

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

**Weekly Notices**

**1<sup>st</sup> October 2017**

**Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**

**This Week's Activities**

Sunday: 12.00 noon Harvest lunch at Church Lench Village Hall

Tuesday: 8.30 am Prayers at Rous Lench

6.30 pm **Harvington Youth Group 'Come and See (CAS)'** at  
Harvington Baptist Church

Wednesday: 10.30 am Lenches WI book group

Thursday: 9.30 am Open morning at Church Lench First School

6.30 pm **Harvington Youth Group 'Adventurers'** at Harvington  
Baptist Church

Friday: 7.30 pm Harvest supper at Abbots Morton Village Hall

Saturday: 7.00 pm Bingo night at Rous Lench Village Hall

8.00 pm **Harvest Auction in the "Golden Cross"** supporting St James'  
and Harvey Bears Nursery

**Future Activities: October**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Stop date for the November issue of the ARCH Messenger

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

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> 12.30 pm Lunch at St James, Harvington

3.00 pm **CAMEO** tea at St James', Harvington

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Home communions

8.30 pm **Men's Night** at the "Coach & Horses", Harvington

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 8.00 pm Pub night with music at Rous Lench Village Hall

Want to publicise an activity here?

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

## Next Week's Services: Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2017

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

## Today's Collect

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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 the Brexit negotiations; for those making the decisions and patience for those of us observing

Pray for those contemplating terrorist attacks and for the authorities tracking them

Pray for the meeting of Anglican Primates (not monkeys, the head of each province) in Lambeth this week, for unity to prevail

Pray for those to be baptised next week: Esme, Ben and Emily

Give thanks for our farmers and the harvest they have worked so hard to bring in, and for the harvest they are preparing for next year

Give thanks for those who work in industry and wealth producers and for the taxes paid that enable us to receive services and pensions

## **This Week's First Reading:** *Exodus 17:1-7*

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>**The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.'** **Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?'** <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, **'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?'** <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, **'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.'** <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, **'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 'I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.'** **Moses** did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, **'Is the LORD among us or not?'**

## **This Week's Psalm:** *Psalms 78:1-7*

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will pour forth mysteries from of old,
- 3 Such as we have heard and known, which our forebears have told us.
- 4 We will not hide from their children, but will recount to generations to come, the praises of the Lord and his power and the wonderful works he has done.

*Psalm 78:1-7 continued*

- 5 He laid a solemn charge on Jacob and made it a law in Israel, which he commanded them to teach their children,  
6 That the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn, that they in turn might tell it to their children,  
7 So that they might put their trust in God and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his commandments,

**This Week's Second Reading:** *Philippians 2:1-13*

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence,

## *Philippians 2:1-13 continued*

work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

### **This Week's Gospel Reading:** *Matthew 21:23-32*

<sup>23</sup>When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, **'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?'** <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, **'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven," he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" <sup>26</sup>But if we say, "Of human origin," we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.'** <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, **'We do not know.'** And he said to them, **'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.'**

<sup>28</sup>What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, **"Son, go and work in the vineyard today."** <sup>29</sup>He answered, **"I will not";** but later he changed his mind and went.

<sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, **"I go, sir";** but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, **'The first.'** Jesus said to them, **'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.'**

## **Next Week's First Reading:** *Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20*

<sup>1</sup>Then God spoke all these words: <sup>2</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

<sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labour and do all your work.

<sup>12</sup>Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

<sup>17</sup>**You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.**

<sup>18</sup>When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, <sup>19</sup>**and said to Moses, 'You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die.'** <sup>20</sup>Moses said to the people, **'Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.'**

## **Next Week's Psalm:** *Psalms 19:7-14*

7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

8 The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

## *Psalm 19:7-14 continued*

- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter also than honey, dripping from the honeycomb.
- 11 By them also is your servant taught and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often they offend? O cleanse me from my secret faults!
- 13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins lest they get dominion over me; so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

## Next **Week's Second Reading:** *Philippians 3:4b-14*

<sup>4</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, <sup>9</sup>not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

## **Next Week's Gospel Reading: *Matthew 21:33-46***

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: <sup>33</sup>**Listen to another parable.** There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, **saying, "They will respect my son."** <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, **they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance."** <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, **what will he do to those tenants?** <sup>41</sup>**They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.'**

<sup>42</sup>**Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"?'** <sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>**The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.'**

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.