



21st November 2021



For meditation: *All creation blesses you, O Lord. Exiles offer you worship.
Pilgrims hallow your name. Saints adore you. Humanity offers its praise.
And we your servants lift our hearts and voices to you in joy and thanksgiving.
Teresa of Avila (1515 -1582)*

NEWS AND VIEWS

Today is Stir-up Sunday, the Sunday before Advent.
*Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may be of thee plenteously rewarded.
The Collect for the 25th Sunday after Trinity*
Congregations too the exhortation to ‘Stir-up’ to be a reminder that the time had arrived to make their Christmas puddings so that they would have time to mature well for Christmas. It was also believed that puddings made on this day would carry God’s blessings to all who partook of it. What had originated in the 16th Century as a plum porridge, began to solidify in the late 17th Century and by the 18th was simply rolled into a ball, wrapped in cloth and boiled. The Victorians introduced the idea of boiling it in a basin.

POINTS FOR PRAYER

The pandemic is still with us and case numbers and deaths continue to rise– remember those who are ill, those coping with increasing hospital numbers and those who remain reluctant to be vaccinated. In the world we pray for refugees and asylum seekers – thinking especially of those trapped on the Polish border and those many who have arrived on our shores in the last few weeks. As Interfaith week (14-21 Nov) comes to an end we give thanks for what has been done to increase understanding between different faith communities across the country. In the circuit we are praying for the congregations at Trinity Radstock and Westfield and the students at Chapel House .

LECTIONARY READINGS – 28 November

Jeremiah 33: 14-16
Psalm 25: 1-9
Luke 21: 25-36
1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

In Bethlehem we heard about the Covenant Box and we found it in the fields of Jearim. We said, “Let us go to the Lord’s house; let us worship before his throne.” Come to the Temple, Lord, with the Covenant Box, the symbol of your power, and stay here for ever. May your priests do always what is right; may your people shout for joy!
Psalm 132: 6-9

DIARY

Thursday 25th November
The Café is back **9.30am -12 noon**
Sunday 28th November **11.00am**
The next lay led service on the theme of the Armour of God – the Shield of Faith.
Guest speaker – Bronwyn Osborne
Monday 29th November **7.30pm**
Bath Mission Area meeting at Southdown
Tony and Bronwyn will represent Box

JOY IN THE CREATOR

I rejoice, O God that you are the maker of all:
That you are the creator of life,
The moulder of the earth,
The designer of the sea,
The shaper of the heavens,
And that you made me.

I rejoice, O Christ, Saviour of all,
That you redeemed the earth;
You came down for our salvation,
You rose for our promised glory,
You live in triumph in heaven,
And that you redeemed me.

I rejoice, O Spirit, sustainer of all,
That you give breath to all creatures;
You give talents to all peoples,
You give guidance and liberty,
You give all grace and goodness,
And that you give life to me.

I rejoice, O Holy and blessed Three,
That you are present in all;
You are sustaining all,
You are with us eternally,
You are above all,
And yet you are found in me

David Adam