

2nd Sunday before Advent: 13th – 19th November 2022
Remembrance Sunday

Greetings from Eileen

Dear Friends,

Remembrance Sunday is an unrelenting reminder that wars cost the sacrifice of lives. From the sin of brother against brother, this sin of instigating war is not justified nor validated simply because it is nation against nation.



On Remembrance Sunday we shall hear again Prophet Amos' words that war
“is darkness, not light;
as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;
or went into the house and rested a hand against
the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.”

Many of you remember this reality. We pray that those in power may exercise their power in love and for good, and not choose to instigate and promote war.

SERVICES on Remembrance Sunday:

9.30am St Andrew's, Winston – Holy Communion with Act of Remembrance

Please note the earlier time in Gainford

10.30am St Mary's, Gainford – Churches Together Remembrance Service on the Green with His Majesty's Deputy Lord Lieutenant Professor Ian Neal laying a wreath on behalf of His Majesty

5pm Remembrance and All Souls Choral Evensong at Gainford St Mary

I've been away for mainly 2 events. The first was a residential meeting of the College of Bishops. The programme was intense and rigorous, but bishops were dressed down, relaxed with one another, and there was warm fellowship. I am one of 3 non-episcopal clergy sitting in the House and College. They found it helpful to connect at the parish level. (Former Archdeacon Stephen Conway and former Bishop of Durham send their best regards).



It is a great gift to have had time out at a silent retreat – 6 days in silence praying, contemplating, walking, and receiving Communion. As St Beuno's in North Wales is a Jesuit and Ignatian Community, the mass is led by Catholic Fathers. The unfamiliarity was strangely a blessing – like coming into a sacred experience anew. I walked the labyrinth with you, my

congregations at St Andrew's and St Mary's. God brought to mind new insights of our journey over 6 years together. I thank you for your care for me and appreciate your effort.

God, the most holy and glorious Trinity is with us, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop

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.

A meeting will be convened on Monday 14th November with the Archdeacon, Area Dean, and representatives of the 4 parishes with me to make initial practical arrangements. The representatives from Staindrop and Ingleton are very aware that settling into a ministry pattern and how their Incumbent is to be shared will take time. My aim is to continue without interruption to the ministry you have become accustomed to in Winston and Gainford, while being more attentive to our well-being.

Mark 6:30-31

The apostles gathered around Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹ He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat.

God has alerted me to this verse, and has assured me of his still clear voice of how 'less can be more': less of me rushing around with a fearfully unrealistic diary while all of us share a ministry of greater blessings.

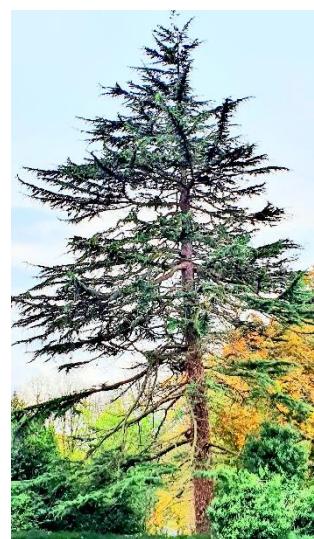
NOTICES:

- ❖ **Young Musicians Concert at Gainford St Mary, 7pm Thursday 17th November:** Joshua our organist and harpist, his sister Seren joining Katie Mowbray on the violin, Claire Mead on the flute, will be supported by Brian to provide an evening of classical and light music. **Don't miss this chance to hear our amazingly talented young musicians! Tickets are £6 including refreshments from Sue Taylor, tel. 01325 730379 or on the door.**
- ❖ **Pray for COP27**

A Prayer for COP27

Companion God,
We stand together;
Collectors and givers
Those who pray and those who campaign
Those overwhelmed by the challenge
Those crushed by injustice and poverty,
Rich and poor united in God, longing for change.
Spirit of God,
Light in us a flame
Burning for justice,
Glowing with kindness,
And shining with the hope
That together
We can build a world
Where poverty and greed
Are overcome,
And all people sing and dance for joy.
Amen.

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 2nd Sunday before Advent

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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. Amen

First Reading (Remembrance): Amos 5:18-20, 23-24

¹⁸ Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord!

 Why do you want the day of the Lord?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹ as if someone fled from a lion,
 and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
 and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰ Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
 and gloom with no brightness in it?

²³ Take away from me the noise of your songs;
 I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴ But let justice roll down like waters,
 and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Gospel Reading (Remembrance): John 15:9-17

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹² 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

¹⁶ You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.