

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

Weekly Notices

13th August 2017

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

This Week's Activities

Tuesday: 8.30 am Prayers at Harvington

Thursday: Home communions

10.00 am Lenches WI trip to Gloucester

8.30 pm **Men's Night at the The Lenches Club, Church Lench**

Saturday: 9.00 am Benefice prayers at The Rectory, Harvington

Future Activities: August/September

Friday 25th - Monday 28th Beer and Cider Festival at The Lenches Club, Church Lench

Monday 28th **'Handmade and Homegrown' Fayre at The Lenches Club**

Wednesday 6th 10.30 am Lenches WI book group

12.30 pm **Homeworkers' lunch at St James, Harvington**

Saturday 9th 9.00 am Benefice prayers at The Rectory, Harvington
Ride and Stride

Monday 11th Stop date for the October issue of the ARCH Messenger

7.30 pm Faith Today at *****, Harvington

Wednesday 13th 3.00 pm **CAMEO tea at St James', Harvington**

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 20th August 2017

| | | |
|----------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 8.30 am | Church Lench | Holy Communion* |
| 9.30 am | Harvington | Holy Communion by extn+ |
| 11.00 am | Abbots Morton | Morning Service |
| 6.30 pm | Harvington | Evensong |

Today's Collect

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, 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

Pray for those caught up in slavery both in this country and abroad
and for those working to end this injustice

Pray for the American, Chinese and all governments neighbouring
North Korea to be given wisdom on how to reduce
warmongering in the area

Pray for those on holiday and those serving the holiday makers;
that all may enjoy the season of leisure

Pray for those who are subject to sexual abuse by predatory gangs,
and for those who think that it is OK

Pray for those who are angry and fearful since the Grenfell fire, and for
those who are trying to bring about justice and appropriate resolution

Pray that whatever situation we are in, we do not abandon hope
and faith in God

This Week's First Reading: *Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28*

¹Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. ²This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and **Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father.** ³Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. ⁴But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

¹²**Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem.** ¹³**And Israel said to Joseph, 'Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them.'** He answered, 'Here I am.' ¹⁴**So he said to him, 'Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me.'** So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, ¹⁵and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, 'What are you seeking?' ¹⁶**'I am seeking my brothers,'** he said; 'tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock.' ¹⁷The man said, 'They have gone away, for I heard them say, "Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. ¹⁸They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. ¹⁹**They said to one another, 'Here comes this dreamer.** ²⁰**Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.'** ²¹But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands,

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 continued

saying, ‘Let us not take his life.’ ²²Reuben said to them, ‘Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but **lay no hand on him**’ – that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. ²³So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; ²⁴and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

²⁵Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt.

²⁶**Then Judah said to his brothers, ‘What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.’ And his brothers agreed.** ²⁸When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

This Week’s Psalm: *Psalm 105:1-10*

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises, and tell of all his marvellous works.
- 3 Rejoice in the praise of his holy name; let the hearts of them rejoice who seek the Lord.
- 4 Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his face continually.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,

Psalm 105:1-10 continued

- 6 O seed of Abraham his servant, O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 7 He is the Lord our God; his judgements are in all the earth.
- 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, the promise that he made for a thousand generations:
- 9 The covenant he made with Abraham, the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, an everlasting covenant for Israel,

This Week's Second Reading: *Romans 10:5-15*

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.' ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?"' (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or "Who will descend into the abyss?"' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? 'The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Romans 10:5-15 continued

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim **him unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’**

This Week’s Gospel Reading: *Matthew 14:22-33*

Immediately after feeding the crowd with the five loaves and two fish, ²²Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, **saying, ‘It is a ghost!’ And they cried out in fear.** ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, **‘Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.’** ²⁸**Peter answered him, ‘Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.’** ²⁹**He said, ‘Come.’ So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus.** ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, **and beginning to sink, he cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’** ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, **‘You of little faith, why did you doubt?’** ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat **worshipped him, saying, ‘Truly you are the Son of God.’**

Next Week's First Reading: *Genesis 45:1-15*

¹Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, **'Send everyone away from me.'** So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ²And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³Joseph said to his brothers, **'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?'** But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, **'Come closer to me.'** And they came closer. He said, **'I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.'** ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, **"Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay.** ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, **and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children,** as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there – since there are five more years of famine to come – so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not **come to poverty."** ¹²And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You must tell my father how greatly I am honoured in Egypt, and all that you have **seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.'** ¹⁴Then he fell upon his **brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck.** ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Next Week's Psalm: *Psalm 133:1-5*

- 1 Behold how good and pleasant it is to dwell together in unity.
- 2 It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard,
- 3 **Even on Aaron's beard, running down upon the collar of his clothing.**
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon running down upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the Lord has promised his blessing: even life for evermore.

Next Week's Second Reading: *Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32*

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Next Week's Gospel Reading: *Matthew 15:21-28*

²¹Jesus went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²A Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' ²⁴He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' ²⁶He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' ²⁷She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.