



Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen

Sunday 19th November 2017

The Second Sunday before Advent

Services Today

9.30am Said Mass with Hymns and Sermon
Hymns: 449: 140

11.00am Sung Mass with Sermon
Hymns: 449: 336: 286: 140

The Second Sunday before Advent (also 715 Trinity 23)

Introit I have called upon thee, O God, for thou shalt hear me: incline thine ear unto me and hearken unto my words: Keep me, O Lord, as the apple of an eye. Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

Psalm Hear the right, O Lord: consider my complaint. Glory be to the Father...

Gradual O Lord, save thy people, and give thy blessing: unto thine inheritance. √. Unto thee will I cry, O Lord my strength: think no scorn of me, lest I become like unto them that go down into the pit.

Alleluia Alleluia. Alleluia. √. Praise the Lord, O my soul: while I live will I praise the Lord; yea, as long as I have any being, I will sing praises unto my God. Alleluia.

Offertory My delight shall be in thy commandments, which I have loved; my hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved.

Communion O Lord our governor, how excellent is thy Name in all the world.

Please remember in your prayers

Elizabeth Opie, Joyce Craske, Judy Bobbitt, Maureen Pitman,
Alisha De Guerin, Christine Shaw, Tony Renouf, and Bernice Beacham.

Please pray for a family with young children
that is going through a difficult time;

for Jennifer and her three children; for Pam;

for Michele, Jaike and Glyn, all suffering from cancer;

for Melvyn Boxall, Pam Harper, Bill Brend and Chris Bellinger;
and for Samuel, a 12 year-old boy diagnosed with leukaemia.

Stay in touch with St Stephen's: visit our website at
<http://st-stephens-guernsey.org>

Collect

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

Old Testament Reading - Zephaniah Ch1 v7, 12-18

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD!
For the day of the LORD is at hand;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
'The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm.'

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;

for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

New Testament Reading - 1Thessalonians Ch5 v1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep - sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Gospel - Matthew Ch25 v14-30

¹⁴ 'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." ²¹ His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." ²³ His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²⁴ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." ²⁶ But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Post Communion

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Services for this week

Tuesday 21st November 11.00am Said Mass BCP - Gelasius 1,
Bishop of Rome, 496

Wednesday 22nd November 7.00pm - **Bible Study and Prayer Group -Week 6**
– followed by **Compline at 8.00pm**

Friday 24th November 7.00pm Said Mass - John of the Cross, Mystic,
Theologian and Poet, 1591

Sunday 26th November
The Feast of Christ the King
The Sunday next before Advent
9.30am Said Mass with Hymns and Sermon



Please bring good quality items for the stalls, start baking cakes and invite your friends to come to the Christmas Fayre.

Cards

A new selection of Greeting & Christmas cards are available in the Library.



A reminder that towards the end of November and during early December, Guernsey Welfare would be extremely pleased to receive any gifts of festive chocolates and biscuits.

Also they will be giving out vouchers towards heating costs during the winter. A supply of the "coal envelopes" for your donations will be at the back of Church.
guernseywelfare@cwgsy.net

*Please join us for refreshments in the vestry after the 11.00am Mass
After Mass please put the kneelers back on the shelf. Thank you!*

Deadline for notices for next bulletin – 6.00pm Thursday
To Tony or email akaines@cwgsy.net