

Ángelos



3rd December 2023
Advent Sunday

Serving the churches and villages of the Walesby group and working with the Barkwith, Market Rasen and Middle Rasen groups

Priests in charge:

Revd Claire Burnett (Walesby Group, except Tealby): claire.burnett@lincoln.anglican.org

Revd Bryan Dixon (Barkwith Group and parish of Tealby): rev.bryan@icloud.com

Group website: <https://www.walesbychurches.org>

Collect Prayer:

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Collect Prayer (BCP):

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness,
and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life,
in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility;
that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty,
to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost,
now and ever.

Amen.

Post Communion Prayer:

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.

Amen.

A short thought for the week by Quin Hough is available to read on the home page of our website: www.walesbychurches.org

**“Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat
Please to put a penny in the old man’s hat....”**

So, Advent Sunday again, Christmas rushing towards us, and I find myself wondering just where the last year has gone.

It seems that as I get older time speeds past ever quicker, but also that odd random memories start to flash up from years ago. The rhyme “Christmas is coming” was part of my childhood, and back then one was able to recognize that a penny, even a pre-decimal one, while not a huge sum, was of value, especially to a child. After all, a penny (1d) would buy 4 Black Jack sweets, whereas the current penny won’t even purchase one of the current equivalent.

In those somewhat distant days begging was rather looked down on, though there was the charm of “penny for the guy”, “Bob-a-job week”, or carol singers at the door, all of which were decidedly approved of. Modern safeguarding rules have all but put an end to those forms of collection, with the modern, and apparently acceptable, equivalent being the flood of letters from charities of all shapes and descriptions that pour through my letterbox, or arrive daily in the spam box on my email. Many are worthy causes, but the genre is also tainted by a noticeable percentage that are criminal scams; a wise person takes a hard look at any of them before committing money, and “giving fatigue” is an accepted phenomenon.

A pity really, because it is very clear in the Bible that Jesus wanted his followers to be generous and kind to those in need. Witness the parable of the Good Samaritan perhaps, or his story of the sheep and the goats at the judgement – “I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” (*Matthew 25:35-36*) All equally valid today.

So, as we start to open the Advent Calendar, perhaps one with a chocolate behind every door, as we stock up on the goodies we’re planning to eat, as we purchase the presents that Santa will deliver on Christmas morning, could we perhaps also put a little aside for those who are in real and desperate need. Money is always good of course, especially for charities supporting people overseas, but a small donation to a local food bank is equally welcome. Could you perhaps buy an extra tin of minced beef, or beans, or some soap (or many other basic items of food and hygiene products), each week through Advent, and donate those to a food bank. Not much in an era when a pint of beer costs around £4, and a coffee somewhere about the same, but then it doesn’t have to be a lot to make Christmas for someone desperately short of money and struggling to make ends meet, for as the old rhyme goes on;

“if you haven’t got a penny, a halfpenny will do,
if you haven’t got a halfpenny a farthing will do,
if you haven’t got a farthing then may God bless you.”

First Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

64 Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you!

² As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you!

³ For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.

⁴ Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

⁵ You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways. But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved?

⁶ All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

⁷ No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us and have given us over to our sins.

⁸ Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

⁹ Do not be angry beyond measure, LORD; do not remember our sins forever. Oh, look on us, we pray, for we are all your people.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

³ Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

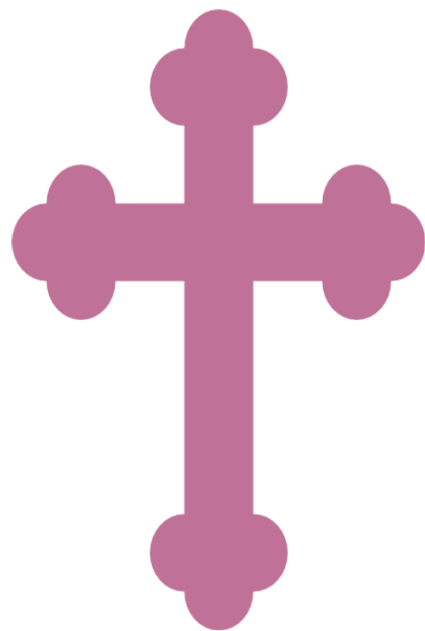
⁴ I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ For in him you have been enriched in every way - with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge - ⁶ God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. ⁷ Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.

⁸ He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁹ God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.



The Psalm set for today

Psalm 80:1-8

- ¹ Hear us, Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock.
You who sit enthroned between
the cherubim, shine forth
- ² **before Ephraim, Benjamin and
Manasseh. Awaken your
might; come and save us.**
- ³ Restore us, O God; make your
face shine on us, that we may be
saved.
- ⁴ **How long, LORD God Almighty,
will your anger smoulder
against the prayers of your
people?**
- ⁵ You have fed them with the bread
of tears; you have made them
drink tears by the bowlful.
- ⁶ **You have made us an object of
derision to our neighbours,
and our enemies mock us.**
- ⁷ Restore us, God Almighty; make
your face shine on us, that we
may be saved.
- ⁸ **You transplanted a vine from
Egypt; you drove out the
nations and planted it.**

Gospel Reading

Mark 13:24-37

²⁴ “But in those days, following that
distress, “the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light;
²⁵ the stars will fall from the sky, and
the heavenly bodies will be
shaken.’

