



Office: St Leonards Hall Church, Racecourse Drive, Tasley, Bridgnorth WV16 4NR Tel: 01746 767174

open to personal callers—Mon 11-12.30,

Tue, Wed, Thu 8.30-11.30

email [bridgnorthteamministry@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bridgnorthteamministry@yahoo.co.uk)

‘Churches in Bridgnorth’

Linking the parishes of Bridgnorth, Tasley, Astley Abbots, Oldbury, Quatford, Morville, Aston Eyre, Acton Round, Monkhopton

Hon. Assistant Ministers: Revd. Marjorie Brooks, Revd Simon Boxall, Revd Clive Parr and Revd. Preb. Dr. David Chantrey, Anna Chaplain and Team Reader: Jane Peeler

Wednesdays – 10.30am Mid week Communion – St Mary’s

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December Advent Sunday (Purple)

9.00	Advent Communion	Astley Abbots
10.00	Morning Prayer	Monkhopton
10.30	Holy Communion	St Mary’s
10.30	Holy Communion	Tasley
10.30	Family Service	St Leonard’s HC
10.30	Patronal Holy Communion	Oldbury
11.15	Morning Prayer	Morville

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December

10.00 Little Stars St Mary’s

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December

10.00 Saturday Café St Mary’s

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December Advent Sunday 2 (Purple)

10.00	Café Church	Astley Abbots VH
10.00	Morning Prayer	Aston Eyre
10.00	Holy Communion and Baptism	Acton Round
10.30	Morning Prayer	St Mary’s
10.30	Family Service	Tasley
10.30	Holy Communion	Quatford
15.00	Carols by candlelight	Eardington VH
16.00	Carols	Morville

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS: 10<sup>th</sup> December - Advent 2 (Purple) Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8 and Psalm 85:1-2,8-end

There will be at least one Communion service every Sunday within the Benefice so if your church hasn’t got a Communion service on a particular Sunday you will be most welcome at any other church where a Communion service is taking place. Hopefully should you wish to continue to attend your regular church there will be a Morning Prayer or Family Service there. If for any reason any particular church cannot offer a service we will endeavour to give congregations two weeks notice.

Vacancy latest news: The Bishop has also suggested some useful prayer points for all of us to adopt in the coming weeks would be:

1. For the right property to become a home for future Priests-in-Charge/Team Rectors of Bridgnorth & Morville to be found and secured as soon as practicably possible.
2. For all those clergy and lay people who are giving so freely of their time, energy, and gifts in serving the churches and parishes during the continuing vacancy, giving thanks for them and asking for God’s continuing strengthening of them.
3. For the ongoing preparations for advertising for our new Priest-in-Charge.
4. For the witness of the churches during this important season of Remembrance, Advent, and Christmas when so many more people will be offered the opportunity to hear and respond to the Good News of Jesus Christ for themselves.

Sad farewell. This week Oldbury will be saying goodbye to Ken Biggs who is leaving us to take a flat in Weston-super-Mare to be nearer to his family, which will be a good move for him after recent bouts of ill health. However, he will leave a huge gap - not least in our hearts. He has served both Oldbury and Quatford in various capacities over the years he has been with us, has been a stalwart in the choir and on the reading rota, and also spent a stint as Team Treasurer until poor health forced his retirement. Circumstances also meant a move to Dudley but, having decided there wasn’t a church in Dudley to suit him, he has continued to make the long drive to join us Sunday by Sunday. All in all, he has been a very valued member of our congregation and we will miss him - but wish him every happiness in his new home. MB

St Mary’s Connect – Third Tuesday of the month– at The Shakespeare Inn – for lunch and chat. If you would like to join us please contact Helen Howell on 763066 to book a place or contact Jane on 767043 – Next date we will meet is Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023



Eco Eric’s Tip: Bridgnorth shoppers now have a convenient High Town location for refills to help reduce plastic waste. Customers can leave empty bottles & containers in a designated trolley at Budgens on Salop Street. Staff from ‘Our Green Shop’ will collect the empties early on Thursday mornings, returning them refilled to Budgens on Friday evening. Just take along your clean, labelled, containers in a suitable bag to the trolley in Budgens where full instructions and forms can be found. You can drop them off at any convenient time during shop opening hours.

## COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
Amen

## ISAIAH 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

## PSALM 80:1-8,18-20

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us! Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure.

You make us the scorn of our neighbours; our enemies laugh among themselves. Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved. You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen

## POST COMMUNION

O Lord our God,  
make us watchful and keep us faithful  
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;  
that, when he shall appear,  
he may not find us sleeping in sin  
but active in his service and joyful in his praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

## MARK 13:24-end

Jesus said 'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. 'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'