The Greenway Benefice Sunday Sheet

Holy Trinity Badgeworth, St Paul's Shurdington, and St Mary's Witcombe with Bentham

(Sunday services, readings and prayers are on this sheet, please look in the Three in One for other news and notices)*

Sunday 15th November 2026

2nd Sunday before Advent

Today's Services

9.30	St Paul's	Holy Communion
11.00	Holy Trinity	BCP Morning Prayer
11.00	St Mary's	Holy Communion

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.

Lectionary Readings

Zephaniah 1.7, 12–end

7 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. 12 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.' 13 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. 14 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. 15 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, 16 a day of
trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements. 17 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.
18 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.

Psalm 90.1–8 9–11 12

1 Lord, you have been our refuge •
from one generation to another.
2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the earth and the world were formed, •
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
3 You turn us back to dust and say: •
'Turn back, O children of earth.'
4 For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday,
which passes like a watch in the night.
5 You sweep them away like a dream; •
they fade away suddenly like the grass.
6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; •
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
7 For we consume away in your displeasure; •
we are afraid at your wrathful indignation.
8 You have set our misdeeds before you •
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
11 Who regards the power of your wrath •
and your indignation like those who fear you?
12 So teach us to number our days •
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

1 Thessalonians 5.1–11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and
sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you.
2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the
Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say,
'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction
will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a
pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you,
beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you
like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children
of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So
then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep
awake and be sober; 7 for those who sleep sleep at night,
and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since
we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the
breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope
of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for wrath but
for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10
who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep
we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one
another and build up each other, as indeed you are
doing.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25.14–30

‘For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; [15] to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. [16] The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. [17] In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. [18] But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. [19] After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. [20] 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.” [21] 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.” [22] 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.” [23] 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.” [24] 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; [25] so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.” [26] 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? [27] 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. [28] So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29] 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. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

This week’s prayers

Please remember in your prayers:

- Those living in Welch House.
- Tourism in the Benefice and those who visit our churches.
- We are also praying for the people of Ukraine and the Middle East, that they may freely live in peace.

Shurdington Primary School

We are continuing our school links, and we pray for the staff and pupils.

Our Frontline Prayer

We thank you, Heavenly Father, for the gift of this community. We commend one another to you on our different frontlines.
Wherever we are, whatever we do, whoever we are, may the Holy Spirit guide us in all things so that we may do God's will in the world, in the service of Jesus Christ and with great joy.

In Church next week

Thursday 19th November
2pm St Paul’s Holy Communion
Sunday 22nd November Christ the King
10.30 St Mary’s Benefice Holy Communion
This will be the only service in the Benefice this Sunday – all welcome

ECO tip for November

As winter creeps in, homes are really important.
God calls us to give nature a home, too. Now’s the time to start feeding the birds again, and make room for hedgehogs to hibernate
More details in this month’s Three in One

Our Three in One magazine is available in churches, can be delivered to your door, and is in the News and Notices section of our www.achurchnearyou.com pages (type any Parish name into the search bar to find us)