

# ✠ THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING ✠

## THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT

### 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.**

### FIRST READING

*Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17*

A reading from the book of Ezekiel:

This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. I myself will tend my sheep and make them lie down, declares the Sovereign Lord. I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice. As for you, my flock, this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I will judge between one sheep and another, and between rams and goats.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING

*1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28*

A reading from the first letter to the Corinthians:

Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in turn: Christ, the first-fruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL

*Matthew 25:31-46*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!  
**Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**



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Jesus said to his disciples 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

'Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was ill and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison and go to visit you?" 'The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

'Then he will say to those on his left, "Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was ill and in prison and you did not look after me." 'They also will answer, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or ill or in prison, and did not help you?" 'He will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me." 'Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

As we offer you, O Lord, the sacrifice  
by which the human race is reconciled to you,  
we humbly pray,  
that your Son himself may bestow on all nations  
the gifts of unity and peace.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Stir up, O Lord,  
the wills of your faithful people;  
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,  
may by you be plenteously rewarded;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### PARISH CONTACTS

Fr Mike: - Vicar -	P: 01257 263064 E: <a href="mailto:vicar@stgeorgechorley.co.uk">vicar@stgeorgechorley.co.uk</a> (Off-duty on Fridays)
Fr Jordan: - Curate -	P: 01257 438000 E: <a href="mailto:curate@stgeorgechorley.co.uk">curate@stgeorgechorley.co.uk</a> (Off-duty on Mondays)



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## ⌘ ST GEORGE'S CHORLEY ⌘

### NOTICES FOR 26TH NOVEMBER

**WELCOME** - to everyone as we gather together to hear from God in His word, to receive God in the Sacrament, and to encourage one another in our faith.

#### ST GEORGE'S CONTACTS

John Bradley: P: 07375 047982  
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Stephen Pollard: P: 07568 502770  
- Warden - E: [pollards\\_13@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pollards_13@yahoo.co.uk)

Paul Clegg: E: [churchhall@stgeorgechorley.co.uk](mailto:churchhall@stgeorgechorley.co.uk)  
- Church Hall -

**VISITING** - Carol Pearson is reigniting the Visiting Team. If you currently visit anyone, or would like to be involved, or would like a visit, or know someone who does please contact: [carolpearson@outlook.com](mailto:carolpearson@outlook.com) or (01257) 265899

**CHRISTMAS FAIR** - Please join us on **Saturday 2nd Dec** for the annual Christmas Fair, in the Church Hall and St George's Church. The fair opens at **10.30am** by very special guests and closes at **1.30pm**. You can help us make the fair a really successful event by bringing in the following in the months and weeks to come: Drop off at back of church in **November**: Jigsaws & new/good used condition toys. **On the day**: Cakes & bakes for the cake stall. Thank you! Sara Shingler.

**ELECTORAL ROLL** - do you live in our parish or regularly attend one of our services? If so it would be great to have you on the electoral roll. Please collect a form from the back of church and speak to Sara Shingler.

**HELP THE HOMELESS** - From **26th November** our gift tree will be in church. If you are able please take a tag from the tree and bring back the stated gift wrapped by **10th December**. This is also the date for bringing in a new unwrapped gift/toy for a Baby/child or teenager. Thank you, Mission & Discipleship Team

Our schedule this week:

**Sunday 26th - 9.30am Eucharist**  
Wednesday 29th - 10am Eucharist  
**Saturday 2nd - 6pm The Vigil (Church Hall)**  
Sunday 3rd - 9.30am Eucharist - Advent Sunday

**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH QUIZ** - will be to help raise much needed funds for the church on **Tuesday 28th Nov.** at **7.30pm** at All Saints' School. Entry £5 for team of 4 people - Fr Jordan.

**ADVENT PRAYER GROUP** - for Advent this year there will be a group meeting at **All Saints', 9am** on **Thursdays** to pray and reflect upon the Advent Devotional. All welcome.

**CHURCH QUIZ** - The latest edition, entitled 'Name That Nation' is available at the back of Church. **Entry fee £1**. All proceeds to Church Restoration Fund.

Our hymns for this morning:

**Processional - (636) The Church's one foundation**  
**Gradual - (364) Jesus, the name high over all**  
**Offertory - (104) Christ triumphant**  
**Communion - (156) Faithful Shepherd, feed me**  
**(736) When I needed a neighbour**  
**Post Comm. - (54) At the name of Jesus**

**ADVENT DEVOTIONAL** - which gives a reading and reflection each day is available at the back for **FREE**. Please do take one and study through the Revelation this Advent.

**A HUGE THANK YOU** - to everyone who brought shoeboxes for International Aid. Contributions from both churches, Little Steps, and Thursday Ladies meant we totalled an amazing 84 boxes! Plus a collection at the Men's Fellowship meant we could give £107 towards transportation costs. M&D Team.



**THE VIGIL**  
ST GEORGE'S  
CHORLEY

'The Vigil' is a **new** service, with a more relaxed feel, and modern songs, taking place on **Saturdays** at **6pm**, in the Church Hall aimed at youth and families. All welcome.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP** - The final meeting of 2023 will be on **December 13th**, starting at the earlier time of **7.00pm**. After a brief AGM we proceed to games (sedentary!), award of Chef of the Year competition, and a hot-pot supper.

For those who are ill, especially:

**Steve Cox, Heather Howarth, Ian Norman, Jenny Cree, & Alan Purcell.**

For the families of those who have died recently inc:

**Neil Turner, Kathleen Brown, Jason Iddon, Alice Blacklidge, Joan Gough, David Percival, Julie Thompson, & David Norman.**

Also for the families of those whose anniversary of death falls at this time:

**Elsie Allman, Gladys Gillibrand, Ida Heald, Rebecca Joyce, Gill Greenwood, Jock Brown, & Mary Armstrong.**

Please also pray for those who are housebound.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS** - Cards will be available for distribution as of **Wed. 29th November**. Please sign for the cards that you take to deliver and also take 'one or two' spares in case of shortage. This is a way of outreach to a wide area of Chorley, and help in delivery is very much needed and appreciated. Thank You. M&D Committee.



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