



# ROSSORRY

## PARISH CHURCH

**Sunday 29th  
November 2020  
*The First Sunday  
of ADVENT***

*Be on guard! Be alert!  
You do not  
know when  
that time  
will come.*

Mark 13:33



**ORDER OF SERVICE to accompany the  
Recorded Service from ROSSORRY  
PARISH CHURCH. (available on our  
Facebook page on Rossorry Parish  
Church) - no services in Church (in line  
with latest Covid-19 regulations) on 29th  
November or 6th December 2020**

### **MORNING PRAYER – 29th November 2020 – The First Sunday of Advent**

*(Using the Book of Common Prayer - BCP)*

#### **Introduction and Opening Hymn - 143**

1. Waken, O sleeper, wake and rise,  
salvation's day is near,  
and let the dawn of light and truth  
dispel the night of fear.

2. Let us prepare to face the day  
of judgment and of grace,  
to live as people of the light,  
and perfect truth embrace.

3. Watch, then, and pray, we cannot know  
the moment or the hour,  
when Christ, unheralded, will come  
with life-renewing power.

4. Then shall the nations gather round  
to learn his ways of peace,  
when spears to pruning-hooks are turned,  
and all our conflicts cease.

*Michael Forster (b. 1946)*

#### **The Greeting**

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

#### **A Sentence of Scripture**

*'The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.'*

*Isaiah 40:5*

#### **Advent Candle Lighting**

The first Advent Candle is lit.

### ***BCP - page 101***

Beloved in Christ, today we offer to Almighty God our worship and praise and thanksgiving, to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness, to hear his holy word proclaimed, to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world, and to pray that in the power of his Spirit we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.

#### **A Prayer of Penitence**

**Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault; by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

#### **The Absolution            *BCP- page 102***

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

O Lord, open our lips: **and our mouth will proclaim your praise**

O God, make speed to save us: **O Lord make haste to help us.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

**As it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever, Amen**

Praise the Lord: **The Lord's name be praised.**

### **CANTICLE (HYMN 687)**

Come, let us praise the Lord,  
with joy our God acclaim,  
his greatness tell abroad  
and bless his saving Name.  
Lift high your songs  
before his throne  
to whom alone  
all praise belongs.

Our God of matchless worth,  
our King beyond compare,  
the deepest bounds of earth,  
the hills, are in his care.

He all decrees,  
who by his hand  
prepared the land  
and formed the seas.

In worship bow the knee,  
our glorious God confess;  
the great Creator, he,  
the Lord our Righteousness.

He reigns unseen:  
his flock he feeds  
and gently leads  
in pastures green.

*Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926)*  
(based on the Canticle Venite (Psalm 95))

### **Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 64: 1-9**

*The Old Testament reading is from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, Chapter 64  
beginning at verse 1.*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
<sup>2</sup> as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
<sup>3</sup> When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
<sup>4</sup> From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.  
<sup>5</sup> You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;

because you hid yourself we transgressed.

<sup>6</sup> We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,

and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

<sup>7</sup> There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;

for you have hidden your face from us,

and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

<sup>8</sup> Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;

we are the clay, and you are our potter;

we are all the work of your hand.

<sup>9</sup> Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,

and do not remember iniquity for ever.

Now consider, we are all your people.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### **CANTICLE ( HYMN 126)**

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding;  
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say,  
"Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day!"

Wakened by the solemn warning  
let the earthbound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,  
comes with pardon down from heaven;  
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
one and all to be forgiven.

that when next He comes in glory,  
and the world is wrapped in fear,  
with his mercy he may shield us,  
and with words of love draw near.

Honour, glory, might, and blessing  
to the Father and the Son  
with the everlasting Spirit,  
while eternal ages run.

