

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

Weekly Notices

11th February 2018

Sunday next before Lent

This Week's Activities

Sunday: 12.00 noon Abbots Morton Village Hall 20th Anniversary Party

Monday: 7.00 pm Building for Mission Meeting at Harvington

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

7.30 pm Quiz night at The Lenches Club

Tuesday: 8.30 am Prayers at Rous Lench

6.30 pm HYP:CAS at Harvington Baptist Church

7.00 pm Building for Mission Meeting at Church Lench

Wednesday: 11.00 am "Ashing" service at Harvington

12 noon Lent lunch at The Lenches Club

3.00 pm CAMEO tea at St James', Harvington

7.30 pm "Ashing" service at Church Lench

Thursday: Home communions

12.30 pm Workers' lunch at Ellenden Farmshop's café

6.30 pm HYP:Adventurers at Harvington Baptist Church

Friday: 7.00 pm GLADS "Five Valentines" at Church Lench Village Hall

Saturday: 7.00 pm GLADS "Five Valentines" at Church Lench Village Hall

Future Activities: February

Monday 19th 7.30 pm Quiz night at The Lenches Club

7.30 pm The Lenches WI AGM at Church Lench Village Hall

Tuesday 20th 9.45 am Holiday Club at *****

7.15 pm Lent course at Church Lench Village Hall

Wednesday 21st 10.00 am Holiday Club at *****

12 noon Lent lunch at The Lenches Club

Next Week's Services:

Sunday 18th February 2018

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

Saturday 24th February 2018

4.00 pm	Church Lench	All Age Family Service
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Today's Collect

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; 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 Church's Call to be a light in the world

Pray for our Building for Mission Survey meeting taking place at Harvington and Church Lench this week

Pray for wisdom for political and business leaders as stock markets become volatile

Pray for your preparations for Lent—what to take up, what to change

Pray for the preparations for the forthcoming Lent Course being held in the Group

Want to publicise an activity here?

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

This Week's First Reading: *2 Kings 2:1-12*

¹When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.

²Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel.

³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

⁴Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

⁶Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on.

⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' ¹⁰He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will

2 Kings 2:1-12 continued

not.' ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching **and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!'** But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

This Week's Psalm: *50:1-6*

- 1 The Lord, the most mighty God, has spoken and called the world from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth; our God comes and will not keep silence.
- 3 Consuming fire goes out before him and a mighty tempest stirs about him.
- 4 He calls the heaven above, and the earth, that he may judge his people:
- 5 **'Gather to me my faithful, who have sealed my covenant with sacrifice.'**
- 6 Let the heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.

This Week's Second Reading: *2 Corinthians 4:3-6*

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as

2 Corinthians 4:3-6 continued

Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Mark 9:2-9*

²Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵**Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.'** ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from **the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!'** ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Next Week's First Reading: *Genesis 9:8-17*

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹**'As for me, I am** establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all

Genesis 9:8-17 continued

flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a **flood to destroy the earth.**' ¹²**God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant** that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living **creature of all flesh that is on the earth.'** ¹⁷**God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'**

Next Week's Psalm: *Psalm 25:1-9*

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame, but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.
- 3 Make me to know your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you have I hoped all the day long.
- 5 Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions, but think on me in your goodness, O Lord, according to your steadfast love.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.
- 8 He will guide the humble in doing right and teach his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Next Week's Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Next Week's Gospel Reading: Mark 1:9-15

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. ¹¹**And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'**

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, **'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'**

Lent Course 2018 – the Beatitudes

During Lent you are invited to join a 6-week course that will explore the Beatitudes. The aim is to provide us an opportunity to reflect on these famous sayings of Jesus which introduce us to the challenges of the Christian life and calling.

We will follow a course and a booklet is provided which offers a scripture, reflections and questions for us to discuss in small groups

This year we are joining friends from Inkberrow and surrounding parishes at:

Tuesday 20th February Session 1 Church Lench Village Hall

Tuesday 27th February Session 2 PEC, Inkberrow

Tuesday 6th March Session 3 Church Lench Village Hall

Tuesday 13th March Session 4 PEC, Inkberrow

Tuesday 20th March Session 5 Church Lench Village Hall

Tuesday 27th March Session 6 PEC, Inkberrow

(the PEC is the church hall next to St Peter's Church in Inkberrow)

We gather at 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start and finish by 9.00 pm

Please get in touch with me Reverend Richard Thorniley,
01386 870527 or rector@archbenefice.org.uk
if you would like to join and a course book will be supplied
at a cost of £5.00.

Transport can be organised too if required.