St Mary, Whitegate and St Peter, Little Budworth
Readings for Sunday 15th November – 2nd before Advent
Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

COLLECT:

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:

grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;

where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

PSALM: 90: 1-8

Lord, you have been our refuge ♦
from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or the earth and the world were formed, ♦
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust and say: ♦
'Turn back, O children of earth.'

For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday, ♦
which passes like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away like a dream; ♦
they fade away suddenly like the grass.

In the morning it is green and flourishes; ♦
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

For we consume away in your displeasure; ♦
we are afraid at your wrathful indignation.

You have set our misdeeds before you ♦
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

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:

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape!

But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness.

So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night.

But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

SECOND READING:

Matthew 25: 14-30

'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours."

But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.

So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

POST COMMUNION:

Gracious Lord**,** in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY
22nd November

St Mary's	9.30 am 9.30 am	Holy Communion Storytelling Service
St Peter's	11.00 am	Morning Prayer

WHO TO CONTACT UNTIL A NEW VICAR IS APPOINTED

General Enquiries – please contact the Church Wardens:

St Mary's - WHITEGATE

Anne Blayney 07815 713012

Sandra Paskin 07590 125791

St Peter's - LITTLE BUDWORTH

Steve Simpson 07810 893456

Anne Hall 07973 139304

For Weddings and Baptisms

Rev Jane Millinchip 07891 981293
revjanemillinchip@outlook.com

For Funerals

Rev Dr John Stopford 01606 558802
jstopford801@btinternet.com