

Time to Reflect

We all know Lazarus, don't we? We have seen him or her in Bury, we have seen them sleeping in doorways of shops and office buildings. We have seen their sleeping bags or cardboard beds and their plastic carrier bags with their possessions. Lazarus sleeps on our doorsteps in one way or another.

St Luke relates the Parable of Dives and Lazarus, and Jesus has much to say about wealth and riches in Luke's Gospel. If we are not careful, we can be diverted by the many details in the parable and may miss the point of it altogether. This is not primarily a parable about heaven and hell or a picture of the next life, it is a parable about this life, the here and now. What does Jesus say in another of his parables, "The poor are always with us".

We can't help but notice the underlying theme of the parable which is the enormous gap between Dives and Lazarus in this life and after their deaths. The roles are reversed; Dives has had the good life and now Lazarus has that good life in another place.

The poor are always with us, Jesus says and so are they are today. The gap between the rich and the poor is as great as it ever has been in our country and in the wider world. Part of the reason for the massive movement of people in the past few years is their desperation to escape from poverty and the hope of a better life. Dives and Lazarus are everywhere in our world today.

Of the many aspects of this story perhaps there are two things to reflect on.

Firstly, the sin of Dives, the rich man, was not his wealth, but the fact that he didn't allow himself to notice Lazarus on his doorstep. He must have passed him many times each day, but Lazarus was just part of the street furniture, he never noticed his condition. His sin was that of sheer indifference, he wasn't cruel to Lazarus, he didn't even notice him. What might this be saying to us? Secondly the parable makes us ponder not on what happens to us when we die, but the total unacceptability in God's eyes of a world where extravagance co-exists with grinding poverty. It invites us not to give up bothering about this world because we are waiting for something better in the next, but to start bothering because this is the only chance to do so!

Worship and Activities this week

Sun	11.30am Interment of Ashes for Tony McKee <i>5.00pm Office Hour</i> 6.30pm Evensong
Mon	9.30am Morning Prayer 1.00pm "In-house" @ House on t'Rock
Tues	7.15pm Holy Communion followed by the MU meeting @ Kay Room
Wed	11.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Study Group @ Ashton Room
Thurs	9.30am Morning Prayer 10.00am Tiddlers @ Church House 12.45pm Holy Communion
Fri	8.00am Dustbusters 9.30am Morning Prayer 12.30pm Lunchtime Concert with Cahal Masterson (piano) 4.00pm Choir School 7.00pm Choir Practice
Sat	7.30pm Concert with Brighthouse and Rastrick Band and Besses Boys' Band.

Next Week : 16th Sunday after Trinity 6 October

8.00am Said Holy Communion
10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday School <i>followed by coffee in the Blackburne Hall</i>
<i>5.00pm Office Hour</i>
6.30pm Evensong

Baptisms & Weddings.

Speak to any of the clergy after the service. Our monthly Parish Magazine has a full list of contact details for clergy and organisations on the inside of the back page. For inclusion on the weekly pew sheet: please email: bpc.office@tiscali.co.uk by *Wednesday*.

15th Sunday after Trinity

29th September 2019

www.buryparishchurch.com



We welcome you and hope you enjoy being with us. If you're not familiar with our services, don't worry. We follow a written order of service and at times will tell you which page we're on.

We also welcome children in church. If your child gets restive in church, don't be afraid to get up and move around if this helps. There is a toilet at the back of church.

There is a **Hearing Loop** for those who would value it.



8.00am Said Holy Communion
14th Sunday after Trinity (Pg. 180)
President: Sheila Beattie. Curate
Preaching: Sheila Beattie. Curate

10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday School
President: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr
Preaching: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr
Hymns: 443; 461; 469; 283; 474
Anthem : Camille Saint-Saëns : Panis Angelicus
Charles Wood : Oculi omnium

6.30pm Evensong for St Michael
Minister: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr
Preaching: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr
Hymns: 247; 245; 227
Psalm 148 (Pg.535)
Daniel 10. 4-end (Pg.721)
Revelations 5 (pg. 1030)
Canticles : Orlando Gibbons ; Short Service
Anthem : Charles V Stanford : And I saw another angel

Cornerstone

Serving Bury, deepening our faith, caring for the marginalised, sharing the Good News of Jesus.

Today's Readings

The Collect

Lord God,
defend your Church from all false teaching
and give to your people knowledge of your truth,
that we may enjoy eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy

(1 Timothy 6.6-19)

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time--he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen. As for those

who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

(Luke 16.19-31)

Glory to You, O Lord

Jesus told this parable to those among the Pharisees who loved money: "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do

so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house--for I have five brothers--that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Harvest 2019

Parish Harvest Lunch

Three Course meal on
Sunday, 13th Oct. at 12
noon. Tickets at £5.00 are available after services and
at The House on the Rock



Harvest Flowers – Help Wanted !!

Jean Sutcliffe has offered to oversee this year's Harvest Festival Flowers and seeking help Flower arranging will take place on Saturday 12th October 2019 with the deliveries being made on Monday 14th October 2019.

Collects from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England; Common Worship: Pastoral Services; The Christian Year: Calendar, Lectionary and Collects 2000*
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