6th century Latin  
tr. *Edward Caswall* (1814– 78)

## **Psalm 80**

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, ■  
you that led Joseph like a flock;
- 2 Shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, ■  
before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.
- 3 Stir up your mighty strength ■  
and come to our salvation.
- 4 Turn us again, O God; ■  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 5 O Lord God of hosts, ■  
how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?
- 6 You feed them with the bread of tears; ■  
you give them abundance of tears to drink.

- 7 You have made us the derision of our neighbours, ■  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 8 Turn us again, O God of hosts; ■  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 18 Let your hand be upon the man at your right hand, ■  
the son of man you made so strong for yourself.
- 19 And so will we not go back from you; ■  
give us life, and we shall call upon your name.
- 20 Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts; ■  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen**

### **The Epistle— 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9**

*The Epistle Reading is from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians,  
Chapter 1, reading from verse 3.*

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— <sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— <sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**POEM**

**“Advent 1955” - a poem by John Betjeman**

## CANTICLE (HYMN 706)

1. O bless the God of Israel,  
who comes to set us free,  
who visits and redeems us  
and grants us liberty.  
The prophets spoke of mercy,  
of rescue and release;  
God shall fulfil the promise  
to bring our people peace.

2. He comes! the son of David  
the one whom God has given;  
he comes to live among us  
and raise us up to heaven.  
Before him goes the herald  
forerunner in the way,  
the prophet of salvation,  
the messenger of Day.

3. Where once were fear and darkness  
the sun begins to rise  
the dawning of forgiveness  
upon the sinner's eyes,  
to guide the feet of pilgrims  
along the paths of peace:  
O bless our God and Saviour,  
with songs that never cease!

After The Song of Zechariah , Michael Perry  
(1942 - 1996)

### Gospel Reading-Mark 13: 24-37

*Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to St. Mark, Chapter 13,  
beginning at verse 24.*

#### **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

24 'But in those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

<sup>25</sup> and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and  
glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four  
winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and  
puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see  
these things taking place, you know that he<sup>\*</sup> is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I  
tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken  
place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup> 'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

## Thought for the Day

### Apostles' Creed

*BCP – page 112*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## HYMN 627

***What a friend we have in Jesus,***  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations,  
is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Jesus is our only refuge:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer:  
in his arms he'll take and shield you,  
you will find a solace there.

Words: *John Scriven* (1819-86)

Music: *CC. Converse* (1832-1918)

Prayers

*BCP – pages 112-113*

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

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy; **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

**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.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord; **and grant us your salvation.**

O Lord, save the Queen; **and grant her government wisdom.**

Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness; **and let your servants shout for joy.**

O Lord, save your people; **and bless those whom you have chosen.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord; **and let your glory be over all the earth.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us; **and renew us by your Holy Spirit.**

THE COLLECTS

Collect for the first Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light  
now in the time of this mortal life  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## THE COLLECTS

### **Collect at Morning Prayer**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord,  
to know you is eternal life, and to serve you is perfect freedom:  
Defend us in all assaults of our enemies,  
that we, surely trusting in your protection,  
may not fear the power of any adversaries;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everliving God,  
we give you thanks for bringing us safely to this day:  
Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger,  
and in all things guide us to know and do your will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Go before us, Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favour,  
and further us with your continual help;  
that in all our works begun, continued and ended in you,  
we may glorify your holy name,  
and finally by your mercy attain everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being:  
We humbly pray that your holy Spirit may so guide and govern us,  
That in all the cares and occupations of our daily life,  
We may never forget your presence,  
But may remember that we are always walking in your sight,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## INTERCESSIONS

## Going out as God's People

### Ending

Christ the sun of righteousness shine upon you,  
Gladden your hearts  
And scatter the darkness from before you:

**Blessing.** The blessing of God almighty...

## HYMN 132

1.Lo! he comes with clouds descending,  
once for favoured sinners slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of his train:  
alleluia!  
God appears on earth to reign.

2.Every eye shall now behold him  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
we who set at nought and sold him,  
pierced, and nailed him to the tree:  
Lord, have mercy,  
let us all thine Advent see.

