

# Time to Reflect

I recently asked a few people whether we ought to become the sort of Church in which the word “evangelism” is part of our character, our DNA. I heard a variety of reactions, ranging from the ‘when do we start?’, through ‘how do we start?’ to ‘that’s not something we do’. Fairly typical responses.

We know in our hearts that we should be enthusiasts for telling people about God. We know in our heads that if we don’t we should not expect others to. We know we cannot franchise out that responsibility to others. If we know if we don’t evangelise, the Church will cease to be at some point. We point to the second response ‘How do we start?’ and are puzzled.

There is a clue in our first reading. Much of the reading is about a very particular pastoral issue. Essentially, it appears that some of this congregation are relying on others to pull their weight. The writer says forcefully that each of us must play our fair part. That is true of church today. But the writer says something else. He writes ‘imitate me’.

And maybe this is the clue that should calm our anxieties about the “E” word? Our investment in our faith, not the knowledge stuff, the life bits, the practices of love, forgiveness, generosity, reconciliation, patience, and so on are the foundation from which we can build. And, from these foundations, we can say ‘I am who I am and do what I do because of .... my faith in Christ’. Learning to add the last two words is the challenging bit. Try it!

## Worship and Activities this week

Sun	8.40am Adult Sunday School @ Robert Peel <b>12.30pm Baptism of Harrison Wallwork</b> 5.00pm Office Hour <b>6.30pm Choral Evensong</b>
Mon	<b>9.30am Morning Prayer</b> 1.00pm “In-house” @ House on t’Rock
Tues	7.30pm Bury Churches Together @ URC
Wed	<b>11.00am Holy Communion</b> 7.00pm Study Group @ Ashton Room
Thurs	<b>9.30am Morning Prayer</b> 10.00am Tiddlers @ Church House <b>12.45pm Holy Communion</b> 7.30pm Deanery Synod Meeting
Fri	8.00am Dustbusters <b>9.30am Morning Prayer</b> 12.30pm Lunchtime Concert with Notability Choir (Manchester) 4.00pm Choir School 7.00pm Choir Practice
Sat	<b>9.30am Morning Prayer</b> BPC Walking Group

### Next Week : Christ the King 24th November

<b>8.00am Said Holy Communion</b>
<b>10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday School</b>
<b>12.30pm Baptism of Alanah Holt</b> 5.00pm Office Hour <b>6.30pm Evening Prayer</b>

### Baptisms & Weddings.

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

2nd Sunday before Advent  
17th November 2019

[www.buryparishchurch.com](http://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

22nd Sunday after Trinity (Pg. 192)  
President: Sheila Beattie. Curate  
Preaching : Sheila Beattie. Curate

### 10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday School

President: Ian McVeety, Hon Assist’t  
Preaching: Julian Heaton, Rector  
Hymns : 577; 583; 572; 323; 427  
**Anthem** : J S Bach : Jesu, joy of man’s desiring

### 6.30pm Choral Evensong

Minister: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R’t  
Preaching : Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R’t  
Hymns : 388; 220 (ii); 621  
Psalm 97 (pg. 470)  
Daniel 6 (pg. 717)  
Matthew 13. 1-9, 18-23 (pg. 793)  
**Canticles** : Herbert Brewer in D  
**Anthem** : Edward Bairstow : Save us, O Lord

# Cornerstone

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

## Today's Readings

### The Collect

Heavenly Lord,  
you long for the world's salvation:  
stir us from apathy,  
restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope  
that all creation will one day be healed  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Thessalonians (2 Thessalonians 3.6-13)

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

*This is the word of the Lord*

### Thanks be to God

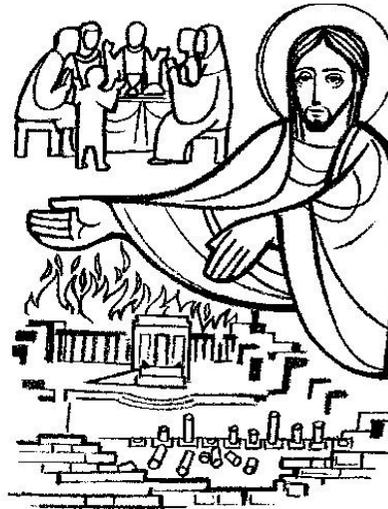
*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (Luke 21.5-19)*

### Glory to you, O Lord

When some were speaking about the temple, how it

was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put



some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls." *This is the Gospel of the Lord*

### Praise to you, O Christ

### Christmas Parish Lunch

Three Course meal  
on Sunday, 8th  
December at 12  
noon. Tickets at  
£5.00 are available  
after services and  
at The House on  
the Rock



### Advent Carol Service

**Sunday, 1st December at 6.30pm**

The pattern of this Advent service reflects the season's growing anticipation, both of the first coming of Christ and of that day when the prayer 'Thy Kingdom come' is finally and fully answered.

### Food Bank Donations—new items

We are so grateful for all who bring food for the Food Bank. Following a recent conversation, the topic of '**Period Poverty**' came up. So, if you could include appropriate items, health related, including all toiletries, that would be great. Thanks in advance.

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