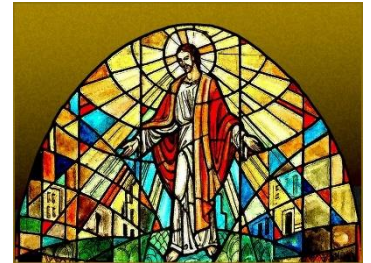




**UNITED BENEFICE OF CORLEY PARISH  
CHURCH & ST MARY & ALL SAINTS  
CHURCH, FILLONGLEY WITH  
FILLONGLEY METHODIST CHURCH**  
*Anglicans and Methodists in Unity.*



Dear Friends

We find ourselves in the last week of the liturgical year as we prepare for coming close to the mystery of Christmas. The church gives us 4 weeks to prepare our hearts and minds to once again receive the gift of the Christ child.

In this most unusual of years, I should imagine that all our preparations for Christmas will look a little different. At the moment, we don't know the Government's plans for us post lockdown. We don't know how whether or not we will be able to travel to see family or friends or to have people staying in our homes. So we will work with what we have. We plan to the best of our ability and then we amend our plans as necessary. We have all become more adept this year at being flexible and of finding new ways of operating.

This is very true of our worshipping life in our church buildings. At the moment I am hoping that we will be able to recommence worship in church on 6<sup>th</sup> December and we are planning to open with the same restrictions as before this current lockdown. We are much more used to wearing face masks, social distancing and hand sanitizing so that shouldn't feel as uncomfortable as it did after the first lockdown. Unfortunately, we will not be able to have many of our big traditional celebrations this year. Everything is going to be a little more pared back. Gone will be the full church singing its heart out at full blast, gone will be the join in Nativity or the school Christingle service, gone will be our lovely Christmas tree festival. But what remains is our worship, our devotion to our Lord Jesus Christ and the sure and certain hope we have in him.

Perhaps this year, we will all be brought closer to the heart of why we celebrate Christmas. When the overblown trappings of tinsel and turkey, the frantic present buying and wrapping, the constant round of social functions aren't there, maybe the authentic song of Christmas will be heard once more.

If you would like to prepare yourself for this special time of Advent, then Bishop John is offering an online Advent retreat that is open to everyone. All you have to do is register online and then you will be sent the link to join with many others across the Diocese in spending some precious quiet time making room in your heart for that most precious gift. The gift of love at Christmas.

*Advent retreat with Bishop John: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord Isaiah 40:3  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November or Wednesday 2 November. To find out more visit  
<https://www.coventry.anglican.org/news/online-retreat-for-advent.php>*

I hope that you will be able to access our recorded service for this Sunday, celebrating Christ the King. The order of service is attached to this e-bulletin and the YouTube link you need is also here.

With love and prayers for you and yours

Ali

## LECTIONARY Readings and Prayers for Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

### The Sunday next before Advent ~ Christ the King

#### Collects

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**

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. **Amen.**

#### Readings

Ezekiel 34: vs 11-16, 20-24

Psalms 95 vs 1-7

Ephesians 1: vs 15-end

Matthew 25: vs 31-end



#### 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 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 Christ the King**

**<https://youtu.be/itdGxime1qU>**



## HYMNS & WORSHIP SONGS

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

[Make way, make way, for Christ the King \(StF 264\)](#)

[Jesus Christ is waiting \(StF 251\)](#)

[Crown him with many crowns \(StF 347\)](#)

[Jesus is the name we honour \(StF 354\)](#)

This final one has got to be this week's singalong ~ enjoy !

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=POmlxtEr9Rk>

## PRAYERS

*We are currently observing a month of Prayer for the Nation during the second lockdown. Please unite in prayer at 6pm each day.*



### **A Prayer using words from Mendelssohn's *Elijah* ~**

For he shall give his angels charge over thee; that they shall protect thee in all the ways thou goest; that their hands shall uphold and guide thee, lest thou dash they foot against a stone.

*Based on these words from Psalm 91 vs 11-12*

- <sup>11</sup> For he will order his angels  
to protect you wherever you go.  
<sup>12</sup> They will hold you up with their hands  
so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.

### **A Reflection for Dull Days**

*A Time for Everything. "For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.....*

*So I saw that there is nothing better for people than to be happy in their work. That is our lot in life."  
Ecclesiastes 3: vs 1, 22.*

Do not too easily escape from a dull day.  
It is easy to turn from the cold to the heat of indoors.  
It is natural to turn from the dusk to the electric light.  
It is natural to turn from the damp to the dry house.  
There is a time to do these things  
But there is also the time to shake the hand of a November day.  
November days are a necessary part of life.  
They correspond to something in the 'shadow' side of my being.

EDITION 35 <https://fillongleyandcorleychurch.wordpress.com/>

Friday, 20 November 2020

Learn to accept this.  
Accept that life is a journey that passes through the seasons.  
Do not renege on the journey.  
Drabness in nature if not boring, it is different.  
It is a post-mortem on a fruitful season,  
A prelude to a spring-time,  
A pause for taking stock, a time to reflect.  
It also has its special charisms.  
For example, the rows of bare trees become a salute  
Once they are uncluttered by green foliage.



### 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> December.
- ✚ Each window remains lit up from its opening day from at least 5pm – 8pm until 1<sup>st</sup> January.

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

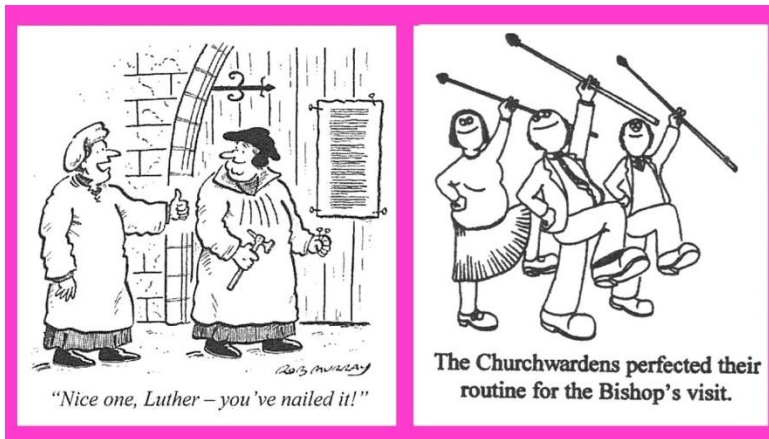
Please give your name and contact details to

**Revd Ali**      **07837 124509**      [reverendalimassey@gmail.com](mailto:reverendalimassey@gmail.com)



by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 Sunday next before Advent
- ✚ A Service of Holy Communion for the Benefice
- ✚ Why to forgive is truly divine 13 November 2020 Church Times

Earlier this month, the Diocesan Synod approved a growth strategy for the Diocese of Coventry. The aim is to launch 150 new worshipping communities before the end of this decade.

Bishop Christopher introduces the Diocesan Growth Strategy in this short video ~

<https://vimeo.com/469800862>



## 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. <sup>i</sup>

### <sup>i</sup> *Contact Details:*

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