**The Benefice of Great Hanwood**

**Longden & Annscroft with Pulverbatch**

**Sunday 27 September 2020 - Trinity 16**

**Collect**

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives’ end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

**Philippians 2: 1-13**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, 2make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.

4Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. 5Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

9 Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,
10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.12 Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

**Post Communion Prayer**

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son
that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**We pray for the following:**

Alan Fullwood, Ray Sheffield, Marjorie Agg, Sue, Bill Hill, Ann Smith, Nikki and Hannah, Michael,

Marguerite Atterbury, David & Margaret Price.

**Matthew 21: 23-32**

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, ‘By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?’ 24Jesus said to them, ‘I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?’ And they argued with one another, ‘If we say, “From heaven”, he will say to us, “Why then did you not believe him?” 26But if we say, “Of human origin”, we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.’ 27So they answered Jesus, ‘We do not know.’ And he said to them, ‘Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

28 ‘What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, “Son, go and work in the vineyard today.” 29He answered, “I will not”; but later he changed his mind and went. 30The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, “I go, sir”; but he did not go.

31Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.

32For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

**This Week**

Thur 1 Oct Longden 10-11am Private Prayer

**Sunday 4 September**

10.00am Harvest Holy Communion at Annscroft

 and APCM

4.30pm Sunday Praise on Zoom

**We pray for our Benefice**

For those living in Longden, Longden Manor, and Longden Common Lane

Sun. Longden Parish Council

Mon. Longden Primary School

Tues. Doctors, dentists, nurses

Wed. St Ruthen’s Church & the PCC

Thur. Longden Village Hall,

Fri. The Red Lion

Sat. The widowed and bereaved.

**Pray for**:

* Sudan: The Most Revd Ezekiel Kumir Kondo - Archbishop.
* All that encourages and nurtures vocation within our Diocese, and all who advise, discern and mentor, helping people to respond to an awareness of call and access training and experience.
* Pray for medical staff in Palestine and the Gaza Strip, burdened by budget shortages and fragmented administration, as they struggle to respond to an increased number of Covid cases.
* Pray for those due to be ordained as deacons today, and their parishes:

Jo Burden (West Hereford), Lawrence Gittins (Ludlow), Tiffany Jackson (Ross), Joe Simons (Cleobury Mortimer), Katie Smith (Kingsland).

* World Tourism Day falls this week: pray for countries who are very dependent on tourism, and have been severely affected by Covid, and that we may re-start travel and tourism safely, and be aware of its potential health and environmental impact.
* In the week of Michaelmas, pray for all who feel under attack as Christians, and for the Church where it is persecuted and abused.
* Wool Week this week prompts prayer for local sheep farmers as the wool price continues to fall, leaving some farmers to burn or compost fleeces they can’t sell.
* October is Lupus Awareness Month. This systemic auto-immune disease involves the immune system attacking your own body’s tissues and organs: pray for research and care.
* Wales: Swansea & Brecon;
* England: Leicester.