

Readings for the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN

FIRST READING

Proverbs 9:1-6

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, "You that are simple, turn in here!" To those without sense she says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight."

PSALM

Psalm 34:9-14

R The Lord is near to the broken hearted. Or R The Lord ransoms the life of his servants.

Fear the Lord, you that are his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing.
The young lions lack and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the Lord
lack nothing that is good.

R

Come, children, and listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
Who among you loves life
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?

R

Keep your tongue from evil-speaking
and your lips from lying words.
Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.

R

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:15-20

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters, be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL John 6:51-58

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Jesus said to the crowd: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever."

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of all mercy, in this eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

NOTICES:-

Meditation on Wednesday evening at 7.15pm in St Arvans Church. We meditate for around 20 minutes. Do come and take a few minutes for silent contemplation or prayer in the middle of our busy lives.

The **Ministry Area Prayer Group** will meet on Thursday at 7.45pm - 9pm in St Pierre Church

Future prayer meetings : 29th August St. Peter, Newchurch

The Ministry Area Bible Study Group meets every Tuesday in Shirenewton Church Rooms at 2.45pm

Everyone is most welcome - we are a small and very friendly group, and our study is very practically based: what does the bible mean for the way we should be living our lives today.

A reminder that the **DEVAUDEN PHOTO COMPETITION 2024 IS OPEN FOR ENTRIES**

Closing date, Midnight, Sunday 1st September

All photos must be taken within 5 miles of the Wesley statue on the village green, after 1st August 2023.

One entry per person. Email your entry to devauden.photos@gmail.com

SKITTLES EVENING

Come and have fun in Mathern Athletics Club: 7pm on Friday 30th August. £8 to include a ploughman's supper. Proceeds will go to St Pierre Church

=====
MINISTRY AREA BIRTHDAY PARTIES

A free cream tea and a chance to meet others from across the Ministry Area. To book please contact Revd Zoe severn.wye.MAL@gmail.com or 07754 306229

Parties will be held every other month on 8th September, 10th November, 12th January - please come to the party closest to your birthday !
