

Sunday 29 October (last after Trinity)

11.00 Hardwicke: service of thanksgiving and remembrance
(United Benefice service)
Reading John 14: 1-6, 27
1pm Hardwicke: Baptisms

PRAYERS PLEASE... for PEACE in Palestine and Israel, Ukraine, Sudan, Haiti, Burkino-Faso, Niger, Mali.

..... for all refugees and asylum seekers, especially Rohingya Muslims in Bangladesh, and those who have been kidnapped or taken hostage.

...Thank God for diplomats and peace-keepers.

...for the sick and struggling: Chris and Pam, Sean, Gail, Lesley, Tina, Beryl, Mair, Marion, Philippa, Pauline, Eric

.....for the family and friends of Emily, Clare, James, Stephanie.

.....for Longney and Hardwicke PCCs' re-ordering plans, Elmore's organ replacement.

..... For new Headteachers staff and pupils at Longney, Hardwicke and Hunts Grove schools

.....for Jane Edwards in Mozambique. Her latest blog is here <https://janeinmozambique.wordpress.com/2023/09/20/time-in-maputo/>
Jane will be speaking at the 11am service at Hardwicke on December 3rd.

.....for Tim Fletcher Pioneer "Sportily" Minister, working on Hunts Grove.

Please use the Benefice Prayer diary. It is on our website

Remembrance-tide

Services to give thanks for who have died recently:

Sunday 29 October, 11am, Hardwicke

Sunday 5 November, 4pm, Elmore

Remembrance weekend services

Thursday 9 November, 10.45am, the Acorn, Hunts Grove

Sunday 12 November: 9.30am Longney Church

10.45am Hardwicke Church

3pm Elmore War memorial

Benefice of Hardwicke and Elmore with Longney

www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Priest-in-Charge Rev Richard Martin 01452 720015

vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Assistant Priest Revd George Parfitt

Licensed Readers Pat Buckland, Judy Cheshire and Mike Williams

Authorised Leaders of Worship: Neil Hollis and Doff Stone.

Today 22 October (Trinity 20)

9.30 Longney: Holy Communion

11.00 Hardwicke Holy Communion

4pm Elmore: Evening worship

Readings Isaiah 45: 1-7, Matthew 22: 15-22

Diary for Week beginning 22 October

All week at Gloucester Cathedral: Light eternal

Wed 25th 9.30am Hardwicke:

Holy Communion and prayer for Hunts Grove

FROM CHRISTIAN AID: Please join us in prayer for South Sudan

Lord Jesus, you bless the peacemakers and comfort those who mourn.

We pray to you for all people affected by the conflict in Sudan.

May there be hope for healing in the region.

Console with your presence all who are fearful, exhausted, and grieving.

Thank you to all who contributed to our Harvest collections for Gloucester Foodbank!

Saturday 11 November, 8.30am-11.30am, Hunts Grove school;

Community outreach breakfast and coffee morning.

Could you spare an hour to help? If so please speak to Richard!

The Collect for 22 October (Trinity 20)

God, the giver of life,
whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church:
by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ
and make us eager to do your will,
that we may share with the whole creation
the joys of eternal life;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings for 22 October

Isaiah 45: 1-7

'This is what the LORD says to his anointed,
to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their armour,
to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut:

²I will go before you and will level the mountains;^[a]

I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron.

³I will give you hidden treasures, riches stored in secret places,
so that you may know that I am the LORD,
the God of Israel, who summons you by name.

⁴For the sake of Jacob my servant, of Israel my chosen,
I summon you by name and bestow on you a title of honour,
though you do not acknowledge me.

⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.

I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me,

⁶so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting
people may know there is none besides me.

I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form the light and create darkness,
I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

Matthew 22: 15-22

Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap Jesus in his words. ¹⁶They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. 'Teacher,' they said, 'we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance

with the truth. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. ¹⁷Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the poll-tax^[a] to Caesar or not?'

¹⁸But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, 'You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for paying the tax.' They brought him a denarius, ²⁰and he asked them, 'Whose image is this? And whose inscription?'

²¹'Caesar's,' they replied.

Then he said to them, 'So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's.'

²²When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

A Prayer from EMBRACE THE MIDDLE EAST:

God of light and salvation, our refuge and our strength,

We pray for the people of Israel and Palestine amid the escalating violence.

We pray for those killed and injured by rockets from Gaza in southern Israel. May your rod and staff comfort them. We pray for those who are grieving. May they know your ever-present help.

We pray for the protection of those who have been taken hostage by Hamas. As they walk through this dark valley, may they fear no evil.

We pray for the civilians of Gaza. May they know that their help comes from the Maker of heaven and earth. We especially remember all of those who have been killed and wounded in Gaza today - may you comfort and heal those who are in pain and those who have lost loved ones.

And we pray for those in leadership in Gaza and Israel. May you guide them along the right paths. We ask all this in union with Christ and trusting in the power of your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

