



19<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Before Advent

St James' Church  
www.stjamesexeter.org Exeter

A warm welcome to all and especially to anyone who is with us for the first time. Today we are pleased to have Fr Brian Tubbs with us as our preacher.

### Rector

Fr Henry Pryse 01392 431297  
Day Off: Tuesday

**Parish Office** 01392 420407  
office@stjamesexeter.org  
Charity register number: 1128877

### This Week

Morning Prayer is said at 8.30 am  
Online: Mon, Wed  
In the church: Tue, Thu, Fri

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> November** Luke 18: 35 – 43  
10.30 am Holy Communion,  
The Old Rectory  
7.00 pm Choir practice

**Tue 21<sup>st</sup> November** Luke 19: 1 – 10

**Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> November** Luke 19: 11 – 28  
9.45 am Churchwardens meet  
12.00 noon Holy Communion

**Thu 23<sup>rd</sup> November** Luke 19: 41 – 44  
11.00 am Funeral of Marie Benton

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> November** Luke 19: 45 – 48  
10.30 am Coffee morning

**Sat 25<sup>th</sup> November** Luke 20: 27 – 40

Next Sunday: 26<sup>th</sup> November

### Christ the King

Matthew 25: 31 – 46

8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.00 am Parish Eucharist

10.00 am Music

**Entrance hymn** 63

**Offertory hymn** 348

**Recessional hymn** 306

*Music Setting: A New People's Mass (by Dom Gregory Murray)*

**Be Thou My Guardian and My Guide**

**Jesus Lives! Thy Terrors Now**

**Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

### Notices

#### Rota Assistance

Planning for next year has already begun and more help is urgently needed with several of the elements that make St James' so lovely. Would you like to join the flower arrangers? Could you take a turn to help with serving refreshments after the Parish Eucharist? Please speak to one of the churchwardens.

#### Contact Magazine

- The new magazines will be here next Sunday. Many thanks to all who have agreed to help with distribution to all homes in the parish. Please come prepared to collect your bundles from the hall.
- Our small but dedicated communications group needs you. Production, layout, organising distribution, managing advert renewals, website design and maintenance: where do your talents lie? Help is needed to share the burden of these tasks, so that the future of our popular magazine is secure. Please speak to Andrew Mimmack.

#### Advance Notice

The Christmas bazaar will take place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Please speak to Rachel Martindill if you are able to help with the event, and leave any donations for sale in the boxes at the back of the church.

#### Survey Responses

Don't forget to return your survey to the box at the back of the church or complete it online.

Sharing God's love through worship, fellowship and service

## TODAY

11.30 am Fairtrade stall in the hall  
4.00 pm Confirmation service at Exeter Cathedral

### 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 & 12-18

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.

### Psalms 90: 1-8

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. 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. 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. 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.

## Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

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 Reading: Matthew 25: 14-30

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 Prayer

***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.***



