

What's on

Coming Up

Tuesday 28th October, 10.00 am in St Mary's

Invisible but Important

When the church gathers for worship it doesn't just happen. Things need to be set up, taken down, cleaned, stored until next time. That is the duty of those who act as Sacristan (taking care of the Sacristy which is the place where all the Holy Communion, altar vessels are kept). Sacristans are often invisible but their unobtrusive service is crucial to our gatherings.

Servers use the vessels set out by the Sacristan on duty to assist the priest in setting the table and serving the bread and wine of Holy Communion. We are seeking to build a little team of Sacristans and Servers in all of our churches. This way we will spread the load so no one is overburdened. Those whose gift and calling this is, feel privileged to quietly get on with the work

Might God be calling you?

Please come and join us on Tuesday 28th October, 10.00 am in St Mary's, Elmley Castle followed by refreshments in The Queens.



Please email content for the next Link News to rectoryoffice@btinternet.com by Wednesday 29th October 2025. Contributions from all villages welcomed. Thank you.

Please note that the rectory office is manned on Wednesday mornings 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

Weddings, funerals and baptisms

Enquiries should be made to Alison Khan, Administrative Co-ordinator, Bredon Hill Group (tel. 07984 748 059)

Link News is sent to all Church members whose email addresses we have. If you would like to forward it to a friend, please feel free to do so. If you know of someone who would like to be included in the mailing list, please ask

**Sunday 19th October, 18th after Trinity
and Sunday 26th October, 19th after
Trinity**



No one with any sense of God can fail to ask why God's will is not more evident in our perilous world. If we're at all sensitive they gnaw away at our faith. What is remarkable is that the people of God have railed against God's absence, slowness to act, apparent indifference in the most abrasive language. We see this throughout the Psalms and much of the Old Testament. With the loss of faith in a divine being we have also lost the capacity to engage and mobilise God in that same fierce language of the prophets and psalmists long ago. Our Church as a whole is more likely to rush to God's defence than to initiate debate and unleash bold exploration.

This Sunday, 19 October, we hear the parable of the unjust judge and the vulnerable widow. (Luke 18.1-8). The parable is an incitement to persistence in prayer and unlike the unjust judge God's goodness is not in doubt. God cares infinitely for all his children. But, the parable warns us that prayer entails hard work, impertinent, ferocious speech and persistence, crying out 'day and night'. It's more like armed combat than grovelling,, deferential talk.

Why do we have to nag God to act? First, so that we can come to realise what we really, really need, and filter out other unworthy requests. But, secondly, because God has ordered a world in which we have agency. . God's respect for us entails the fact that we have the freedom to create or hinder the conditions in which God can act. 'God does not act the same way whether we pray or not'. 'Without God we cannot; without us, God will not', as Augustine expressed it.

We dare to say that God's hands are tied when we fail to pray. So lets get down to work, shake the lintels of heaven and deploy all our energies, emotions and speech to mobilise God to act, and reclaim his wayward world.

Roger Spiller

Readings and Collects

Sunday 19th October

Readings

Jeremiah 21: 27-34
Psalm 119: 97 - 104
2 Timothy 3: 14 - 4: 5
Luke 18: 1 - 8

Collect:

God, our judge and Saviour,
Teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love, that we
may live each day with confidence
in the salvation which is given
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 26th October

Readings

Joel 2: 23-32
Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4: 6 - 8 & 16 - 18
Luke 18: 9-14

Collect:

Merciful God,
Teach us to be faithful in change
and uncertainty, that trusting in
your word and obeying your will,
we may enter the unfailing joy of
Jesus Christ our Lord

We pray . . .

For all in our community who are sick or in long term care:

- Yvonne Seward
- All in residential and care homes
- All who live with chronic conditions

We remember the loss of loved ones

Colin Edwards

Those who have died recently and
those whose anniversary of death falls at
this time.

*May the souls of the faithful departed,
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Poverty Sunday 19th October

God of Justice and hope. Open our eyes to
the realities of poverty and awaken our
hearts to dream with you. Strengthen us to
act with love and courage, until all may
share in fulness of life. Amen

Bible Sunday 26th October

Using silence in prayer
Word made flesh in our noisy church, in our
noisy world. Teach your love in silence of
heart.

Prayers for our neighbours in Mill Lane and Mill End

Father, You always set an example for us in
every area of our lives, and work is no
different.

You taught us to work hard and rest easy,
but a lot of times, we refuse to listen to
Your clear directions and then suffer the
consequences. May the people in our
neighbourhood find truth in your com-
mandment to keep a day of the week set
apart to rest.

Help us to find peace of mind, physical rest
and spiritual renewal.
In Jesus' name we ask all things.



October Services

Sunday 19th October

9.00 am Eckington - Holy Communion
10.45 am Bredon - Holy Communion
10.45 am Beckford - Holy Communion
3.00 pm Overbury - Messy Church
5.00 pm Elmley Castle - Harvest Service

Wednesday 22nd October

10.00 am Little Comberton - Iona morning prayer
10.00 am Overbury - Holy Communion

Sunday 26th October

9.00 am Ashton-under-Hill - Holy Communion
10.45 am Defford - Holy Communion
10.45 am Great Comberton - Harvest Worship
10.45 am Bredon - Village Worship

Wednesday 29th October

10.00 am Little Comberton - Thought for the Day

Holland House

Morning Prayer (Celtic and other) at Holland House on: Tuesdays, Wednesdays
and Fridays at 9.15 am. There will be a Eucharist at 12 noon on Wednesdays.

Confirmation Preparation 2026

Confirmation preparation for 2026 will be done in the Deanery (Rev'd Katryn
will be involved). Confirmation courses are a wonderful opportunity to explore
Christian faith over ten weekly sessions, together with others.

The course may be a refresher for you or in preparation for your confirmation. A
Confirmation Service is a service where the promises made at your baptism are
now affirmed by you as an adult and you receive the laying on of hands and
anointing with oil by a bishop confirming you in the Christian faith. (If you have
not been baptised, this may happen during the confirmation service at Worcester
Cathedral on Easter Eve or in your parish.)

If you are thinking of being Confirmed, do speak to Rev'd Katryn.