



# PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing  
**SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT**

## FOCUS ON... THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

In the Parable of the Talents Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to a man going on a journey who distributes to his servants varying amounts of talents according to their ability. The servant who is given 5 talents manages to make 5 more talents so when the master comes back, he is delighted. "You have proved yourself trustworthy in a few things", he says, "I will now put you in charge of many things". Likewise, the servant who has been given 2 talents has made 2 more. He too is now put in charge of many things. But the third servant, the one who was given just one talent, hid his master's money in the ground. The master is angry with him and says that he should have invested it so as to gain interest. Of course, this Parable of the Talents is not really about money. And it is no surprise that in the English language the word "talent" has taken on the meaning of "gift" or "skill". If you like to watch talent TV shows like "Strictly Come Dancing" or "Britain's Got Talent", you will know that the word "talent" is about what people can do and how good they are at doing it. Partly by reason of a gift they happen to have; but probably all the more so because of the work they have put in to make the best of the talent that they have been given. Likewise, the Parable of the Talents tells us that what really matters is not what we were given to start with but what we have done with it. It is about how generous God wishes to be to us. So much so that he has given us freedom of choice and he blesses us richly when we make the right choices. But He also says to us that He will always stand by us so that, if we are trying to do the right thing and if we are praying for his help and strength, we will get it right more often than not. And then we will find his grace and generosity to be beyond our imagining. We may well not be given what we might hope for; but our God will give us what is in the end is actually in our best interests. So, to him be the glory now and forever.

Canon Tony Bundock

### Weekly Services:

**SUNDAY**  
10:00 am On-line Morning Worship on Zoom

**TUESDAY**  
9:30 am On-line Morning Worship on Zoom

## CHRISTIAN AID SPONSORED WALKS

Thank you to all who donated to Christian Aid last at Harvest Tide. We raised a commendable £270.00 which will go to support the work of Christian Aid. This forms part of our 2020 Charitable Giving.

Thank you to all took part and/or supported these walks earlier this autumn. To date with Gift Aid we have raised over £5,000.

With fundraising opportunities this year being restricted due to Covid-19 this is particularly appreciated by all at St. Johns' and helps keep the church open for the community.

## This Week you are Asked to Pray For:

- Those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Irene Foord, Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ron Goodearl, Ian Goodearl, Phillipa King, Jill Baker, Jenny King and Sally Zeybek.
- The recently departed, may their souls rest in peace. And their families.
- All parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and those caring for them.
- For the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman, which have been badly affected by Covid-19.

### Key Contacts:

|                                   |  |              |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------|
| Vicar:                            | Rev. Canon Tony Bundock  | 01844 347741 |
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[www.stjohnschurchlaceygreen.co.uk](http://www.stjohnschurchlaceygreen.co.uk)

## COLLECT FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

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, Amen.



## READINGS FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Zephaniah Ch. 1 V. 7 & VV. 12 – 18  
1 Thessalonians Ch. 5 VV. 1 – 11

Matthew Ch. 25 VV. 14 – 30.

## PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK (INTERCESSIONS DURING THE SERVICES WILL BE LED BY MARK ROBERTS)

Lord, give me each day the wisdom to see which things are important, and those which are not.

Show me how best to use the time and talents you have given me. Help me to use all my opportunities wisely, that I may share, through service to others, the good gifts I have received from you, Amen.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, Evermore, Amen.

## WORSHIP IN CHURCH – COVID-19 MEASURES

Following the Government announcement that England will enter a second lockdown from 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020, regular worship in churches is now suspended until at least 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020. During this period, we will be continuing to broadcast Morning Worship on Zoom each Sunday at 10:00 am GMT and Tuesday at 9:30 am GMT, in place of the regular services in church.

## MORNING WORSHIP ZOOM SERVICE FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

This Sunday's Online Morning Worship service on Zoom will be led by Canon Tony with assistance from Graham King and start at **10:00 am** GMT. The hymns will be led by Cher and Gavin Mole. Other members of the congregation will be taking part. Details are being supplied in the email sending out this Pew Sheet, and are as follows:

Topic: St John's Services - Sunday  
Time: Nov 8, 2020 10:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71871959395?pwd=eFdPTjV4YmQ1SGIEZFNyWHNyY2NUUT09>

Meeting ID: 718 7195 9395  
Passcode: 46vDpF

## MORNING WORSHIP ZOOM SERVICE FOR TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

You are welcome to join us for Celtic Morning Worship Services on Tuesdays during this second period of Lockdown. These will be held at 9:30 am GMT in place of the usual Said Communion. Details are being supplied in a separate email that will be sent out on Monday, and are as follows:

Topic: Celtic Morning Prayer  
Time: Nov 17, 2020 09:30 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71051891688?pwd=MIlvWTNzZVZxdmc0bnpnQzJTUhhOZz09>

Meeting ID: 710 5189 1688  
Passcode: x7dvWA

*[The Zoom links for the above services will be valid for the equivalent days over the next few weeks.]*

## COMFORT AND JOY

COMFORT AND JOY is a daily prayer leaflet and series of online services from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York for Christmas Day and the 8 days following based around "Nine Lessons and Carols". Booklets cost £1.50 and can be ordered from Canon Tony by E Mail (tony.bundock49@gmail.com) or telephone (01844 347741).

For more information go to: [www.churchofengland.org/ComfortAndJoy](http://www.churchofengland.org/ComfortAndJoy)