



The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

Weekly News with Service Sheet

15 November 2020: The Second Sunday before Advent



Message from the Rector: Investing in the Kingdom

You could say that now is not the time to be talking about investments as we go through a global pandemic, but it is amazing the number of adverts that you see on television about which bank in which to put your money at this time. It seems key to all the advertising gimmicks that those designing the adverts are selling a lifestyle (a way of life) if you choose the bank or building society which they are advertising. In the Parable of the Talents Jesus describes three slaves who are living a life, and who are given an investment opportunity. One receives five talents (a talent is

the equivalent of up to twenty year's wages for a typical worker); the second gets two and the third just one talent. Even the last worker is entrusted with a significant sum of money. The first two invest their money with Barclays or Lloyds (other banks are available), but the third slave chooses safety. The third slave has a mindset which is fearful and anxious and thinks that bad things will happen. In faith terms he is unable to wake up in the morning and give thanks for the abundant mercy of God. This fearful servant gets cast into outer darkness and experiences the dreaded Matthew punishment - 'weeping and gnashing of teeth'. So, this parable should cause us a bit of disquiet. The message here for us all is one of accountability. As we await the coming of God's kingdom in its fullness, we are not called upon to sit back and twiddle our thumbs. We are called, like the first two, to be at work, sharing in the work of God in the world. An abundance of resources has been provided to us. We need not live in fear. We just need to invest these resources in the work of God in the world. God bless you all,

Fr James

THE PARISH EUCHARIST ONLINE

Organ Music Prelude in C minor, Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)

Welcome *Words of welcome to the congregation and those watching online.*

Hymn

I Love Divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

2 Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

3 Finish, then thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation,
Perfectly restored in thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Christ calls us to share the heavenly banquet of his love with all the saints in earth and heaven. Knowing our unworthiness and sin, let us ask from him both mercy and forgiveness.

Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in excelsis

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 25:14-30

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to stand with confidence before the Son of man. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus continued his teaching about the kingdom: “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The response to the bidding Lord in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

The Peace

May the God of peace sanctify you: may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before him at the coming of our Lord Jesus with his saints. The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it. Organ music is played:
Lord Jesus Christ, be present now, J S Bach (1685-1750)

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation. **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always sing of your glory, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. For you are the hope of the nations, the builder of the city that is to come. Your love made visible in Jesus Christ brings home the lost, restores the sinner and gives dignity to the despised. In his face your light shines out, flooding lives with goodness and truth, gathering into one in your kingdom a divided and broken humanity. Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation we glorify your name, for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Andrew and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread *The minister breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei *The Agnus Dei is sung as the bread is broken.*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

The Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people. **Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

Hymn

After those in church have received the sacrament or a blessing, this is sung

**Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest,
Beneath thy contemplation sink heart and voice opprest.
I know not, O I know not, what social joys are there,
What radiancy of glory, what light beyond compare.**

**They stand, those halls of Sion, conjubilant with song,
And bright with many an angel, and all the martyr throng;
The Prince is ever in them, the daylight is serene,
The pastures of the blessed are decked in glorious sheen.**

**There is the throne of David, and there, from care released,
The song of them that triumph, the shout of them that feast;
And they who, with their Leader, have conquered in the fight,
For ever and for ever are clad in robes of white.**

**O sweet and blessed country, shall I ever see thy face?
O sweet and blessed country, shall I ever win thy grace?
Exult, O dust and ashes! The Lord shall be thy part:
His only, his for ever, thou shalt be, and thou art!**

Prayer after Communion

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices *The notices and announcements are given.*

Hymn

**I Judge eternal,
throned in splendour,
Lord of lords and King of kings,
With thy living fire of judgement
Purge this realm of bitter things:
Solace all its wide dominion
With the healing of thy wings.**

**2 Still the weary folk are pining
For the hour that brings release:
And the city's crowded clangour
Cries aloud for sin to cease;
And the homesteads
and the woodlands
Plead in silence for their peace.**

**3 Crown, O God, thine own endeavour;
Cleave our darkness with thy sword;
Feed the faithless and the hungry
With the richness of your word:
Cleanse the body of this nation
Through the glory of the Lord.**

The Blessing

Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will, that you may reign with him in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Organ Voluntary *To Thee O Lord be Praise and Honour*, K Hoyer (1891-1936)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

THE CHURCH

Our Ministry Team James Stewart, Taylor Wilton-Morgan, Nicole King

Our Bishops Graham, Alan and Jonathan

Ecumenical RC Church: Diocese of East Anglia, Bishop Alan Hopes.

Anglican Communion The Church of Ceylon, Dhiloraj Ranjit Canagasabey – Bishop of Colombo, Keerthisiri Fernando – Bishop of Kurunegala.

THE WORLD

All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic all key workers in NHS and all fields of frontline, particularly our Care and Nursing homes - Broadland View, Larchwood, Dussindale, Mary Chapman, as they are prioritised for a vaccine.

THE COMMUNITY

Streets of the Parish Desborough Way, Dowsing Court, Dragoon Close

Civic Leaders Members of Thorpe St Andrew Town Council, particularly Mayor, John Fisher and Deputy Mayor, Sue Lawn; Members of Broadland District Council for this parish – Jonathan Emsell, John Fisher, Sue Lawn, Ian Mackie, Trudy Mancini-Boyle and Nigel Shaw; County Councillors – John Fisher and Ian Mackie; MP – Chloe Smith; our twin town of St Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada and Mayor, Doug Naish and Dep. Mayor, Brad Henderson.

