

DIOCESAN STRATEGY PRAYER

Living God, Jesus calls his followers to seek first your Kingdom.

Renew us as we make your love known;

Release us to share freely together in mission;

Rejuvenate us to be fruitful in your service.

Give us courage, wisdom and compassion,

That strengthened with the grace of the Holy Spirit,

We may, as the Diocese of Sheffield,

Both flourish and grow through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Anyone wishing to book weddings and baptisms, please contact the Vicar.

Vicar: *Rev'd John Parker,*

The Vicarage, Church St.

Wath upon Dearne, S63 7RD

Tel: 01709 872788

e.mail vicar@wathparishchurch.co.uk

Curate: Charles Burton 07803 219746

Churchwardens:

Geoff Fellows: Tel: 01709 873905

Rachel Lewis: Tel: 01709 876854

St James Room Bookings: Geoff Fellows, 22 Coverleigh Road,

Wath upon Dearne, S63 7JJ. Tel: 873905

Email: bookings@wathparishchurch.co.uk

www.wathparishchurch.co.uk

We have a hearing loop; please switch your hearing aid to the 'T' setting

If you would like to speak to someone or for someone to pray with you, please speak to the Clergy.

All are welcome to share bread and wine at Communion or a blessing at the altar rail.

To the toilets, go through the Lady Chapel, across the vestry and into the St James' Room corridor

COLLECT for Trinity 8

Lord God,
your Son left the riches of heaven
and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from pride,
when we are needy save us from despair,
that we may trust in you alone;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

New Testament Reading 2 Corinthians Ch 4 v 7 - 15

⁷ But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. ⁸ We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. ¹⁰ We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹ For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. ¹² So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.

¹³ It is written: “I believed; therefore I have spoken.”^[b] Since we have that same spirit of^[c] faith, we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴ because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. ¹⁵ All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

Gospel Reading Matthew Ch 20 v 20 - 28

²⁰ Then the mother of Zebedee’s sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of him. ²¹ “What is it you want?” he asked. She said, “Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom.”

²² “You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said to them. “Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?” “We can,” they answered. ²³ Jesus said to them, “You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father.”

²⁴ When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. ²⁵ Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ²⁶ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— ²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Thought for the Week

Psalm 61

This short Psalm (just 8 verses!) speaks of Assurance, and in particular of assurance of God’s protection. The word Assurance brings to mind the Hymn ‘Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine, O what a foretaste of glory Divine’. There is something precious, immovable and solid about assurance of faith which is a gift of God as we grow and learn to trust Him through thick and thin.

Verse 1 says: *‘Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer.’* Assurance in prayer is knowing that wherever, whenever; God hears us, knows us and loves us. It doesn’t have to be in words outspoken, but it can be the cry of the heart, our thoughts, sighs and mutterings guided by the Holy Spirit which God hears and listens to.

Verse 3 states: *‘for you are my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy’.* Assurance is also knowing that God is our refuge and help. He doesn’t just shield and protect us, but He also helps us and wants to prosper us.

Verse 4 says: *‘Let me abide in your tent for ever’* Assurance is knowing that nothing can take us away from His love: may we abide and know for sure that God’s presence is with us today in and through the love of Jesus-‘Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine’.

Lord, we thank you for the lives of those who have died in faith and whose loss we feel at this time. We pray Lord Jesus that you would be near to our loved ones who we are unable to meet with and who live far off. May we grow in Assurance of faith as we trust in you.

Amen.