

Firstly, as people move out of asylum accommodation, they are currently at high risk of homelessness - particularly those who live in Gloucester. There are 2 organisations - *Refugees at Home* and *NightStop* - that can help people to find temporary housing, matching those in need of somewhere to sleep with those willing to give up a spare room on a temporary basis. Hosts are part of an organisation so they are fully vetted, and those seeking housing go through a referral process - so there is a safety net on both sides. If you have a spare room and would like more information about either of these organisations, please look at the following

websites: <https://refugeesathome.org/> and <https://www.gloucestershirenightstop.org.uk/>

The second way that we would appreciate your help, is in donating any kitchen equipment that you no longer have a use for. As clients move into their own homes, they have to find saucepans, kettles, microwaves, cutlery, crockery, etc. If you have anything like this, not being used, in your home - or if you are aware of any house clearances where these items may be looking for a home, then please do consider giving them to GARAS. They will be well-used, and will help someone in their transition into their new life in the UK.

YOUR 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 James, Stephanie, Debbie, Patricia, Gerald, Frank.

.....for Longney's re-ordering now in progress, Hardwicke's plans, Elmore's organ replacement.

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

.....for Jane Edwards in Mozambique. Her latest prayer letter is here:

[1023-Edwards.pdf \(bmsworldmission.org\)](#)

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

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

Licenced Readers Pat Buckland, Judy Cheshire and Mike Williams

Authorised Leaders of Worship: Neil Hollis and Doff Stone.

Today Sunday 12 November (3rd before Advent, Remembrance)

9.30am Longney: Holy Communion

10.45 Hardwicke: All-age worship

3pm Elmore War Memorial: remembrance service

4pm Elmore: Evensong (Psalm 46)

Readings Amos 5: 18-24, Matthew 25: 1-13

Diary for Week beginning 12 November

Tues 14th, 11am Hardwicke: funeral

7.30pm: Hardwicke PCC, Church House

Wed 15th 9.30am Hardwicke: Holy Communion

7.30pm Longney PCC (Lord's Meade)

Saturday 18 November, 10.30am-12.30, Hardwicke;

working party and coffee morning. 1pm Interment of ashes

Next Sunday 19 November (2nd before Advent)

9.30am Elmore: Holy Communion

11.00 Hardwicke school : All-age worship

Readings Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-end, Matthew 25: 14-30

From GARAS

In the last couple of months, we have seen a large number of clients receive their Refugee Status. Daily, we get to celebrate with people as they bring in their decision letters, often representing the end of a long and stressful wait. There are 2 consequences of this high

level of decisions, that we would like your help with. (*cont'd on back page*)

Collect for the 3rd Sunday before Advent

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amos 5: 18-24

Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD!

Why do you long for the day of the LORD?

That day will be darkness, not light.

¹⁹ It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear,
as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall
only to have a snake bite him.

²⁰ Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light –
pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?

²¹ 'I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me.

²² Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings,
I will have no regard for them.

²³ Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps.

²⁴ But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!

Matthew 25: 1-13

'At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps
and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish and five were
wise. ³ The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴ The
wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵ The bridegroom was
a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶ 'At midnight the cry rang out: "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!"

⁷ Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish ones said to
the wise, "Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out."

⁹ "No," they replied, "there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go
to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves."

¹⁰ 'But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The
virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door
was shut.

¹¹ 'Later the others also came. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us!"

¹² 'But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I don't know you."

¹³ 'Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

Psalm 46 (at Elmore)

God *is* our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed,
and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

³ *though* the waters thereof roar *and* be troubled,
though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

⁴ *There is* a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God,
the holy *place* of the tabernacles of the most High.

⁵ God *is* in the midst of her; she shall not be moved:
God shall help her, *and that* right early.

⁶ The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved:
he uttered his voice, the earth melted.

⁷ The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge.

⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD,
what desolations he hath made in the earth.

⁹ He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth;
he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder;
he burneth the chariot in the fire.

¹⁰ Be still, and know that I *am* God: I will be exalted among the heathen,
I will be exalted in the earth.

¹¹The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge