

The Haverfordwest Local Ministry Area
Second Sunday of Advent: Sunday 4th December

COLLECT

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING (Isaiah 11:1-10)

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM (Psalm 72)

Give the king your / judgements, O / God :
and your righteousness / to the / son of a / king.

Then shall he judge your / people / righteously :
and your / poor / with / justice.

May the mountains / bring forth / peace :
and the little hills / righteousness / for the / people.

May he defend the poor a/mong the / people :
deliver the children of the / needy
and / crush • the op/pressor.

May he live as long as the sun and / moon en/dure :
from one gene/ration / to an/other.

May he come down like rain upon the / mown / grass :
like the / showers that / water the / earth.

In his time shall / righteousness / flourish :
and abundance of peace
till the / moon shall / be no / more.

Blessed be the Lord, the / God of / Israel :
who a/lone does / wonderful / things.

And blessed be his glorious / name for / ever :
may all the earth be filled with his glory.
/ Amen. / A–/men.

SECOND READING (Romans 15:4-13)

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL (Matthew 3:1-12)

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord, here you have nourished us with the food of life; through our sharing in this holy sacrament teach us to judge wisely earthly things and to yearn for things heavenly. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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Notices

Sunday 4th December

8:00am Low Mass at St Martins, Haverfordwest

9:30am Sung Parish Mass at St Martin's, Haverfordwest

10:15am Holy Eucharist at St Ishmael's, Camrose

11:15am Sung Parish Eucharist at St Mary's, Haverfordwest

5:00pm Choral Evensong at St Martin's

Monday 5th December

6.00pm Carols around the Christmas Tree at Merlins Bridge

6:00pm Guides Carol Service

Wednesday 7th to Friday 9th December

9:30am-3:30pm The Christmas Story for schools at St Marys

Wednesday 7th December

10:00am Mass followed by Coffee at St Martins

4.00pm Junior Singers at St Mary's

7.00pm LMA Ministry Team meeting

Friday 9th December

10.00am Haverfordwest VC School Christmas Service at St Martins

N.B. There will be no 11.00am Eucharist at St Mary's this Friday.

7:00pm Haverfordwest Ladies Choir Concert at St Marys

Saturday 10th December

3:00pm-4:00pm Children's LMA Christmas Party at St Martins Hall

Services on Sunday 11th December

Advent 3

8:00am Low Mass at St Martins, Haverfordwest

9:30am Sung Parish Mass at St Martin's, Haverfordwest

10:15am Holy Eucharist at St Ishmael's, Camrose

11:15am Sung Parish Eucharist at St Mary's, Haverfordwest

3:30pm Landsker Singers Christmas Carol Concert at St Marys

Parish Clergy

Vicar: Fr Nick Cale, St Martin's Vicarage, Barn Street, Haverfordwest. Tel. 01437 762303.
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Haverfordwest Parish Website: www.parishofhaverfordwest.co.uk

Haverfordwest Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/parishofhaverfordwest

Camrose Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/CamroseParishChurch