3.Those dear tokens of his Passion  
still his dazzling body bears,  
cause of endless exultation  
to his ransomed worshippers:  
with what rapture  
gaze we on those glorious scars!

4.Yea, amen, let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory;  
claim the kingdom for thine own:  
O come quickly,  
Everlasting God, come down.

*Words: John Cennick (1718-55)  
and Charles Wesley (1707-88) altd.*

**PLEASE REMAIN SEATED UNTIL THE USHERS INDICATE  
YOU SHOULD LEAVE BY THE TRANSEPT DOOR**

ROSSORRY PARISH CHURCH  
Registered with The Charity Commission for  
Northern Ireland - NIC 105424



AMOUNT £ :

3 JAN 21

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## FREEWILL ENVELOPES FOR 2021

The Freewill envelopes for 2021 will be delivered to the Parish Visiting Team in the next few days.

You should receive a letter from the Rector and Next year's Envelopes (Yellow in colour) shortly thereafter.

If you have any outstanding 2020 (blue) envelopes—please send them in before Friday 15th January 2021 (Account closes)

Any problems or issues or if you are missed out—ring the Parish Office on 02866 329889 and let Gerry know.

### **AISLING CENTRE IS HERE FOR YOU**

*The door may be closed  
but we continue to support the community during this time*

**We are pleased to confirm that we have moved to a telephone/e-counselling service &**

### **WE CONTINUE TO ACCEPT COUNSELLING REFERRALS**

Referral forms can be downloaded from our website  
[www.theaislingcentre.com](http://www.theaislingcentre.com)

or **Contact us on:**

Telephone 028 66 325811 / E-mail [info@theaislingcentre.com](mailto:info@theaislingcentre.com)

*Our phone lines are open during normal business hours &  
we will respond to post, e-mail etc as quickly as possible*

***We hope you stay safe and well and encourage everyone to  
adhere to the guidance given to keep us all safe***

**Registered with the Charity Commission for NI: NIC101097**

Thank you to the many people of Fermanagh and surrounding areas who are continuing to help us support your family, friends during this crisis through your donations on our local giving page

Donate: [www.localgiving.com/aislingcentre](http://www.localgiving.com/aislingcentre)

**Follow us on: Facebook & Twitter**

**IF YOU ARE IN CRISIS OR DISTRESS**

**AND NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE**

**CALL FREE 24/7**

**LIFELINE - 0808 808 8000**

**SAMARITANS - 116 123**

or e-mail [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

### The PARISH HELP GROUP



A self help group of parish volunteers has been established to help to those who are elderly or self-isolating or who may require , a copy of the CD of Services or who may just need a friendly voice on the 'phone, at this challenging time. We have our volunteers in place and they are now in contact with those who asked for a friendly voice to keep in touch.

If we have missed anyone—please let the Office know and they will be added to our list.

## **Online book of reflection opens at Belfast Cathedral**

Belfast Cathedral is inviting members of the public to pay their tribute to friends and loved ones through *Lives Reflected* – an online book of commemoration for those who have died from Covid and from other causes in 2020.

*Lives Reflected: A Belfast Cathedral Initiative*, which launched today, is dedicated to reflecting on the lives, memories, sacrifices and efforts of everyone affected by the Covid-19 pandemic in the community.

People can upload their tribute to the *Lives Reflected* website as well as their honest real-life stories of 2020. To inspire positive messages of love, hope and kindness and to celebrate life going forward. The Dean of Belfast, the Very Revd Stephen Forde, has shared the significance of the initiative during this time, saying: “This initiative is to help people celebrate the lives of those who are special, whether reflecting on lives lost in our communities since the start of the current pandemic, or giving thanks for the inspiration and dedication of those who have carried us through its darkest days.”

