St Mary, Whitegate and St Peter, Little Budworth

Readings for Sunday 6th December – Advent 2 -
Family Service or Morning Prayer

COLLECT:

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us;

that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

PSALM 85: 8- end

I will listen to what the Lord God will say,

for he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful, that they turn not again to folly.

Truly, his salvation is near to those who fear him, ♦

that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth are met together, ♦

righteousness and peace have kissed each other;

Truth shall spring up from the earth ♦

and righteousness look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed give all that is good,

and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him ♦

and direct his steps in the way.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. AMEN

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:
'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'
And I said, 'What shall I cry?'
All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY **13 December 2026**		
St Mary's	9.30 am	Holy Communion
St Peter's	11.00 am	Holy Communion

SECOND READING:

Mark 1: 1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight"',

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SAFEGUARDING:

St Mary's & St Peter's take our duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues of a safeguarding matter then you can find useful contact information at:

https://www.chesterdiocese.org

and click on the "Safeguarding" tab

WHO TO CONTACT UNTIL A NEW VICAR IS APPOINTED

General Enquiries – please contact the Church Wardens:

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