



**UNITED BENEFICE OF
CORLEY PARISH CHURCH
& ST MARY & ALL SAINTS
CHURCH, FILLONGLEY
WITH FILLONGLEY
METHODIST CHURCH**



Anglicans and Methodists in Unity.

Dear Friends,

This week is a week for remembering. On Sunday we remembered the sacrifice made by so many during two World Wars and many other conflicts since. We gathered, separately and together, to remind ourselves that in the darkest of times there were so many people who were prepared to stand up and be counted. People who fought so that the darkness wouldn't overcome the light, to fight evil with all their body and soul and to overcome that evil despite the grave cost. We remembered all those who suffered because of war and conflict, those who still suffer. We remembered all those who work for peace and reconciliation. We remember that the work still has to go on individually, nationally and internationally. We remembered that there is light in the darkness

This weekend sees the 80th anniversary of the Coventry Blitz that dreadful night that brought destruction to major parts of the city and killed nearly 600 people on the night of 14th/15th November and that injured over 1200 more. But something incredible happened in the aftermath of the devastation ~ the cathedral stonemason, Jock Forbes, saw two wooden beams lying in the shape of a cross and tied them together creating a symbol of hope in the desolation. Provost Richard Howard made a cross from three nails from the roof truss of the ruined St Michael's cathedral ~ a symbol that has come to represent the ministry of peace and reconciliation based at the cathedral. These were actions that spoke volumes about the hope offered through Jesus Christ and the indomitability of the human spirit. Light in the darkness. Hope in the midst of despair.

This week has been a difficult week for many ~ the first full week of a new lockdown, something that we all hoped that we wouldn't have to do again. The statistics concerning people ill and in hospital make for very difficult reading and we know that lockdown will have an impact on the economy and people's mental health too. But there has also been some really good news, the wonderful news that the scientists that have been working so hard to produce a vaccine have been successful. There are plans to start to roll out a vaccination programme for the most vulnerable as early as next month. There is light in the darkness.

There is also a new President Elect of the United States ~ someone who has publicly declared that they want to work to reconcile the divisions in the country, someone who has vowed to tackle climate change by immediately re-joining the global climate accord, someone who has said that they want to tackle the inequalities that are rife in America. Let us all hope and pray that in America there is light in the darkness.

We are approaching the season of Advent when we anticipate the coming of the light ~ the light that is Jesus, the Light of the World. Unfortunately, we cannot meet in church to worship the Light of the World until the beginning of December but we can join together in worship via the wonders of technology. There is a link to a recorded act of worship for the second Sunday before Advent in this e-bulletin. I do hope that you will be able to download the order of service and 'pray along' with the local church in diaspora on Sunday. Let us all prepare for the coming of the Light.

If, however, it is difficult to see any light in the darkness, then please do contact me. I am always available for a chat or to email. If I'm not immediately available then please do leave me a message and I will get back to you at the earliest opportunity.

With love, light and prayers for you and yours

Ali.

LECTIONARY Readings and Prayers for Sunday 15th November 2020

The Second Sunday before Advent

Collects

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and 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.

Amen

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

Readings

Zephaniah 1: vs 7, 12 – 18

Psalms 90 vs 1-12

I Thessalonians 5: vs 1-11

Matthew 25: vs 14-30



Talk / Reflection

Revd Ali's Reflection for this Sunday is attached to this Bulletin and will be preached in the recorded service for this Sunday.

**Here is the link to our Online Recorded Service for
Sunday 15th November 2020**

<https://youtu.be/VbByNXgIzeQ>



HYMNS & WORSHIP SONGS

Here are the Hymns that we would have been singing in Church on Sunday ~

Ye servants of God (StF 340)

May the mind of Christ my Saviour (StF 504)

Take my life, and let it be (StF 566)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise (StF 55)

which is this week's hymn which you can sing along with ~

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pfu1dqKCGd8>

PRAYERS

We are currently observing a month of Prayer for the Nation during the second lockdown. Please unite in prayer at 6pm each day. There is a copy of the guide to suggested prayers attached to this Bulletin.

A Family Prayer

All humankind are one vast family, this world our home.

We sleep beneath one roof, the starry sky.

We warm ourselves before one hearth, the blazing sun.

