

**Please remember in your prayers**

Pray for those who are not well at this time and pray for the souls of the recently departed, may they rest in peace.



**Daily Bible Readings for Advent**

There are a few booklets left. Please take one if you think it would help you during Advent.

**Christmas Cheer Concert**

This evening, Trish and Steven are presenting a concert with a variety of seasonal songs and carols.

It will be in church, beginning at 6pm.

Tickets are £5 each with proceeds going to Acorns Children's Hospice and church.

**Evening Prayer Service**

Simon is leading an Evening Prayer Service in church on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm

Please join us

**Christmas Flowers**

We do not have flower displays in church during Advent and so it's always good to see them return at Christmas.

There is a basket at the back of church for donations towards the Christmas flowers. Jean

**Christmas Cards**

The Codsall & Bilbrook Church Christmas cards are ready for delivery to the community.

Please help deliver some if you are able. Thank you



**Sunday 3rd December 8am**

**Sides, Reader, Offertory, Assist:** Janet

**Sunday 3rd December 10.45am**

**Welcomers:** Ruth, Jean M

**Reader:** Mike

**Prayers:** Mark

**Offertory:** Rita, June, Grace

**Assist:** Rebecca, Mark

**Pebble Pool:** Mary

**Sunday 10th December 10.45am**

**Welcomers:** Mary, Gill

**Reader:** Carole

**Prayers:** Jo

**Offertory:** Sheila, Mary, Victor

**Assist:** Janet, Malcolm

**Pebble Pool:** Andrea



The Church of England

**Holy Cross Church**

Serving the Community of Bilbrook in the Parish of Tettenhall Regis

Team Vicar:

**Rev. Simon Douglas** (212405)

Church Wardens: Janet Pugh (844981)

Mike Spragg (845222)

Website: <http://holycross.bilbrook.info/>

Parish Office: 01902 751622

(10am-12noon Monday-Friday)



**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

**Advent Sunday**

**8am Eucharist**

(Celebrant: Revd Simon Douglas)

**10.30am Sunday Club**

**10.45am Sung Eucharist**

(Celebrant: Revd Simon Douglas)

**Coffee/Tea will be served at the back of church after the 10.45am Eucharist.**

**Please stay and join us.**

**6pm Christmas Cheer Concert**

(in aid of Acorns Children's Hospice & church)

**Hymns for Sung Eucharist**

Introit: **358** O come, O come, Emmanuel

Gradual: **49** Awake, awake: fling off the night

Offertory: **307** Lo, He comes with clouds descending

Communion: **Choir** Longing for light, we wait in darkness

**5** Abba, Father, let me be

Recessional: **209** Hills of the north, rejoice

**This Week**

Mon	4	2pm Bible Study Group
Tues	5	2pm Craft Group <b>7pm Eucharist</b>
Wed	6	6.30pm Friendship Club
Thur	7	<b>9.30am Eucharist</b> 10am Coffee Pop-In <b>7pm Evening Prayer Service</b>
Fri	8	<b>12noon Eucharist</b>
Sat	9	10am Place of Welcome
Sun	10	10.30am Sunday Club <b>10.45am Sung Eucharist</b>

# ***First Sunday of Advent***

## **COLLECT**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## **FIRST READING      Isaiah 64.1–9**

**A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence – as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil – to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**All:      Thanks be to God**

## **SECOND READING      1 Corinthians 1.3–9**

**A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.**

My brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind – just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you – so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**All:      Thanks be to God**

## **GOSPEL Mark 13.24–37**

**Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.**

**All: Glory to you, O Lord**

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All:      Praise to you, O Christ**

## **POST COMMUNION**

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.