Catch the 9.15! I.C.B.

Reading **Matthew 25: 14 – 29** I.C.B.

14 ‘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.



The Last Things ***Online Advent Course***

Tuesday 1, 8, 15, 22 December, 7:30 - 8:45pm

You are invited to 'The Last Things', an online advent course delivered by the Bishop of Exeter, the Rt. Rev'd Dr Mike Harrison. The course will explore how death, judgement, heaven and hell are a key part of the Christian story. The course will also include facilitated group discussions. **Click here to book your free place.**

6.30pm Evening Prayer N.R.S.V.

First Reading **1 Kings 1: 15 – 40**

15 So Bathsheba went to the king in his room. The king was
very old; Abishag the Shunammite was attending the king.
16 Bathsheba bowed and did obeisance to the king, and the king
said, ‘What do you wish?’ 17 She said to him, ‘My lord, you
swore to your servant by the Lord your God, saying: Your son
Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my
throne. 18 But now suddenly Adonijah has become king,
though you, my lord the king, do not know it. 19 He has
sacrificed oxen, fatted cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has
invited all the children of the king, the priest Abiathar, and
Joab the commander of the army; but your servant Solomon he
has not invited. 20 But you, my lord the king - the eyes of all
Israel are on you to tell them who shall sit on the throne of my
lord the king after him. 21 Otherwise it will come to pass, when
my lord the king sleeps with his ancestors, that my son
Solomon and I will be counted offenders.’ 22 While she was
still speaking with the king, the prophet Nathan came in. 23 The
king was told, ‘Here is the prophet Nathan.’ When he came in
before the king, he did obeisance to the king, with his face to
the ground. 24 Nathan said, ‘My lord the king, have you said,
“Adonijah shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my
throne”? 25 For today he has gone down and has sacrificed
oxen, fatted cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all
the king’s children, Joab the commander of the army, and the
priest Abiathar, who are now eating and drinking before him,
and saying, “Long live King Adonijah!” 26 But he did not
invite me, your servant, and the priest Zadok, and Benaiah son
of Jehoiada, and your servant Solomon. 27 Has this thing been
brought about by my lord the king and you have not let your
servants know who should sit on the throne of my lord the king
after him?’ 28 King David answered, ‘Summon Bathsheba to
me.’ So she came into the king’s presence, and stood before
the king. 29 The king swore, saying, ‘As the Lord lives, who
has saved my life from every adversity, 30 as I swore to you by
the Lord, the God of Israel, “Your son Solomon shall succeed
me as king, and he shall sit on my throne in my place”, so will
I do this day.’ 31 Then Bathsheba bowed with her face to the
ground, and did obeisance to the king, and said, ‘May my lord
King David live for ever!’ 32 King David said, ‘Summon to me
the priest Zadok, the prophet Nathan, and Benaiah son of
Jehoiada.’ When they came before the king, 33 the king said to
them, ‘Take with you the servants of your lord, and have my
son Solomon ride on my own mule, and bring him down to
Gihon. 34 There let the priest Zadok and the prophet Nathan
anoint him king over Israel; then blow the trumpet, and say,
“Long live King Solomon!” 35 You shall go up following him.
Let him enter and sit on my throne; he shall be king in my
place; for I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over
Judah.’ 36 Benaiah son of Jehoiada answered the king, ‘Amen!
May the Lord, the God of my lord the king, so ordain. 37 As
the Lord has been with my lord the king, so may he be with
Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my
lord King David.’ 38 So the priest Zadok, the prophet Nathan,
and Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the
Pelethites, went down and had Solomon ride on King David’s
mule, and led him to Gihon. 39 There the priest Zadok took the
horn of oil from the tent and anointed Solomon. Then they
blew the trumpet, and all the people said, ‘Long live King
Solomon!’ 40 And all the people went up following him,
playing on pipes and rejoicing with great joy, so that the earth
quaked at their noise.