Inspired by St Paul’s Cathedral *Remember Me* initiative, the website is collating tributes and stories of people all over Northern Ireland. Belfast Cathedral hope that the initiative is a continuous legacy of memories retold, which people will be able to treasure for years to come.

Dean Forde is inviting all communities to share in offering hope to those who are in a place of grief. He adds: “Belfast Cathedral wants *Lives Reflected* to be a shared space where people can bring forward accounts that will help families and individuals on their journey through bereavement and towards personal healing” To accompany the launch of the initiative, Belfast Cathedral is providing a physical space for reflection inside the Cathedral, in which people can see their online tribute realised on a digital display and light a candle for their loved one. Dean Stephen Forde sees the visual display as an opportunity for members of the public to visit Belfast Cathedral as a place to reflect on the challenges, sacrifices and losses that we have all experienced in 2020.

“Through all the restrictions of these past months, it has been so difficult to gather our memories and share our stories of those we have loved and known, but lost. *Lives Reflected* allows us a place to share our memories and celebrate the best in the people we know. *Lives Reflected* can be a place of healing for our losses, and a promise of togetherness for the future.”

This website launch is the first stage of the initiative. The progression of its next phase will be based on the uptake of messages shared on *Lives Reflected*. Selected entries will be chosen to feature on permanent panels displayed inside Belfast Cathedral. This will be followed by a call for artists to create a unique piece of work which will be unveiled on 23rd March 2021 marking the anniversary of Northern Ireland going into lockdown.

**The *Lives Reflected* website is [www.livesreflected.com](http://www.livesreflected.com)**

## ADVENT



The new church year – and the Season of Advent – will begin on Advent Sunday, 29th November. The word Advent is from the Latin *adventus* (arrival), heralding the coming of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

This year, our services of worship may be subject to the current and new restrictions and may take place either online or in a church building or other settings with public health measures.

You will be very welcome to join with us. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates.

Advent will then continue through the following three Sundays – 6th, 13th & 20th December .

***God our deliverer, Awaken our hearts  
to prepare the way for the advent of your Son,  
that, with minds purified by the grace of his coming,  
we may serve you faithfully all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.***

## **PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO REVIEW THE ARRANGEMENTS**

### **BELOW—DESIGNED TO HELP YOUR SAFE VISIT TO CHURCH**

*Due to the restrictions of social distancing and hygiene, things will be different and many aspects of the temporary way of doing things may be challenging but we ask for your patience and cooperation. You will find below an outline of the practical points involved if you wish to attend church at this time.*

- Do not come to church if displaying any COVID-19 symptoms. From 31<sup>st</sup> July, those who have been shielding and others who are generally vulnerable are advised to use extreme caution in public spaces and during interactions with others. Please follow relevant government guidance regarding isolation and booking a test if you have any of the symptoms. Many parishioners are nervous about coming out and it is perfectly understandable for people to wish to remain at home.
- Please do not feel obliged to attend church at this time if you have any concerns regarding your health – an online recording of our services will continue for foreseeable future.
- Please note that due to physical distancing restrictions, the number of people we are permitted to have in our churches is greatly reduced. We apologise in advance, but any additional numbers may not be admitted.
- Please do not congregate in car park or church porch.
- Please use hand sanitiser provided on entering and leaving church.
- On entering church, you will be directed to a pew (which may not be your normal seat) by one of the stewards. Please remain in your seat for the duration of the service and only sit with members of your own household.
- 
- No hymn/prayer books are permitted although you may bring your own. There will be printed service sheets in the pews allocated for seating. At present Congregational singing is not permitted and we are also required make the Service shorter for health reasons.
- At all times please always observe relevant physical distancing.
- Toilets are open during the service however should you wish to use them please ensure you use the cleaning materials provided to wipe down surfaces after use.
- At the end of the service please follow the directions of the stewards. Do not leave your seat until directed to do so. We will operate a one-way system.
- There will be a retiring collection rather than our usual offering.