The Benefice of Great Hanwood

Longden & Annscroft with Pulverbatch

Sunday 24 January 2021

Third Sunday of Epiphany

Collect

God of all mercy,  
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,  
release to the captives,  
and freedom to the oppressed:  
anoint us with your Holy Spirit  
and set all your people free  
to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen

Revelation 19: 6-10

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, ‘Hallelujah! For the Lord our God  
the Almighty reigns.  
7 Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory,  
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,  
and his bride has made herself ready;  
8 to her it has been granted to be clothed  
 with fine linen, bright and pure’— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

9And the angel said to me, ‘Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’ And he said to me, ‘These are true words of God.’ 10Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, ‘You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.’

**This Week**

Thurs 28th **NO** Holy Communion - Longden

Sunday 31 January

10.30am Sunday Praise - Zoom

4.30pm Evening Prayer - Zoom

We pray for the following:

John Croft, Nicki and Hannah, Bill Winnall,

Alan Fullwood, Ray Sheffield, Marjorie Agg, Sue, Sheila Dawson-Campbell, Margaret Hill,

Margaret & Colin Hurford, Katharine & Michael.

John 2: 1-11

There was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.

3When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, ‘They have no wine.’ 4And Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.’ 5His mother said to the servants, ‘Do whatever he tells you.’ 6Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 7Jesus said to them, ‘Fill the jars with water.’ And they filled them up to the brim. 8He said to them, ‘Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.’

So they took it. 9When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom 10and said to him, ‘Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.’

11Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty Father,  
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ

is the light of the world:  
may your people,  
illumined by your word and sacraments,  
shine with the radiance of his glory,  
that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed  
to the ends of the earth;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

We pray for our Benefice

For those living in Hook-a-Gate, Welbatch, Whitley, Exfords Green, Lower Common.

Sun. Our MP & Shropshire Council

Mon. Local Councillors

Tues. Shrewsbury Foodbank Plus

Wed. Our neighbours

Thur. Local farmers

Fri. Hillside Nursery, Hook-a-gate

Sat. The New Inn, Hook-a-gate

Pray for:

* The Church of Bangladesh.
* Bromyard:

Acting Rural Dean – Steven Baggs;

Lay Co-Chair – Brenda Allan.

* England: Birmingham;
* Ireland: Cork, Cloyne & Ross;
* Denmark: Elsinore.
* Pray for a time of healing and a new sense of unity and common purpose in the USA, following the inauguration of President Biden
* On World Leprosy Day, pray for all who live with this disease or its results, and for the stigma of leprosy to be overcome.
* At the close of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on the Feast of the Conversion of Paul, pray for the unity of witness and purpose Paul wrote to encourage, may be the mark of our shared mission, as those who together belong to Christ.
* Wednesday is Holocaust Memorial Day.

Pray we may rid our world of race, religious and sexual hatred, and the scourge of genocide.

* In the week that commemorates Thomas Aquinas, the “Angelic Doctor” perhaps the greatest thinker of the Medieval Church, pray for all who teach the faith, and that they may do so with gentleness and care, and for the Dominican order, to which Aquinas belonged.
* The Great Garden Birdwatch starts at the end of this week: pray we may be ever more aware of the natural world around us, and ready to care, protect and conserve.