Upon one floor of soil we stand and breathe one air and drink one water

And walk the night beneath one luminescent moon.

The children of one God, we are brothers and sisters of one blood

and members in one worldwide family of God.

From The Book of Remembrance, Cathedral of St Paul the Apostle, Los Angeles, California.



A Prayer from World Vision



Lord Jesus, we continue to pray for emergency situations around the world. For all countries where coronavirus is continuing to claim lives, for the ongoing conflict in Armenia, the earthquake in Izmir, Turkey that has left hundreds of thousands of vulnerable people needing assistance and for all those affected by Typhoon Goni which struck the Philippines destroying homes and displacing people. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers.

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee.

He never will suffer the righteous to fall: he is at thy right hand.

Thy mercy, Lord is great; and far above the heavens.

Let none be made ashamed that wait upon Thee.

Words from the oratorio, "Elijah" by Felix Mendelsohn

Based on verses from Psalms 55, 16, 108 and 25.

Advent Window Trail in Fillongley.

As many of you will know the usual Christmas Tree Festival has had to be postponed until next year. Instead we are going to have an **Advent Window Trail** around the village starting on Advent Sunday 29th November. How it works:

- ✚ 24 volunteers are needed to decorate a street-facing window ('an advent window') on a theme around the Nativity story.
- ✚ A plan is created so that a new window is lit up every day from 1st – 24th December.
- ✚ Each window remains lit up from its opening day from at least 5pm – 8pm until 1st January.

SO, we need you to volunteer to decorate your Advent Window.

Please give your name and contact details to

Revd Ali **07837 124509** reverendalimassey@gmail.com



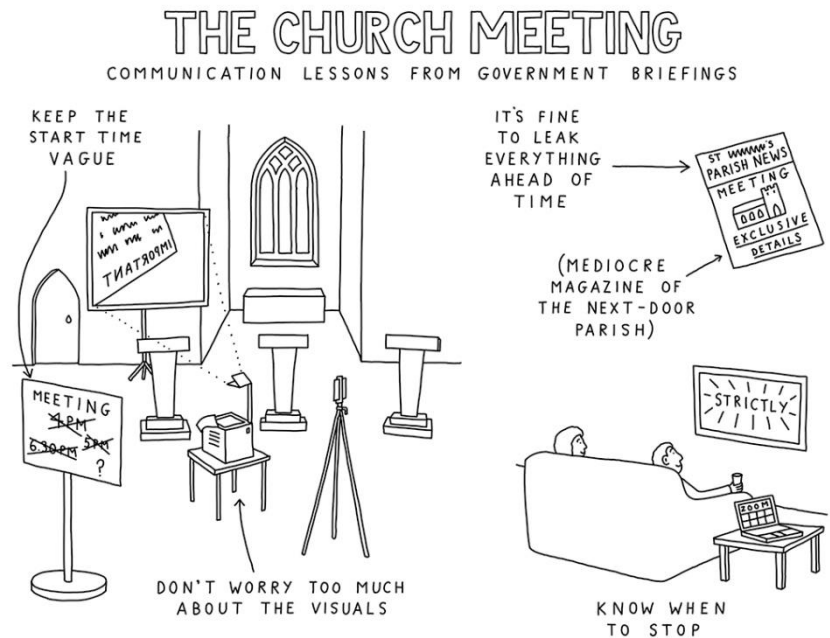
by Monday 23rd November 2020, and she will send out all the instructions for you.

We would also like you all to decorate the trees/bushes outside your home in the lead up to Christmas to create a wonderful Trail around the village for everyone to enjoy.

RESOURCES

Attached to this Bulletin are these items

- ✚ A Reflection from Revd Ali Massey for the 2nd Sunday before Advent
- ✚ A Service of Holy Communion for the Benefice
- ✚ PRAYER FOR THE NATION Resource leaflet
- ✚ *The end is where we start from.* Dean John Witcombe, Coventry Cathedral 6.11.2020 Church Times



The latest Dave Walker Cartoon

AND FINALLY DON'T FORGET

If there is anything that you need or know of someone who would appreciate being contacted or added to the mailing list for this weekly e-bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact Revd Ali, Revd Jane or any of the Churchwardens and Church Stewards listed below. ⁱ

ⁱ *Contact Details:*

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