Sunday 15 November 2026 Second Sunday before Advent

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.

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 1:7. 12-end

A reading from the book of the prophet Zephaniah.

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. 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." 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. 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. 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, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. 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. 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 Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12 (or 90:1-8)

R *O Lord my God, in you I take refuge.*

Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the earth and the world were formed,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God. **R**

You turn us back to dust and say:
"Turn back, O children of earth."
For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday,
which passes like a watch in the night. **R**

You sweep them away like a dream;
they fade away suddenly like the grass.
In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered. **R**

For we consume away in your displeasure;
we are afraid at your wrathful indignation.
You have set our misdeeds before you
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance. **R**

[When you are angry, all our days are gone;
our years come to an end like a sigh.
The days of our life are three score years and ten,
or if our strength endures, even four score;
yet the sum of them is but labour and sorrow,
for they soon pass away and we are gone. **R**

Who regards the power of your wrath
and your indignation like those who fear you?]
So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 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! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 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. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

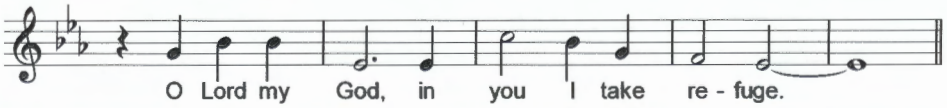
GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples, "The kingdom of heaven is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 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.' 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.' 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.' 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.' 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; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 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? 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. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 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. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

POST COMMUNION

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.



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St Wilfrid's Church Brayton

Joint Celtic Holy Communion · Second Sunday Before Advent · 15 November 2026

Welcome

Before the service begins you are invited to join in a short time of quietness and reflection in preparation for worship. After the service please join us for coffee and chat in the Parish Hall.

Services

Wed 18 November
9:30am Holy Communion

Sun 22 November
Christ the King
10:30am Holy Communion

Notices

Want to support our church?

Donation welcome • Pick up a copy of our Connected magazine for £1 • Subscribe to our email list (see QR Code on the right) • Volunteer • Follow our socials & Share!

editor@stwilfridsparish.com
Ivy

Want more of our news?

Sign up for our St Wilfrid's mailing list with the QR code or simply contact me! ***Ivy***

Upcoming Events

THU 19 NOV — Tea@Two
2pm-4pm, St. Wilfrid's
An afternoon of coffee, tea, cake and chat. £8 per ticket. ***Pat***

TUE 24 NOV — Play Reading
7pm - 9pm, St Wilfrid's
We'll meet in the Hall when we will be reading "Visiting Hours" by Richard Harris - a 'black comedy' apparently - should be fun! ***Helen***

WED 25 NOV — Coffeemates
10-11:30am, St. Wilfrid's
Join us for tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes. Meet friends and make new ones! ***Lynn***

SAT 28 NOV — Churchyard Tidying
9:30am - 12noon, St. Wilfrid's Churchyard
Come and help maintain the flower borders, cut back the brambles, and empty the bins! Live the dream! John

MON 30 NOV — St Wilfrid's Stitchers Group
1:30pm St Wilfrid's
We enjoy any type of sewing, cross stitch, and embroidery of any kind. All welcome! 01757 705 793 ***Pat***

Alpha Course Week 7

Wed 18 November
6:30pm at St. Francis Church
We're more than half way - you are still welcome even if you haven't come before!
Maureen & Jacqui

Church Welfare & News

Pastoral Care

If you or someone you know is sick, in hospital, in need, or would appreciate a visit, please contact:

Sue Beevers 01757 229515
susan.beevers1@btinternet.com

Safeguarding

For any safeguarding concerns, please contact our Parish Safeguarding Representative:

Linda Bunn 07711 384003
safeguarding@stwilfridsparish.com

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS GIFT TREE

We are repeating something that was very successful last year. A tree is in the hall requesting various gifts for the charity Spirit of Christmas.

Please take a bauble and donate the toy requested, or any suitable toy. Thank you. ***Pat G***

