

DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY
Changed lives - Changing lives

St. Laurence Parish
Church Hawkhurst,
Parish Eucharist Service
relayed through Zoom
20.12.2020 - The Fourth
Sunday of Advent

Welcome

*Ye who own the faith of
Jesus,
sing the wonders that were
done
when the love of God the
Father
over sin the victory won,
when he made the Virgin
Mary
mother of his only Son.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail
Mary, full of grace.*

*Blessed were the chosen
people
out of whom the Lord did
come;
blessed was the land of
promise
fashioned for his earthly
home;*

*but more blessed far the
mother,
she who bare him in her
womb.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail
Mary, full of grace.
Wherefore let all faithful
people
tell the honour of her name;
let the Church, in her
foreshadowed,
part in her thanksgiving
claim;
what Christ's mother sang in
gladness
let Christ's people sing the
same.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail
Mary, full of grace.*

*Let us weave our
supplications,
she with us and we with her,
for the advancement of the
faithful,
for each faithful worshiper,
for the doubting, for the
sinful,
for each heedless wanderer.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail
Mary, full of grace.*

*May the Mother's
intercessions*

*on our homes a blessing win,
that the children all be
prospered,
strong and fair and pure
within,
following our Lord's own
footsteps,
firm in faith and free from sin.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail
Mary, full of grace.*

*For the sick and the aged,
for our dear ones far away,
for the hearts that mourn in
secret,
all who need our prayers
today,
for the faithful gone before
us,
may the holy Virgin pray.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail
Mary, full of grace.*

*Praise, O Mary, praise the
Father,
praise thy Saviour and thy
Son,
praise the everlasting Spirit,
who hath made thee ark and
throne
o'er all creatures high
exalted,
lowly praise the Three in
One.*

*Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail
Mary, full of grace*

In the Name of God: Father,
Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

The prayer that follows can
be repeated each day of the
fourth week. After the prayer,
the father lights all four
candles.

Lord Jesus, light of the world,
blessed is Gabriel, who
brought good news; blessed
is Mary, your mother and
ours. Bless your Church
preparing for Christmas; and
bless us your children, who
long for your coming. **Amen.**

Collect for Purity

Almighty God to whom all
hearts are open all desires
known and from whom no
secrets are hid cleanse the
thoughts of our hearts by the
inspiration of your Holy Spirit
that we may perfectly love
you and worthily magnify
your holy Name; through
Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Penitence

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided your call. Our love for you is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgement; bind up our wounds and revive us; in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so

we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prayer before receiving the Word of God — Before we read, we pray together

Eternal God, in the reading of the Scriptures, may your Word be heard; In the meditations of our hearts, may your Word be known; and In the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shown. **Amen.**

Reading Romans 16:25-27 **read by Sandra Dreyer**

Brothers and sisters:
To him who can strengthen you,
according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ,
according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages

but now manifested through
the prophetic writings and,
according to the command of
the eternal God,
made known to all nations to
bring about the obedience of
faith,
to the only wise God, through
Jesus Christ
be glory forever and ever.
Amen.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

**Responsorial Psalm 89:2-3,
4-5, 27, 29**

**R. For ever I will sing the
goodness of the Lord.**

The promises of the LORD I
will sing forever;
through all generations my
mouth shall proclaim your
faithfulness.

For you have said, “My
kindness is established
forever”;
in heaven you have
confirmed your faithfulness.

**R. For ever I will sing the
goodness of the Lord.**

“I have made a covenant
with my chosen one,
I have sworn to David my
servant:

Forever will I confirm your
posterity
and establish your throne for
all generations.”

**R. For ever I will sing the
goodness of the Lord.**

“He shall say of me, ‘You are
my father,
my God, the Rock, my
saviour.’

Forever I will maintain my
kindness toward him,
and my covenant with him
stands firm.”

**R. For ever I will sing the
goodness of the Lord.**

Gospel Luke 1:26-38

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, I am the handmaid
of the Lord.

May it be done to me
according to your word.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Hear the gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to
Luke

Glory to you O Lord.

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary.

And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."

But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God.

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.

He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

But Mary said to the angel,

"How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?"

And the angel said to her in reply,

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born

will be called holy, the Son of God.

And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,

has also conceived a son in her old age,

and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God."

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.

May it be done to me according to your word."

Then the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ
The Reflection

The Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver

of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the Church **- led by Sue Maskell**

God is with us. Therefore, like Mary, let us pray with faith and confidence, opening wide our hearts to all human needs.

That the Church may ever provide pastoral care for people on different pilgrimages of faith. We pray for Bishop Justin and Bishop Rose and their respective families
Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

That the message of Christmas may inspire all people to see the futility of violence and seek lasting peace; we especially remember the people in areas of conflict. We continue to pray for the Queen and all members of the Royal family
Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for those who are troubled, that they may allow Christ to find them, and in knowing Him their suffering will be eased and deep peace will be found.
Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

That those gathered here in this house of God will find in these final days before Christmas a time of holy preparation to receive God anew into our hearts and minds.
Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for those affected by floods, fires and landslides around the world. We

pray for those who bring them aid
Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We bring to God's love the sick and those who care for them, may they experience God's unending compassion. We pray for those who have already received the Covid vaccine and for those preparing to receive it.
Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We bring to His love those departed this life, may the Lord embrace them with his love. Jesus Christ is the light of the world, a light which no darkness can quench. We remember friends and family who have died: **Nancy Bennett, Mary Kilby** recently departed and all those whose years' mind occur this month: **Michael Roger Fisher-Barham, David Colvin, Alice Mary Bennett, Diana Jones, Leslie Richardson, Hebert Fautly, Elizabeth Jones, George Longley,**

Millicent Butler, Lilian Guest, Sarah May Scrivener, Mark Ryan, Sylvia Doreen Gould, Audrey May Fautly, Irene Nora Reed May they rest in peace, **Amen.**
Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

God our saviour, like Mary we open ourselves completely to you.
You are with us, as You were with Mary. Show us Your presence in answer to our prayers, which we make in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of the Most High, and our Lord.
Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Help us today to experience the comfort of the Holy Spirit within us, and the fellowship of the church family around us until we are reunited once more in your heavenly kingdom. Lord, You turn our darkness into light and in your light shall we see light .
Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We keep a time of silence as we offer our own particular petitions

Merciful Father
Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.

