

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

Weekly Notices
7th January 2018
Baptism of Christ



Next Week's Services: Sunday 14th January 2018

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

This Week's Activities

Monday: Stop date for the February issue of the ARCH Messenger

7.30 pm **Faith Today** at "Breslau," Leys Rd, Harvington

Tuesday: 8.30 am NO prayers at Abbots Morton

6.30 pm HYP:CAS at Harvington Baptist Church

Wednesday: NO 11am Holy Communion Service at Harvington

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

Thursday: 6.30 pm HYP:Adventurers at Harvington Baptist Church

Saturday: 9.00 am Benefice prayers at The Rectory, Harvington

Future Activities: January/February

Wednesday 17th 12.30 pm **Lunch at Ellenden Farmshop's Farmhouse Kitchen**
café

Thursday 18th Home communions

8.30 pm **Men's Night at the "Golden Cross," Harvington**

Friday 26th 7.00 pm **"Parlour Concert with Mr Keith" at Church Lench Village**
Hall

Saturday 27th 9.00 am Benefice prayers at The Rectory, Harvington

Saturday 3rd 7.30 pm Mumbo Jumbo concert at Rous Lench Village Hall

Monday 5th Stop date for the March issue of the ARCH Messenger

Saturday 10th Big Breakfast at Church Lench Village Hall

Today's Collect

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; 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

Give thanks for Jesus coming to be with us at Christmas

Give thanks for the revelation of the Trinity at Jesus' baptism

Give thanks for more conciliatory exchanges between North and South Korea

Give thanks for our CAMEO teas and for all those who volunteer as servants and for those who attend

Give thanks for the life of Norman Badger, Pip Stone and Pamela Savage who died recently – pray for their families and friends mourning their loss

Pray for those who have found Christmas difficult

Give thanks for the full employment that we enjoy in this country

Pray for all those working in the NHS and for the difficult decisions they are making in very busy conditions

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

This Week's First Reading: *Genesis 1:1-5*

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³**Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light.** ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

This Week's Psalm: *Psalms 29:1-10*

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation; the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf and Sirion like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and **strips the forests bare; in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'**

Psalm 29:1-10 continued

- 9 The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.
- 10 The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

This Week's Second Reading: *Acts 19:1-7*

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' ³Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' ⁴Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied – ⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Mark 1:4-11*

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, 'The one who is

Mark 1:4-11 continued

more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized **you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'**

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from **heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'**

Next Week's First Reading: *1 Samuel 3:1-10*

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. **⁴Then the LORD called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!'** ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'

Next Week's Psalm: *Psalm 139:1-9*

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 For there is not a word on my tongue, but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You encompass me behind and before and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, so high that I cannot attain it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand shall lead me, your right hand hold me fast.

Next **Week's Second Reading:** *Revelation 5:1-10*

¹I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals; ²and I saw a **mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, 'Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?'** ³And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁴And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵**Then one of the elders said to me, 'Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.'**

⁶Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. ⁸When he had taken the scroll, the four

Revelation 5:1-10 continued

living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹**They sing a new song: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; ¹⁰you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth.'**

Next Week's Gospel Reading: *John 1:43-51*

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, **'Follow me.'** ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵**Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.'** ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, **'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?'** Philip said to him, **'Come and see.'** ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, **'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!'** ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, **'Where did you come to know me?'** Jesus answered, **'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.'** ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, **'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!'** ⁵⁰Jesus answered, **'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.'** ⁵¹**And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'**