

Christ the King – The Sunday Next before Advent: 20th – 27th November 2022

Greetings from Eileen

Dear Friends,

It was a memorable Remembrance week. St Andrew's Winston was decorated with love as always and Chrissie our churchwarden and Lynne our Lay Chair were early to welcome parishioners. At St Mary's Gainford the children in Gainford Primary installed Remembrance Prayer stations inviting members of the community to remember loved ones departed and thanksgiving for those whose lives were given for us.



On Thursday the 17th despite inhospitable weather, an encouraging audience enjoyed a delightful concert by our young musicians Katie, Seren, and Joshua on the violin, organ, and harp joined by Claire on flute and voice assisted by Brian on keyboard and violin. Many thanks to our churchwardens and church members who provided refreshments during an interval when everyone expressed what a lovely evening they were having.

This Sunday 20th November, our VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE goes online across the Diocese as the first multi-ability pilgrimage. We can also join the event in person in Barnard Castle St Mary's Church at 4pm.

www.gainfordwinston.church/virtualpilgrimage

Winston's residents are hosting an Advent Calendar around the village for each day in December up to Christmas Day. The whole of the trail will be in place for the 1st December. More information in next week's newsletter. Or contact Paula Kirkup (see attached poster).

SERVICES celebrating Christ The King:

9.30am St Andrew's, Winston – Holy Communion
10.45am St Mary's, Gainford – Holy Communion
3.30pm St Mary's, Gainford – Messy Church

May the kingdom of Christ grow among us as a kingdom of justice, love and peace!

Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop

NOTICES:

- **ADVENT SUNDAY 28th November at Winston St Andrew:** The Christmas Tree will be raised in church and the first decoration hung. The tree for our late Majesty's Platinum Thanksgiving will also be planted. There will be refreshments after the service at 9.30am.
- **St Mary's Gainford Christmas Market on Saturday 3rd December needs your help:** We have 3 stalls booked with cards and posters, beautiful wild life calendars and Christmas gifts. We need unwanted gifts, produce, books and raffle prizes for our own stalls. Sue has put a basket on the front step for donations. Please help by giving what you can.

The Licensing Service of the Priest-in-Charge of Staindrop St Mary and Ingleton St John The Evangelist is to take place on the 2nd Sunday in Advent 4th December 2022 at 11am in Staindrop St Mary followed by a buffet lunch in Staindrop. All 4 parishes are invited to join this service. There will be a short service at Ingleton St John the Evangelist at 10am, attended by representatives of the 4 churches led by the Archdeacon and Area Dean.

Please pray for our parishes in this new season.

❖ **Continue to pray for COP27**

God's created life and the components that make the world do not require human beings to exist. But human beings depend on God's created world for our life. Creating us out of love to share all that was created, God asked that we love creation; to look after the world even for our own sakes. This we have not done.

Collect for Christ The King

Eternal Father,
 whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the
 throne of heaven
 that he might rule over all things as Lord
 and King:
 keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
 and in the bond of peace,
 and bring the whole created order to
 worship at his feet;
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.
 Amen

Post Communion Prayer

Stir up, O Lord,
 the wills of your faithful people;
 that they, plenteously bringing forth the
 fruit of good works,
 may by you be plenteously rewarded;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Amen

First Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Gospel Reading: Luke 23:33-43

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[³⁴ Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷ and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?' ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' ⁴² Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' ⁴³ He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'