The Peace

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God. We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Music for the following hymn is played.

*The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady.'*
Gloria!

'For known a blessèd Mother thou shalt be,

*all generations laud and honour thee,
thy son shall be Emmanuel,
by seers foretold;
most highly favoured lady.'*
Gloria!

*Then gentle Mary meekly
bowed her head,
'To me be as it pleaseth
God,' she said,
'My soul shall laud and magnify
his holy name':
most highly favoured lady.*
Gloria!

*Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ
was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas
mom,
and Christian folk throughout
the world will ever say
'Most highly favoured lady.'*
Gloria!

As Christ has taught us we
are bold to say:

**Our Father, who art in
heaven, hallowed be thy
name; thy kingdom come;
thy will be done; on earth
as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive**

**those who trespass
against us. And lead us not
into temptation; but deliver
us from evil. For thine is
the kingdom, the power
and the glory, for ever and
ever.**

Amen.

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have
mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins:
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the
world: give us your peace.**

We break this bread to share
in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we
are one body, because we
all share in one bread.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of
the world. Blessed are those
who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to
receive you, but only say the
word, and I shall be healed.**

**A Prayer for those joining
us on Zoom who are making
their Spiritual Communion**

Lord Jesus, may we, who cannot now physically receive your sacrament, receive you more fully in our heart, mind and soul. Help us unite ourselves to you in spirit, so that we may be drawn closer to those from whom we are isolated in body. Through sharing your life given up in death for us all, may we grow together in love into a richer and more profound communion of life.
Amen.

Post - Communion Prayers

Give thanks to the Lord for
God is gracious
God's mercy endures for ever.

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Father almighty we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice in Jesus

Christ our Lord. Send us out into the world in the power of the Holy Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen

The Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing ...

Amen.

Music for the following hymn is played as we prepare to go out into the world to serve the Lord

*Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.*

*Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to*

*age to same;
his holy Name--the Lord, the
Mighty One.*

*Tell out, my soul, the great-
ness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay
their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn
wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble
lifted high.*

*Tell out, my soul, the glories
of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his
mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the great-
ness of the Lord
to children's children and for
evermore!*

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and
serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ.
Amen.**

*Music is played as we end
our time of worship together.*

**THOSE RECENTLY DE-
PARTED:** *Nancy Bennett,
Mary Kilby*

**THOSE WHOSE YEAR'S
MIND OCCURS AT THIS
TIME:**

*Michael Roger Fisher-Bar-
ham, David Colvin, Alice
Mary Bennett, Diana Jones,
Leslie Richardson, Hebert
Fautly, Elizabeth Jones,
George Longley, Millicent
Butler, Lilian Guest, Sarah
May Scrivener, Mark Ryan,
Sylvia Doreen Gould, Audrey
May Fautly, Irene Nora Reed*

**Details for the Zoom
Service if you wish to
follow on Zoom (Please
note change of details)
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/
82638193697?pwd=d3daS3
gyTXBDMmRLMm9yeUt3R
TEzUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82638193697?pwd=d3daS3gyTXBDMmRLMm9yeUt3RTEzUT09)**

Meeting ID: 826 3819 3697

Passcode: 332531

Notices

There will be a **Confirmation Service** here on the 26th of January 2021 at 7pm. We have four candidates already. If you would like to be confirmed in the faith of the Church by Bishop Rose during this service, please speak to Fr. Rodney. We look forward to welcoming Bishop Rose on her first visit to our parish.

As many of you will have read in the press, charities and food banks have been finding things very difficult during the pandemic, with a far greater call on their services.

With this in mind, at St. Laurence we will be running 2 different projects to help those in need.

1. The Sightsavers International Advent Giving Tree

will be at the back of the church as usual this advent from Sunday 29th

November. If you are visiting the church and would like to make a donation please take an envelope from the table, place your donation in it and tie it on the tree at the back of the church. Each envelope will be replaced by a star so that by Christmas the tree will be covered.

Sightsavers is a member of Vision 2020 - The Right to Sight. A collaboration of eye agencies committed to eradicating avoidable blindness by the end of 2020.

2. The Reverse Advent Calendars – now finished.

Gifts of non perishable food items or items for the hygiene bank are always collected and can be left at the Vicarage.

If you have any queries please ring Alison Jones on 01580 755705. Many thanks and please stay safe and well.

Christmas Services

After considering the latest guidance relating to the Covid 19 pandemic with the churchwardens, our final decisions about Christmas services are listed below.

Village Carol Service

on Sunday 20th December at 6.00pm on You Tube

Christmas Eve

The **Service of Compline** on Zoom at 6pm.

Christmas morning

Friday 25th December

8am. Holy Communion – no booking required

10 am. Family Eucharist – to reserve a place please ring Alison Jones. Leave your name and number so she can call you back.

AT YOUR SERVICE

Vicar: Fr. Rodney Dreyer
01580 754459

Churchwardens:

Alison Jones
01580 755705

Liz Hatcher
01580 712099

Organists:

Dr. Charlotte O' Neill
01580 753817

Mr. Richard O' Neill
01580 753817