

ARCH Group's aim: *"To show our love for God and You"*

Weekly Notices

25th June 2017

Flower Festival Sunday



This Week's Activities

- Sunday: 12.30 pm Flower festival lunch at Abbots Morton Village Hall
12:00 noon onwards Open gardens, scarecrow trail in Church Lench
plus refreshments, craft and plant sales in Church Lench Village Hall
2.00 pm **Teas in the garden of "*****," Rous Lench**
- Monday: 7.30 pm Harvington Handbell Ringers rehearsing in school hall
- Tuesday: 8.30 am NO prayers at Rous Lench
6.30 pm 10+ youth group at Harvington Baptist Church
- Thursday: 6.30 pm 7+ "**Adventurers**" group at Harvington Baptist Church
- Friday: 7.30pm **Harvington Singers** concert "**A Handful of Songs**" at **St James', Harvington**
- Saturday: 7.30pm **Harvington Singers** concert "**A Handful of Songs**" at **St James', Harvington**
- Sunday: 12.00 noon **Big Lunch** at "*********," Rous Lench

Future Activities: July

- Wednesday 5th 10.30 am Lenches WI book club
11.00 am **RBL meeting** at the "**Wheelbarrow Castle**," Radford
- Wednesday 12th 1.30 pm CAMEO tea at Harvington First School
7.00 pm Memorial cycle race starting/finishing at Abbots Morton Village Hall
- Saturday 15th 9.30 am **St James' gardening team working in church gardens**
6.30 pm Big Village Party at The Lenches Sports Club
- Sunday 16th 1.00 pm FRAME festival at the Lenches Sports Club
- Monday 17th 2.30 pm Harvington pastoral support team meeting
Lenches WI garden party

Want to publicise an activity here?

Details of weekly, monthly or one-off activities required

Please use the "Contact Us" page on the website to tell us

Next Week's Services: Sunday 2nd July 2017

8.30 am	Rous Lench	Holy Communion*
9.30 am	Harvington	Morning Service
11.00 am	Abbots Morton	Morning Service
11.00 am	Church Lench	Holy Communion+
6.30 pm	Harvington	Holy Communion*

Today's Collect

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your **only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the** unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

For Prayer

Pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit to inhabit us all.

Prayer leaflet available to make it a daily prayer

Give thanks for the fact that we live in a stable democracy and have the opportunity to appoint our political leaders

Pray for all those affected by the Grenfell Tower Block fire and for wise decisions to follow on from the tragedy.

Give thanks for the Saints who have left a legacy of faith and experience for us to follow and reflect upon, especially at this time St Peter and St Paul

Give thanks for the extraordinary beauty of nature that we can admire through the flowers decorating our churches this weekend

Give thanks for the opportunity offered to spend time with neighbours and friends and to entertain one another in a variety of ways over the weekend

This Week's First Reading: *Ezekiel 3:22-27*

²²The hand of the LORD was upon me there; and he said to me, Rise up, go out into the valley, and there I will speak with you.

²³So I rose up and went out into the valley; and the glory of the LORD stood there, like the glory that I had seen by the river Chebar; and I fell on my face. ²⁴The spirit entered into me, and set me on my feet; and he spoke with me and said to me: Go, shut yourself inside your house. ²⁵As for you, mortal, cords shall be placed on you, and you shall be bound with them, so that you cannot go out among the people; ²⁶and I will make your tongue cling to the roof of your mouth, so that you shall be speechless and unable to reprove them; for they are a rebellious house. ²⁷But when I speak with you, I will open your **mouth, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD'**; let those who will hear, hear; and let those who refuse to hear, refuse; for they are a rebellious house.

This Week's Psalm: *Psalms 125:1-5*

- 1 Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.
- 2 As the hills stand about Jerusalem, so the Lord stands round about his people, from this time forth for evermore.
- 3 The sceptre of wickedness shall not hold sway over the land allotted to the righteous, lest the righteous turn their hands to evil.
- 4 Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are true of heart.
- 5 Those who turn aside to crooked ways the Lord shall take away with the evildoers; but let there be peace upon Israel.

This Week's Second Reading: *Acts 12:1-11*

¹King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. ²He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. ³After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) ⁴When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. ⁵While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.

⁶The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. ⁷Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, **saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists.** ⁸The angel said to him, **'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.'** He did so. Then he said to him, **'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.'** ⁹Peter went out and followed him; **he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision.** ¹⁰After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. ¹¹Then Peter came to himself **and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'**

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Matthew 16:13-19*

¹³When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

Next Week's First Reading: *Genesis 22:1-14*

¹God tested Abraham. He said to him, 'Abraham!' And Abraham said, 'Here I am.' ²God said, 'Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt-offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.' ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt-offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, 'Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.' ⁶Abraham took the wood of the burnt-offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷Isaac said to his father Abraham, 'Father!' And Abraham said, 'Here I am, my son.' Isaac said, 'The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt-offering?' ⁸Abraham said, 'God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt-offering, my son.' So the two of

Genesis 22:1-14 continued

them walked on together.

⁹When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ¹²The angel said, 'Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.' ¹³And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt-offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called that place 'The LORD will provide'; as it is said to this day, 'On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.'

Next Week's Psalm: *Psalm 13:1-6*

- 1 How long will you forget me, O Lord; for ever? How long will you hide your face from me?
- 2 How long shall I have anguish in my soul and grief in my heart, day after day? How long shall my enemy triumph over me?
- 3 Look upon me and answer, O Lord my God; lighten my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
- 4 **Lest my enemy say, 'I have prevailed against him,' and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.**
- 5 But I put my trust in your steadfast love; my heart will rejoice in your salvation.
- 6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has dealt so bountifully with me.

Next Week's Second Reading: *Romans 6:12-23*

¹²Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to

Romans 6:12-23 continued

God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Next Week's Gospel Reading: *Matthew 10:40-42*

⁴⁰**Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple - truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.'**