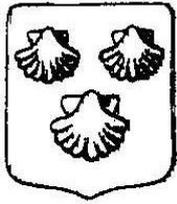
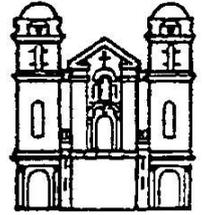


48/20



This week at the Church of  
**St James the Greater**  
Leicester

[www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk](http://www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk)  
[office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk](mailto:office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk)



**29 NOVEMBER 2020**  
**ADVENT SUNDAY**

**Prayer for the Week**

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,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**PRIVATE PRAYER** During the current restrictions, we regret that public worship has been suspended. We will be open again this Sunday for private prayer, but this week it will be at the new time of between 10.30 and 11.30.

**Our Prayers are asked for:**

**All prevented from worshipping with us, remembering this week**

David Muddimer : Conceição Fernandes  
and all those currently unable to attend services.

**Unwell**

Ann Blanchard : Anthony Green : Margaret Norman :

Owen Shepherd : Tony Chizema : Josephine Chizema

**Recovering**

Barbara Penrose

**Rest in Peace**

Stanley Coldwell (Hannah and Maddie Cowley's Great Grandfather)

## The Vicar Writes ...

The apocalyptic tone of this week's Gospel reading may chime well with the mood of these dark days in 2020. The instruction in the concluding verses to "stay alert" may also ring a few bells!

At the beginning of Advent though this watchfulness is not merely for the risk of infection, nor is it for Black Friday bargains, or any of the other commercial distractions of this season.



This Advent, as every year, we are called to keep alert for the coming of Christ. This Advent, perhaps more than any other year, we have the chance to truly hone that alertness, that attentiveness to Christ dawning once again.

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## Lectionary Readings for the Week

### Isaiah 64. 1 – 9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence — 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!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 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.

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. 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. 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.

Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

## **Mark 13. 24 – End**

‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. 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.

‘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. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. 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. 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, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

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**THE SHELL** The Winter 2020 edition has just been published and you can find a copy, along with the previous editions, by visiting our website at: [www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk](http://www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk). You’ll find it under the ‘News’ section and ‘Parish Magazine’. Thank you to everyone who contributed articles and special thanks to Graham Jagger for his sterling work in editing it for us.

**STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES** These will either be posted out to you or left at the back of church for you to collect when attending services in December.

**ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES** With the announcement that public worship can restart from 2<sup>nd</sup> December onwards, we can confirm that services will recommence on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December, when we will mark the Second Sunday of Advent. There will be a Said Eucharist service in the morning at 10:30am, followed in the afternoon by our Advent Carol Service at 4.00pm.

As Advent Carols is one of our most popular occasions in St James’ year, we are introducing a free ticketing system for this service. This will allow us to ensure as many of you are able to attend this wonderful service. It will also mean we are able to maintain social distancing within the church by monitoring our capacity.

If you would like to attend Advent Carols, please email the office at: [office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk](mailto:office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk) and let us know how many seats you need. Alternatively, you can ring the Office on: 0116 254 2111 and leave a message saying how many seats you need.

Looking further ahead into next month, there will be Sung Eucharist and Baptism on the Third Sunday of Advent, 13<sup>th</sup> December, at 10:30am. The following week, 20<sup>th</sup> December, we will again have Said Eucharist at 10:30am. As this is the Fourth Sunday in Advent, we will then have our traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 4.00pm. This will also be a ticketed service.

We will celebrate Christmas Day with a Sung Eucharist service at 10:30am. Unfortunately, the current situation means that we won't be holding Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.

**BIBLE STUDY** Our next online Bible discussion will take place at the earlier time of 11.00am on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December, where we'll be discussing Advent. If you'd like to join the Zoom session, please email the vicar at: [revdaquigley@gmail.com](mailto:revdaquigley@gmail.com) or call him on: 0116 254 4113.

**FAITH IN FANTASY** Our look at the spiritual dimensions of the worlds of Rowling, Lewis and Tolkien concludes next Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.30pm. This time we'll be looking at the works of J.K Rowling. For joining details or more information please email the vicar at: [revdaquigley@gmail.com](mailto:revdaquigley@gmail.com) or call him on: 0116 254 4113. There will be spoilers!

**YOUR GIVING TO ST JAMES** Did you know that in a normal year over 35% of the church's income is made up of regular Direct Debits and Standing Orders from members of the congregation?

This income is especially important to us at the moment, since Sunday services have been suspended during the second lockdown and there has been a dramatic fall in our income from lettings.

If you already give by Direct Debit or Standing Order, thank you! Of course, if you are able to increase the amount you give, that would be very welcome. We do not hold Gift Aid declarations for some people and if this applies to you, we will be in touch to ask if you can fill one in for us.

If you are not already a regular giver, please consider starting a Direct Debit through the Church of England's Parish Giving Scheme. They offer a very friendly service and will help you set everything up over the phone. They make sure that

Gift Aid tax relief is claimed (this adds 25p to every £1 that you give), and they pass every penny of your donation straight through to St James the Greater.

You can contact the Parish Giving Scheme on 0333 002 1271 (local call rates apply).

**CONTACTING THE TEAM** Andrew can be contacted by email at: revdaquigley@gmail.com or 0116 254 4113. The Church Office can be contacted by email at: office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk or by telephoning 0116 254 2111 and leaving a message. Please don't hesitate to get in touch, further details are on our website [www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk](http://www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk)

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## Resources for Home Worship

### Broadcast Media

Daily Service	Mon-Fri at 9.45am	Radio 4 LW
Choral Evensong	Wed at 3.30pm & Sun at 3pm	Radio 3
Sunday Worship	Sun at 8.10am	Radio 4
Songs of Praise	Sun – check schedule for time	BBC I

### Online

[www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)

[www.leicestercathedral.org](http://www.leicestercathedral.org)

**DAILY HOPE TELEPHONE SERVICE** offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. This is a Freephone number.

Options available include materials also available digitally by the Church of England's Communications team such as Prayer during the Day and Night Prayer updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England weekly national online service. A section called Hymn Line offers callers a selection of hymns, updated daily. An option entitled 'Hymns We Love', provides an increasing range of hymns and reflections on them. More options have been added.

The options are detailed below:

1. Hymns we love – one each day with a spoken reflection based on it.
2. Hymn line – favourite hymns on a repeating loop.
3. Chair exercises – a different set of exercise for each day of the week.

4. Daily Reflection for these times – read by Pam Rhodes.
5. Access to more options (6 – 9).
6. Weekly service from C of E.
7. Morning and Evening Prayer from Common Worship.
8. Latest Government advice on Coronavirus.
9. Mother's Union Midday Service.

Pressing 0 returns you to the top menu (1 – 5) and \* gives access to the full text of the Archbishop of Canterbury's introduction.

It is helpful to have the telephone on speakerphone to avoid having to hold the handset for a long time.

**Vicky Roe**  
**Pastoral Assistant**

The Church of St James the Greater  
Leicester



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