

## Jeremiah 33.14-16

This passage illustrates two dangers when interpreting Scripture: to get over-interested in the precise origin and purpose of a given text; and secondly to read things into the text which are not there but suit an agenda. The first danger leads simply to mere academic speculation and the second to not letting the text speak its message. This passage is not about naïve speculative messianism that is the return of Jesus at a precise time and place. It is about the leaders of nations whether they be kings or priests exercising righteousness. Leaders exercise enormous power especially those who represent religion and carry great moral and spiritual authority. Both Jeremiah and Hosea criticized priests for failing to teach covenant responsibilities and the law of Moses. Today, as we know, priests have betrayed the trust given them by abusing children and young adults. What matters as Jeremiah makes clear is doing what is just and right and creating an environment and climate whereby all peoples, young and old alike can live in safety. That goes for all nations and churches. This passage asks us to consider human responsibility and to support or challenge those who particularly serve as visible and tangible expressions of God's presence. It renders us answerable to those who themselves lack power and influence. Yes this passage is hopeful and does look forward to the coming of a Saviour but it is the just and gentle rule of that Saviour for which we long both now and at the end of time. Maranatha, Come Lord Jesus.

## Elements of the Mass

### Advent Prose

The Advent Prose is sometimes known by the Latin name *Rorate Caeli* taken from the Prophecy of Isaiah (Isaiah 45.8) and when sung in English, translated as 'Drop down ye heavens from above.' This phrase is often sung as a refrain to the prose which can be used at Mass or during Morning and Evening Prayer. At Mass it might be used as part of a procession or more properly between the second reading and the Gospel. The Advent Prose speaks of the longing of the prophets and patriarchs for the coming of the Messiah. Their hope and longing is the same as the Churches as we pray for the coming of Christ. The Advent Prose makes a good text to reflect upon during Advent as it speaks profoundly of the human longing for God. Listen to the words as they are sung and see what God is saying to you through them.



The Society pew sheets are published by **Forward in Faith**,  
2A The Cloisters, Gordon Square, London WC1H 0AG  
([www.forwardinfaith.com](http://www.forwardinfaith.com))  
and printed by the **Additional Curates Society**.

2nd December  
2018

First Sunday of  
Advent

## Survival



The 'flight or fight' response is a reaction that occurs when we are faced with something potentially harmful. In today's Gospel passage, at the opening of this new church year, it is critiqued by Our Lord. It is as if he is asking us: 'When you see all these things, what will you do?' or 'When tribulations come, will you flee?' Throughout the Scriptures we are called to remain steadfast to him – think of Peter's denial as an example of when this wasn't the case – but a lot of the time there is no dramatic denial, just a losing of ardour, a falling into spiritual drowsiness, a letting the tough times take hold of us, instilling fear, doubt, anxiety. At the beginning of this new year, as we enter into Advent, a time of watching and waiting, of preparing our hearts and minds, let us resolve here and now to stand firm, to remain close to him, with our heads held high, because our liberation is near at hand.

### From the Fathers

We have come to know a threefold coming of the Lord. The third coming takes place between the other two. They are clearly manifest but the third is not. In the first coming the Lord was seen on earth and lived among men in the days when, as he himself bears witness, they saw him and hated him. In his last coming "all flesh shall see the salvation of our God," and "they shall look on him whom they have pierced." The other coming is hidden. In it, only the chosen see him within themselves and their souls are saved. In brief, his first coming was in the flesh and in weakness, this intermediary coming is in the spirit and in power, the last coming will be in glory and majesty. This intermediary coming is like a road leading from the first to the last coming. In the first coming Christ was our redemption, in the last he will appear as our life, in this intermediary coming he is our rest and consolation.

From 'The Word will come within us', by St Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153, abbot, theologian)

# The Parish of Hawley

Registered Charity no. 1130589

[www.parishofhawley.org.uk](http://www.parishofhawley.org.uk)

Vicar: The Rev'd Canon William Perry, SSC

email: [vicar@parishofhawley.org.uk](mailto:vicar@parishofhawley.org.uk)

Churchwardens

Keith Blanchard tel: 01276 472359 mob: 07946 608708 e-mail [keith.blanchard2@btinternet.com](mailto:keith.blanchard2@btinternet.com)

Jim Rapley tel: 01276 600222 mob: 07710 173512 e-mail: [jim.rapley@centurylink.com](mailto:jim.rapley@centurylink.com)

## ADVENT 1 (Year C)

(Page 703 in the Missal)

Welcome to our services today.