THOSE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYER including

Brian Riseborough, Paul Carter, Mark Little, Monique Rowland, Jennifer Jones, Janet Fancy, Colin Hicks, Alan Harrison, Jill Hall, Grace Howes, Peter and Gaynor Garrod, Rita Ward, Joy and Andy McCall, Jean High, Jean Mayhew, Brother Gabriel, Craig Fransham, Anthony Travis, Paul Rayner, Mark King, Fr Patrick Kerley

THE DEPARTED

The recently departed Keith Fuller, Bill Stibbe

Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time and all those for whom we will pray at our Annual Memorial Service today, but particularly Alma Morley (16th), Peter Woolterton (16th), William Hughes (20th), Derek Swatman (21st)

OTHER NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICES IN THE SECOND LOCKDOWN The Government guidelines indicate that there should be no public worship in church during this period of second lockdown, apart from funerals and services which are broadcast live from the church. We will continue to hold a live-streamed service from the church **each Sunday at 9.30am** and also **Morning Prayer at 8.45am on Thursdays.**

The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

**Our Church doors are shut - we are anything but...
So give us a look - we're on Facebook!!**

Join us on Facebook LIVE each Sunday at 9.30am!



Find us on

Facebook

Telephone 01603 439160 www.parish-life.co.uk

email: rector@thorpeparishchurch.org

STAY AT HOME. PROTECT THE NHS. SAVE LIVES.

PRIVATE PRAYER The Parish Church is open for private individual prayer. Please observe social distancing, wear face coverings and make use of the hand sanitisers. The opening hours are as follows:

Monday CLOSED Tuesday - Saturday 10am to 4pm Sunday 11am to 5pm

PRAYER RESOURCES: A CALL TO PRAYER The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have called us all to pray for the nation in this month of lockdown. This can be done at any time but they hope you might pray with them each evening briefly at 6pm. You might wish to light a candle and use some of the resources. These are available on the Church of England, but I have collated them in a leaflet which was distributed last week. Fr Taylor and I will also broadcast a short prayer at 6pm each day on Facebook.

ZOOM COFFEE IS BACK We will hold another Zoom Coffee morning on Thursday morning at 11.00am (19 November). Further dates will be announced as we go on. The Zoom code is included in the weekly email (sent Saturday 14 November). **Bring your own coffee!! Other drinks are available!!**

CAFÉ CHURCH This will also take place on Zoom at 11.00am on **Sunday 22 November**. A decision will be made nearer the time about the Café Church services scheduled for 24 January and 28 February, as to whether they are in person or on Zoom. Zoom code will be sent out on Thursday 19th November, to avoid confusion with Zoom coffee!

REMEMBRANCE AND POPPY APPEAL Thank you to you all who made positive comments about the way in which the Parish of Thorpe St Andrew led the Covid-19 secure arrangements for Remembrance this year. We are very grateful to all who helped including Thorpe St Andrew Town Council and 1st Thorpe St Andrew Brownies for the excellent eco-poppies. The Royal British Legion were not permitted to be involved this year but we wish also to thank Cllr Stuart Snelling for the time and advice he gave in a personal capacity. Please do support the work of the Royal British Legion by supporting them online if you can – www.britishlegion.org.uk

THORPE COMMUNITY CHURCHYARD PROJECT – YARMOUTH ROAD We are very grateful for the hard work that Dale Wiseman and Roger Pointer and their team have put into this and we were pleased to lead a service for them in the Churchyard last Sunday afternoon to remember those who served in the World Wars who are buried there.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

From Linda Olney The Children's Society has asked that I should now collect and empty their charity boxes. This has been delayed but they would be very grateful for these much needed donations. I am happy to collect from the Parish church, or alternatively please contact me on 01603 434986. Many thanks.

THANK YOU TO YOU ALL Thank to you all for the way in which you have responded to giving during this pandemic. Please continue to give as generously as you can. If you have a question in relation to giving please contact our Treasurer on her email: treasurersa@gmail.com

100 CLUB The 2020-2021 season runs October to September. Forms are available. Please can you support this if you are able. You can hold up to three numbers. You can obtain a form by contacting Linda 01603 434986 or Ann 01603 436619 **The November draw will be drawn on 15 November (TODAY).**

BIBLE STUDY, AUTUMN 2020 – ON ZOOM: ‘When in Romans...’ This continues on **Thursday 19 November at 7pm.** We are reading and reflecting upon Romans, the book we have been hearing alongside the Gospel in Church these past few months. All are very welcome, whether you have read Romans before, or never even opened its pages. Sessions will be discursive and relaxed. Please e-mail Fr Taylor (fr.taylor@outlook.com) so you can be added to the Zoom invitation. Assistance can be given for those new to Zoom!

VOLUNTEERS The Churchwardens are preparing rotas for people to welcome us on a Sunday morning, cleaning and anything else you would like to volunteer with. Please do speak to Alison or Tim. They would love to hear from you. If you haven't volunteered before now is the time!! **THEIR EMAIL ADDRESS IS tsachurchwardens@gmail.com**

PASTORAL CARE THROUGH THE PANDEMIC Many have said that this is a ‘marathon and not a sprint’ and as the months go on and the restrictions are more again this seems real. If you need anything (and I mean anything: shopping, telephone calls, medication, whatever it is) please do say. If you know of people in our community who need something – then let us know about them too. Our details appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

NHS COVID-19 APP If you have a smartphone please do download the app. The QR codes for our three buildings are displayed at the St Andrew's Centre, the Good Shepherd and Parish Church respectively. Please do make sure as you leave that you check out of the venue too.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact our Rector,

The Revd James Stewart (Fr James)

Tel: 01603 439160 or email him at rector@thorpeparishchurch.org