that some useful prayer points for all of us to adopt in the coming weeks would be:

1. For the right property to become a home for future Priests-in-Charge/Team Rectors of Bridgnorth & Morville to be found and secured as soon as practicably possible.

2. For all those clergy and lay people who are giving so freely of their time, energy, and gifts in serving the churches and parishes during the continuing vacancy, giving thanks for them and asking for God’s continuing strengthening of them.

3. For the ongoing preparations for advertising for our new Priest-in-Charge.

4. For the witness of the churches during this important season of Remembrance, Advent, and Christmas when so many more people will be offered the opportunity to hear and respond to the Good News of Jesus Christ for themselves.

**St Mary’s Connect – Third Tuesday of the month–** at The Shakespeare Inn – for lunch and chat. If you would like to join us please contact Helen Howell on 763066 to book a place or contact Jane on 767043 **– Next date We will meet is Tuesday 21st November 2023**

**Rachel Ferguson R.I.P. –** Rachel’s funeral will take place on **Tuesday 28th November 1.00pm at St Mary’s followed by cremation at Telford Crematorium 3.30pm**. Perry and Phillips are the funeral directors – Donations to A.T. Society and Cancer Research.

**Saturday 25th November – Christmas Shopping Morning at St Mary’s from 10am to 1pm.**

In addition to our usual Saturday Coffee Shop there will be stalls selling gifts , jewellery & decorations.

We also have a large quantity of cut-glass crystal items ideal for Christmas.Do come along & browse. As well as finding that ideal gift, you will also be shopping ecologically & helping to boost church funds!

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| A cartoon mouse holding a sign  Description automatically generated | **Eco Eric’s Tip:** We’re all invited to a couple of events addressing a Christian response to the Climate Crisis hosted by St John’s Catholic Church. These follow a recent communication (“*Laudate Deum*”) from Pope Francis, who’s well known for his environmental concerns. On 22nd November there will be an opportunity to hear more about this at 1pm following a ‘bring your own’ lunch at 12:30pm (drinks provided). The event on 8th December starts at 1pm. They’ll be a symbolic walk through the town followed by a showing of the film ‘Walking on Thin Ice’. For both dates, meet at St John’s Church Hall, Northgate. Hope to see you there! |

**COLLECT**

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was

Revealed to destroy the works of the devil

and to make us the children of God and heirs of

eternal life: grant that we, having this hope,

may purify ourselves even as he is pure;

that when he shall appear in power and great glory

we may be made like him in his eternal and

glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

**POST COMMUNION**

Gracious Lord,

in this holy sacrament

you give substance to our hope:

bring us at the last

to that fullness of life for which we long;

through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

**MATTHEW 25:14-30** Jesus said‘For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, “Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.” And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, “Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.” Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, “Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.” But his master replied, “You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11** Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, ‘There is peace and security’, then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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**PSALM 90: 1-8,12**  Lord, you have been our dwelling-place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You turn us back to dust, and say, ‘Turn back, you mortals.’ For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;  in the evening it fades and withers. For we are consumed by your anger; by your wrath we are overwhelmed.  
You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your countenance. So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. 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