

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, WESTWOOD

www.htboa.org



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The Rector's usual weekly day off is a Monday

23 NOVEMBER 2025 CHRIST THE KING



**Welcome to our Service today
And welcome if you are reading this at home**

HYMNS FOR TODAY'S SERVICE

11.15am Morning Prayer

186 – Great is thy faithfulness

318 – Lord thy word abideth

500 – There is a Redeemer

522 – To God be the glory

THE COLLECT

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.**

PSALM 46

¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

³ though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. *Selah*

⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

⁶ The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. *Selah*

⁸ Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰ 'Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.'

¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. *Selah*

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 23. 1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore, thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and

multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord. The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

GOSPEL READING

Luke 23. 33-43

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

NOTICES

COPYING, PRINTING, POSTERS – please send to Netty on: beneficeoffice@htboa.org

NOTICES FOR WEEKLY BULLETINS – please send any messages *by the end of a Wednesday* to Netty on: beneficeoffice@htboa.org

BIRTHDAYS - Happy Birthday, prayers and blessings to all those with birthdays in this season.

THE REVEREND CANON DAVID

DRISCOLL - A Service of Thanksgiving for David will take place on Friday, 28 November at 2pm at Holy Trinity, Bradford on Avon. All are warmly invited. Our prayers are with Lindsay and family

MESSAGE FROM JENNY – Safeguarding

Sunday - A warm welcome to all worshipping with us on this Feast of Christ the King, the final Sunday of the Church's year. Today the Church lifts before us the vision of Christ in whom all things were created, in whom all things hold together, and through whom God is reconciling all things in heaven and on earth. Christ's kingship overturns the world's expectations: it is a reign not of dominance, but of mercy; not of coercion, but of self-giving love; a sovereignty revealed most clearly on the cross, where forgiveness becomes the true sign of power.

As this liturgical year draws to its close, we stand on the threshold of Advent, the season of watching and waiting. Next Sunday we begin again, turning our gaze toward Christ's coming among us: the Word made flesh, the light that no darkness can overcome, the shepherd and sovereign who gathers God's people into hope. May this transition from Christ the King to Advent renew our longing for Christ's kingdom of justice and peace. Our prayers continue for David, for Lindsay and family; for all bereaved at this time.

LUNCH HOUR CONCERT SERIES AT

HOLY TRINITY - Regular readers of the bulletin will know that there is no concert in December. The pause allows us to take stock, to thank Jenny and Martin for generously sharing with us their musical talents; and to thank the audience and helpers for their considerable support. The total raised over the three concerts was £1,855.00 (including electronic contributions). We look forward to hearing pupils from Monkton Combe school in our next concert at 12.30pm on 29, January 2026.

WEEKLY PRAYERS at noon every Thursday in the Saxon Church for Israel and Palestine using prayer from Sabeel based in Jerusalem, 11.50 - 12.10. Everyone warmly welcome.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ – Holy Trinity holds a weekly Community Café Wednesdays from 10am-12noon, to which all across the benefice are warmly welcome – coffee/tea and biscuits will be provided on a donation basis

ANNE WILLIS NEWS ON BELLS AND

RINGING - Do come along and try some 8-bell ringing! We'd love to see you. The bells at Westwood make our hearts sing! If you'd like to know more about the bells at Westwood please do get in touch with Anne via the Benefice Office.

WESTWOOD BELLS - Anne Willis has written a history of Westwood bells which can be found on <https://sdgr.org.uk/westwood-bells>

THIS WEEK @ HT

MORNING PRAYER – Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday @ 8.30am

MAINLY MUSIC – Tuesday @ 10.30am-12noon – fun & friendship for pre-school families (contact Marlene on 864412 if you'd like to join the waiting list).

SAXON CLUB – Tuesday @ 2.30pm – fun & friendship for 'seniors'.

COMMUNITY CAFE – Wednesday, 10am – 12noon. All welcome.

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR DAVID DRISCOLL – Friday @ 2pm

FUTURE EVENTS @ HT

BENEFICE ADVENT CAROLS – Sunday, 30 November @ 6pm, Holy Trinity

CREATIVE MAKERS MARKET – Saturday, 6 December, 10am-3pm

BRADFORD ON AVON CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT – Friday, 12 December, featuring a selection of carols and readings. Tickets £12 (children free) from Ex Libris or on the door.

CAROLS AROUND THE TREES – Sunday, 14 December @ 3.30pm, Holy Trinity

CANTAMUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT –
Tuesday, 16 December @ 7.30pm

ADVENT EUCHARIST – Wednesday, 17
December @ 10am, Holy Trinity – we
celebrate with Ian Stanes his 60 years
anniversary of his Ordination

CAROL SERVICE – Sunday, 21 December
@ 6pm, St Mary the Virgin, Westwood



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE – Christmas Eve,
Wednesday, 24 December @ 3.30pm, Holy
Trinity

MIDNIGHT MASS – Christmas Eve,
Wednesday, 24 December, 11.15pm,
St Mary the Virgin, Westwood

CHRISTMAS DAY – 11.15am Family Service
with Eucharist @ St Mary, Westwood

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for all who are sick,
remembering especially: David Chalmers,
Betty & Doug Hancock & Mary Needham.

Pray for all those who mourn and for those
who have recently died, especially: David
Driscoll

Please let Revd Jenny know of any
pastoral need, including prayer.

FOR PRAYER THIS WEEK

- The communities of Westwood and Iford Primary School, for the school community.
- All worshippers of our loving and righteous God
- Mothers' Union 16 days of activism against gender based violence
- Victims of domestic and sexual abuse

- Readiness to act against all wrongdoings
- The vulnerable and those suffering long term illness
- Our Advent preparations

God of justice and mercy, we lift up the people of the Holy Land, and all who seek peace. Grant that voices, hopes, and concerns be heard, and that a lasting peace may grow through courage, wisdom, and love. Strengthen all as peacemakers, and guide those who work for reconciliation, so that your justice and peace may flourish. Amen



We continue to work together in our shared commitment to Safeguarding: **'The Benefice of Bradford on Avon Holy Trinity, Westwood and Wingfield takes its**

responsibilities surrounding the safeguarding of children, young people, and adults who may be at risk, very seriously. We work in partnership with the Diocese of Salisbury to ensure that we work in accordance with best practices at all times.'

SAFEGUARDING - If you have any Safeguarding concerns please speak to the clergy or our Safeguarding Adviser for the Benefice:

Andrea Unwin 07553161654

Email: safeguarding@htboa.org

If you are concerned that someone you know is at risk of or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please seek advice from: safeguarding@salisbury.anglican.org to speak to a caseworker, or the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor 01722 438651 and press option 3

NEXT WEEK – 30 NOVEMBER – ADVENT SUNDAY

11.15am – Holy Communion

Readings:

Isaiah 2. 1-5

Matthew 24. 36-44