

THE UNITED BENEFICE OF CRADLEY WITH MATHON AND STORRIDGE

Essential News from around the Benefice

THIS SUNDAY – 17 November 2024 - Second before Advent

(Readings Hebrews 10: 11-14, 19-25, Mark 13: 1-8)

- 9.30 a.m. Mattins - Lay led at Mathon
- 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at StorrIDGE
- 10.45 a.m. Morning Service – lay led at Cradley
- 11.00 a.m. Live-streamed morning service
Join on line or dial in 03302 210097 code: 578270357#.

Tuesday 19 November

- 2.45 p.m. **Bible Study House Group** at Ferndale, Cradley, courtesy of the Strickland-Eales. All welcome
- 7.00 p.m. **Mathon P.C.C.** at Yew Tree House, Mathon, courtesy of Paul and Karen Seymour

Wednesday 20 November

- 10.00 a.m. **Holy Communion (said)** at Cradley
- 11.00 a.m. **Church-4-All Planning Meeting** at Cradley Parish Church. All welcome to contribute.
- 6.30 p.m. **Evening Prayer-** Live-streamed online or 'phone 03302 210097 (Access Code: 496060773#)

Sunday 24 November

- 3.00 p.m. **Stir-Up Sunday at Cradley Church.** All welcome to come and make Christmas puddings!

Saturday 30 November

- 10.30 a.m. **Mathon Christmas Fair** in Mathon Parish Hall until noon, stalls include cakes, plants, new items, books, tombola, raffle, refreshments (tea, coffee, soft drink and cake) – an opportunity for the community to meet – in aid of Mathon church funds.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK Lord of the elements and of the changing seasons, keep me in the hollow of your hand. When I am tossed to and fro with the winds of adversity and the blasts of sickness and misunderstanding, still my racing heart, quieten my troubled mind. Bring me at last through the storms and tribulations of this mortal life into the calm evening of your unchanging love; and grant that in the midst of my present perplexities and confusion I may experience your peace which passes human understanding. (Brother Ramon)

THIS WEEK IN OUR PRAYERS: Hilda, commemorated on Tuesday, founded the great double monastery of monks and nuns at Whitby. In 663 the Synod Whitby was held there, to bring order to the Northumbrian Church divided on the date of Easter and other matters. A supporter of the Celtic side, Hilda submitted to the Roman party and so helped a peaceful outcome to be agreed. Pray for all who seek to reconcile and bring together opposing views, and for a spirit of compromise. **Pray for the peace and safety of the world, particularly for Israel, Gaza and Lebanon, and for Ukraine:** for all in authority and for all caught up in conflict. Pray for the work of 'Embrace' and for all aid agencies. Pray for journalists and reporters, especially those who report from the places of need, crisis and conflict that scar our world. Pray for all hostages, for their safety and release. **In our parishes,** pray for all now preparing for events and services to mark the beginning of advent, and for all that will take place in that period of our church year. **In our diocese,** pray for the communications team in our diocese in their work and in the support they provide to the local church. Pray we may share the good news of our faith within our local area and beyond in a professional and persuasive way, especially as at this time of the year we prepare to reach out to those around us with the message of Advent and Christmas. Pray for churches worldwide as we move towards Advent, and for our links with Nuremberg and in Tanzania. This is by tradition a time of the year when we pray for the missionary work of the Church worldwide, increasingly this is about partnership - pray we may also support this work by regular giving. **In the wider church,** pray for the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, for the Most Revd Thabo Makgoba, Archbishop, and all in that part of the world. **Among the sick,** pray for Grace Bevan, for many years a member of Mathon congregation, now in St. Richard's Hospice: for her sons, Nicholas and Paul, and for all who care for her. Give thanks for the return home from hospital of Margaret Crouch, and continue to pray for Heather Morgan; Rosie Ronan (Sue Ronan's sister in law); Anne Edmonds; Anne Drummond; Sharon Jones; Mark Aston; Rod and Pam Ellis; Maurice Taylor; Richard Crouch; Pam Noel and Peter, supporting her, and Doreen and David McKerracher. **Remember all who have died recently,** pray for their families, friends, and all who grieve.

NEXT SUNDAY – 24 November 2024 - Christ the King / Next before advent

(Readings Revelation 1: 4b-8, John 18: 33-37)

- 9.30 a.m. Shorter Mattins at Mathon
- 9.30 a.m. Mattins - Lay led at StorrIDGE
- 10.45 a.m. Parish Communion at Cradley
- 6.00 p.m. Live-streamed evening service
Join on line or dial in 03302 210097 code: 578270357#.

Rector: Revd. Robert Ward, Tel: 01886 880438, E-mail: robert.ward776@gmail.com (Day off: Friday).
www.cradleychurch.org.uk; www.mathonchurch.org.uk; www.storridgechurch.org.uk