

Today's readings at 9.15 and 11.00 am

First Reading

Hebrews 10.5 – 10

When Christ came into the world, he said,
'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God"
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).'

When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Gospel

Luke 1.39 - 45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

Events this week

Monday 21

8.00 am	Morning Liturgy
12 noon	Lunch time Carols
12.30 pm	Holy Eucharist for Healing and Wholeness
4.30 pm	Evening Prayer <i>said</i>

Tuesday 22

8.00 am	Morning Liturgy
12 noon	Lunch time Carols
1.00 pm	Lunch time Carol Concert: bring your lunch and enjoy Wakefield Cathedral Choir
2.00 – 4.30 pm	Clergy available for confidential conversations and the Sacrament of Reconciliation
4.30 pm	Evening Prayer <i>said</i>

Wednesday 23	8.00 am 10.30 am 12 noon 4.30 pm	Morning Liturgy Holy Communion Lunch time Carols Evening Prayer <i>said</i>
Thursday 24	Christmas Eve 8.00 am 4.00 pm 11.00 pm	Morning Liturgy Christingle Midnight Mass
Friday 25	Christmas Day 8.00 am 9.15 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion The Eucharist The Eucharist
Saturday 26	St Stephen's Day 10.00 am	Holy Eucharist
Sunday 27	First Sunday of Christmas 8.00 am 10.00 am 4.00 pm	Holy Communion The Eucharist Evensong <i>said with hymns</i>
Monday 28	Holy Innocents 10.00 am	Holy Eucharist

Notices

- **Clergy will be available from 2.00 pm until 4.30 pm on Tuesday for anyone who would like a confidential conversation or for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**
- **Sunday Services at 10 am** Please make a note in your diary that there will be a joint 10 am Eucharist on Sunday 27 December, 3 and 17 January.
- **The Eucharist on 1 January will be at 10.00 am.**
- **Stewarding** – we continue our request for people to volunteer as stewards and sides-people, both for our regular services and for special services and concerts. Please see Judy Barker or any of the other churchwardens. Many thanks.
- **Christmas Flowers** - Any donations (gift aided if possible) would be gratefully received. Please mark your envelope "Flower Fund" and pass to Joy Parkinson or any of the clergy.
- **New CD available now - *The Organ Works of Jonathan Bielby*.** Performed by the composer on the organs of Wakefield Cathedral. Ranging from 1987 to 2009, these attractive pieces showcase both the magnificent 5 manual cathedral organ and the 3 stop chamber organ. Cost £10, available from Pam O'Connell, Choir Association Treasurer, pam.oconnell@blueyonder.co.uk or the Cathedral Bookshop.
- **Can you sew?** Would you be able to help make new amices for our servers? These are rectangular cloths worn around the neck. Offers please to John Courtney or the clergy.

- Denise Brewell is having trouble with her sight and will not be sending Christmas cards this year. She sends her seasonal greetings to all her friends.
- **Christian Nurture Course:** Want to know more about the basics of Christian belief? Or interested in being confirmed or having a refresher? We hope to run a course early in 2010. Please indicate your interest to any of the clergy as soon as possible.
- **Junior Confirmation** If you are interested in being confirmed please have a word with Canon Michael Rawson.
- **Coffee Morning Opening Times over Christmas.** We are open on 22 and 23 December and then closed until 5 January when normal opening times resume.
- **Cathedral Friends' Dinner** - Why not join the Cathedral Friends at their Caledonian Dinner on 13 January 2010 6.30 pm at Gaskell's Restaurant to help raise funds for the Cathedral? Details from Bill Dawes or the office.
- **Prayer List** – we will be starting a new prayer list for the sick on 10 January. Please contact Canon Michael Rawson if you would like someone included on the new list.
- **The World is My Parish: Enabling British Churches to explore global mission**
This short course on world mission has been developed by USPG for use by church study groups, to help improve understanding of the Biblical and historical background to world mission, how best to engage in it, and its importance in building up church and faith life at home. Held at the Mirfield Centre on Thursdays 21, 28 January and 4, 11 February 2010. 2.30 pm – 4.00 pm. £10.00 (for the course, includes refreshments). Maggie Rich, Clare Amos, Revd Elfed Hughes, Steve Chapman. Bookings to The Mirfield Centre, Stocksbank Road, Mirfield, WF14 OW 01924 481920 centre@mirfield.org.uk

Please pray for

The Church

Our Bishops, Stephen and Tony (on sabbatical). Mara, Bishop Hilkiyah and the Parish of Busawe in Ngoreme Deanery. The Deanery of Brighouse and Elland: Rural Dean David Burrows and Lay Chair Ian Knowles.

The World

The people of Afghanistan, Iraq, Zimbabwe, Pakistan, Sudan.

The Sick

Pat Hamblin, Eileen Bird, Deborah Burnley, Isabel Marsden, Edna Cox, Kate Squires, Josie Long, Lynn, Peter Scholfield, Joseph Baxby, Brian Wilson, Margaret Toplis, Clare, Nadeqda Vasilenco, Darcy Goode, Michael Power, Nigel Gill, Tom Jessop, Audrey Barrett, Sheila Carby, Elsie Bouckley, Pat Armitage

The Departed

Joan Charlesworth, Richard Dale, Ben Camfield, Tony Hamblin, Bishop Colin James