²⁶ “At that time people will see the
Son of Man coming in clouds with
great power and glory. ²⁷ And he will
send his angels and gather his elect
from the four winds, from the ends of
the earth to the ends of the heavens.

²⁸ “Now learn this lesson from the fig
tree: As soon as its twigs get tender
and its leaves come out, you know
that summer is near. ²⁹ Even so,
when you see these things
happening, you know that it is near,
right at the door. ³⁰ Truly I tell you,
this generation will certainly not pass
away until all these things have
happened. ³¹ Heaven and earth will
pass away, but my words will never
pass away.

³² “But about that day or hour no one
knows, not even the angels in
heaven, nor the Son, but only the
Father. ³³ Be on guard! Be alert! You
do not know when that time will
come. ³⁴ It’s like a man going away:
He leaves his house and puts his
servants in charge, each with their
assigned task, and tells the one at
the door to keep watch.

³⁵ “Therefore keep watch because
you do not know when the owner of
the house will come back - whether
in the evening, or at midnight, or
when the rooster crows, or at dawn.
³⁶ If he comes suddenly, do not let
him find you sleeping. ³⁷ What I say
to you, I say to everyone: ‘Watch!’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you O Christ.

Services for the Benefices of the Walesby and Barkwith Groups:

Sunday 3rd December

09:30 East Barkwith
09:30 Stainton le Vale
11:30 Brookenby
15:00 North Willingham
18:00 Tealby

Advent Sunday (Purple)

Holy Communion (CW)
Holy Communion (BCP)
Holy Communion (CW)
Evening Prayer (BCP)
Deanery Advent Evensong (CW)

Tuesday 5th December

15:00 Claxby Village Hall Holy Communion (Ionian Tradition)

Wednesday 6th December

10:00 Tealby Holy Communion (BCP)
18:00 North Willingham Holy Communion (CW)

Saturday 9th December

19:00 Walesby 'Old Church' Carol Service

Sunday 10th December

09:30 Normanby le Wold
09:30 South Willingham
09:30 Walesby
11:00 Tealby

Second Sunday of Advent (Purple)

Holy Communion (BCP)
Morning Worship (CW)
Morning Praise (CW) with Christingle
Holy Communion (CW)

Online Services:

Monday Evening Fellowship Every Monday (term time) at 6:45 for 7pm

Forthcoming Events:

Please see website for further information and details of all our events

<https://www.walesbychurches.org/events.html>

Christmas Services - there are a number of Carol Services and other Christmas Celebrations throughout our groups during December. These are now attached to the electronic version of the 'Angelos' and are available on the website 'Events' tab (via the link below).

Quiet Christmas Service - our Quiet Christmas service will be held on Monday 11th December at 2:30pm at St Mary's, Walesby, and refreshments will be served afterwards.

'Walesby Welcomes Christmas' - a concert by the Grimsby Philharmonic Choir followed by a buffet. Saturday 16th December at 7pm in St Mary's Walesby, then to the Village Hall. Tickets £10 from Marilyn (07814-470265), from 7th December.

Notices for the next pew sheet:

Please send these to Kathy & Martin Jago by Wednesday 6th December via the Walesby Group e-mail: walesbygroup@gmail.com

Christmas Services 2023

Sunday 3rd December

18:00 Tealby - Deanery Advent Evensong

Saturday 9th December

19:00 Walesby 'Old Church' - Carol Service

Sunday 10th December

16:00 Middle Rasen - Christingle Service

18:00 Faldingworth - Carol Service

18:00 Lissington - Carol Service

Monday 11th December

14:30 Walesby - Quiet Christmas

Friday 15th December

18:00 West Rasen - Carol Service

Sunday 17th December

14:30 Linwood - Carol Service

15:00 Newton by Toft - Carol Service

15:00 Normanby with Claxby - Joint Carol Service

15:00 North Willingham - Carols at Ice Cream Parlour

16:00 Middle Rasen - Joint Carol Service with Methodists

18:00 South Willingham - Family Carol Service

Thursday 21st December

16:00 Brookenby - Carol Service

18:30 Thoresway - Carol Service

Friday 22nd December

18:30 Legsby - Carol Service

Saturday 23rd December

15:00 East Barkwith - Family Christingle Service & Carols

Sunday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

14:30 Brookenby - Christmas Service

15:00 Market Rasen - Christingle Service

16:00 Friesthorpe - Carol Service

17:00 Walesby - Carols round the Yew Tree

17:30 Middle Rasen - Nativity Service

18:00 Faldingworth—Children's Carol Service

18:30 Croxby - Service of Carols and Readings

20:00 Tealby - Christmas Eve Communion (CW)

21:00 Sixhills - Midnight at Bethlehem with HC (CW)

23:30 Market Rasen - Midnight Mass (CW)

23:30 Middle Rasen - Midnight Holy Communion (CW)

Monday 25th December (Christmas Day)

09:30 Claxby - Holy Communion with Carols (BCP)

09:30 East Barkwith - Christmas Communion (CW)

09:30 Stainton le Vale - Service of Readings and Carols

10:00 Market Rasen - Christmas Holy Communion (CW)

10:30 Middle Rasen - Christmas Holy Communion (CW)

10:30 Walesby - Christmas Family Praise