

Chorley Parish Church of St Peter

in the Church of England Diocese of Blackburn



Wednesday 05 March, 2025

Collect

Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through 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

We sit to attend to the scriptures

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 58.1-12

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD: Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the

homeless poor into your house, when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

New Testament Lesson:

2 Corinthians 5.20b-6.10

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.' See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet

always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

All stand for the Gospel

The Holy Gospel Matthew 6.1-6, 16-21

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts.

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord

‘Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

‘So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ‘And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ‘And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

‘Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive these his inestimable gifts, and also daily endeavour to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Dates to remember in the Month of March

Date	Time	Service/ activity
Wednesday 5th March	10am	Ash Wednesday Eucharist with imposition of ashes.
Sunday 9th March	8am	Holy Eucharist - The 1st Sunday of Lent
	10am	Parade - Service of the Word
	6pm	Youth Group (Meeting Hall)
Wednesday 12th March	10am	Holy Eucharist
	7pm	Lent Home Group (Vicarage)
Thursday 13th March	9.30am	Morning Prayer & Breakfast
Sunday 16th March	8am	Holy Eucharist
	10am	Parish Eucharist
Wednesday 19th March	10am	Holy Eucharist
	7pm	Lent Home Group (Vicarage)
Thursday 20th March	9.30am	Morning Prayer & Breakfast
Sunday 23rd March	8am	Holy Eucharist
	10am	Parish Eucharist
	1pm	Holy Baptism
	6pm	Youth Group (Meeting Hall)
Wednesday 26th March	10am	Holy Eucharist
	7pm	Lent Home Group (Vicarage)
Thursday 27th March	9.30am	Morning Prayer & Breakfast
Sunday 30th March	8am	Holy Eucharist - Mothering Sunday
	10am	Parish Eucharist - Mothering Sunday

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