9.15am Sung Mass at All Saints'

11am Sung Mass at Holy Trinity

6pm Evensong and Benediction at Holy Trinity

## WEEKDAY MASS

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December

*Feria*

7.30pm at Holy Trinity *MU Corporate Communion*

(7pm Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament)

## NEXT SUNDAY - Second Sunday in Advent (Year C)

9.15am Sung Mass at All Saints'

11am Sung Mass at Holy Trinity

6pm Evensong and Benediction at Holy Trinity

## Psalm Response:

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

## Gospel Acclamation:

Cantor: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Cantor: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

(Alleluia is repeated after the Gospel reading.)

**MUSICAL CHANGES** - during our anticipation and preparation for the birth of Christ (Advent) we adopt a slightly more thoughtful and sombre musical stance. We sing a Greek Kyrie instead of an English version and omit the Gloria; have no voluntaries either end of the services; and have a simple set of Advent Alleluias in place of the gradual.

**THANK YOU** to Canon David Holt for being with us at All Saints' this morning, we are very grateful to you.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** - donations towards the cost can be given to Diane Brown at Holy Trinity or Joan Dimmick at All Saints'.

**THANK YOU** - to everyone who came along yesterday to sing carols at the Sergeants Mess, it was a splendid turnout. We look forward to seeing you again on 15<sup>th</sup> December. Please see note opposite.

**HAMS** Christmas dinner, **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December at The Ely Hotel**. Your menu choice must be given to Mike Gunston **today**. Apologies for the short notice of change of venue.

**CAROL SERVICE** - our men's group (HAMS) will be holding their carol service on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.30pm at Holy Trinity. This event is organised to support the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice in Farnham. Book the date, come along and support this very worthwhile charity.

**MU CORPORATE COMMUNION** this Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm at Holy Trinity.

**SUNDAY EVENSONG AND BENEDICTION** - 6pm at Holy Trinity. You'd be most welcome if you were able to augment the congregation, why not give it a try!

**THE REAL ADVENT CALENDAR** is available at the Fair Trade table at £3.80. Limited stock available.

**THE BLACKWATER BUZZ** - volunteers are needed to help deliver this every month, if you are able to help and for further information please see Sue Evans, thank you.

**2019 PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM** - has been booked for 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> September. Please see Pauline Scott for further information, thank you.

**A MESSAGE FROM BECKY** - "Thank you everyone for the cards and prayers. I miss everyone at Church. I am getting better and I hope to see you all next year." Love Becky.

**EXPOSITION** - the 7.30pm Mass on Wednesdays at Holy Trinity is preceded by a period of Adoration as the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the Resurrection Chapel altar from 7pm. Devotional leaflets are available at the Chapel entrance as a helpful guide. Why not take this opportunity of spending some quiet time with Our Lord.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** - members of the congregation have indicated that they would prefer donating money to charity instead of sending cards to their friends in the congregation. (This is already being done by some of us.) Obviously the choice is entirely up to the individual. There are, of course, a lot of deserving causes who could benefit from this decision.

## O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL - CAROL SINGING

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Last year we had a fantastic turnout and it was gratefully appreciated by everyone. We meet at Holy Trinity Church at 7pm after the Walsingham Cell Mass, to which, as always, everyone is welcome, or at our first pub, The Royal Swan, at around 7.15pm. We then make our way across the road to Mr Bumbles. We are always made very welcome and are generously supplied with mince pies and mulled wine! We then return to Trinity Hall for coffee and the money is counted. All monies raised is in support of Children in Distress, a charity supported by the Walsingham Cell, who sponsor a child and receive regular updates. Do please come and join us as our churches go out to the community!

**TEA AT TWO AT ALL SAINTS'** - Fridays at All Saints' 2pm - 4pm. We look forward to seeing you.

**WEEKLY SHEET ITEMS** - should be sent by Wednesday morning to [pauline\\_scott@icloud.com](mailto:pauline_scott@icloud.com) thank you.

