

Time to Reflect

Christ the King. A new "Feast" (1925), marking the end of the liturgical year. It is a reminder of why we come to church. And yet for most of us, trying to pin down what we think about Jesus is hard.

So, step forward today's reading from Colossians. Here, in this dense passage, are beautifully crafted phrases that neatly encapsulate thoughts about Christ. Listen up.....

(Jesus) *is the image of the invisible God*. To think of Jesus is to think of God. That's why we focus on him.

We have redemption, the forgiveness of sins....through the blood of his cross. Jesus is the source of reconciling God and us.

(Jesus) *is the head of the body, the church*. The church is the community in which Christ dwells.

God. My messy life. Church. Here are three possible entry points for a conversation with anyone as to why we come to Church. We could talk about God approaching us in a way we can understand or the experience of being loved and forgiven or the sense that Church is far more than an organisation.

We could talk. Therein is the challenge. Or possibly, the invitation. The writer of Colossians is blown away by Christ and, in this majestic, poetic, passage, sings with joy about what life is like 'in Christ'. I wonder whether we, too, might find our own words to speak of Christ or whether, equally appropriately, we might draw on this dramatic passage to share the Good News that Christ is King of our lives?

Worship and Activities this week

Sun	12.30pm Baptism of Alanah Holt 5.00pm Office Hour 6.30pm Evening Prayer
Mon	9.30am Morning Prayer 1.00pm "In-house" @ House on t'Rock
Tues	7.30pm Bury Christian Muslim Forum
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 Gillian Blair (saxophone) and Lauryna Sableviciute (piano) 4.00pm Choir School 7.00pm Choir Practice
Sat	9.30am Morning Prayer

Next Week : Advent Sunday 1st December

8.00am Said Holy Communion
10.00am Parish Eucharist with Baptism and Sunday School 5.00pm Office Hour 6.30pm Advent Carol Service

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 by Wednesday.

Christ the King 24th November 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

23rd Sunday after Trinity (Pg. 194)

President: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr
Preaching: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr

10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday School

President: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr
Preaching: Sheila Beattie. Curate
Hymns : 563; 557; 163; 172; 609
Anthem : Orlando Gibbons :
Great Lord of Lords

6.30pm Evensong

Minister: Sheila Beattie. Curate
Preaching : Julian Heaton, Rector
Hymns : 172; 563; 168
Psalm 72. 1-7 (pg. 434)
1 Samuel 8. 4-20 (pg. 211)
John 18. 33-37 (pg. 898)

Anthem : Ralph Vaughan Williams :
Let all the world

Cornerstone

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

Today's Readings

The Collect

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory. **Amen.**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians (Colossians 1.11-20)

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers - all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (Luke 23.33-43)

Glory to you, O Lord

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ



Dec/Jan Magazine

Available today. Keep in touch with our activities, especially the extra services and events during December.

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.

The Church of England has released the following prayer ahead of the General Election:

Lord, we give thanks for the privileges and responsibilities of living in a democratic society.

Give us wisdom to play our part at election time, that, through the exercise of each vote, your Kingdom may come closer.

Protect us from the sins of despair and cynicism, guard us against the idols of false utopias and strengthen us to make politics a noble calling that serves the common good of all.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

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