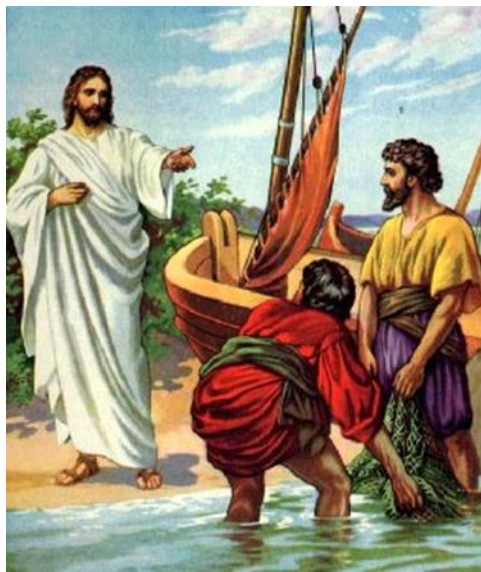


## Reflection for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Advent

It seems strange that at this stage in the Christian year we should be going right back to the first chapter of St Mark's gospel to Jesus calling the disciples to follow him. This is the lead up to Advent, when we anticipate the birth of Jesus and more profoundly the coming of God's Kingdom. Jesus says, "The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." Mark uses the word 'immediately' to describe the way the fishermen, mending their nets, responded to Jesus call.

This spontaneity is so vital if we are to follow His call. If we dither too much we won't do it. We'll think or every excuse not to. I wonder how many of us, placed in the situation that Simon, Andrew, James and John found themselves, would have dropped everything and given up our livelihoods and all we had to follow Jesus as they did?

*Phil Baker*



**Codes for the Zoom worship at 5pm on the FIRST Sunday of each month**

(7th November)

**Meeting ID:** 817 4532 4542

**Passcode:** 574847

**Telephone numbers:** 0203 481 5237,  
0203 481 5240, 0131 460 1196

**NEXT SUNDAY 14.11.2021 Remembrance Sunday**

**SERVICES** 10.50am in Churchyard weather permitting

**READINGS:** OT Daniel 12: 1-3  
NT Hebrews 10: 11-14 (15-18) 19-25  
GOSPEL Mark 13: 1-8



### CONTACT US

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**Office Tel:** 01392 437486 Messages at any time.



# St Thomas, Exeter

## Sunday 7th November 2021

### Third Sunday before Advent

*10.30am Mass in Church*

*5pm Evening worship by Zoom*

Three things I would like to draw your attention to:

Sunday 14 November: **Remembrance Service** starting outside at the War Memorial c10.50 (weather permitting) and then into Church for Communion.

There is a decision to be made soon about continuing **Sunday worship in the Church or in the Hall**. The Standing Committee and the PCC are discussing this, but if you have a view please speak to Ian. We may well take a few straw polls from those attending on Sundays. We are obviously bound by any further Government decisions, but local factors include our own wish for a more spiritual place for worship, a desire for distancing, and Exeter weather. We hope to have a warm Church Hall for coffee by the end of November. We can also make a decision after Christmas when the weather is coldest.

**Christmas patterns of worship** are being actively considered—watch this space.

*Fr David*



## Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

## Jonah 3: 1-5,10

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

## Hebrews 9: 24-28

For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the

end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgement, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

## Mark 1: 14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.' As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

## Post Communion

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

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## NOTICES

For our services in Church, **mask wearing** is still advised by the Church of England. On most Sundays you can also be seated with some social distancing if you wish.

**Coffee and tea** will be offered after the 10.30am Mass. It will be served in the Hall. **There are gaps in the rota. Volunteers are urgently required. No helpers, no refreshments!**

**Knit and Natter November 2021** We shall be meeting every Thursday from 10.30 to midday at 19 Maple Road. Details from Jenny on 01392 498725.

**House Group. Tuesdays at 7.30pm.** We are comparing other religious faiths. Zoom details from Ian Totterdell. Next **meeting on Tues 16th November**, new people very welcome!

**Community Larder** The Community Larder will be collecting on **Tuesdays** from 10am-12noon. The collecting point is in the Choir Vestry via the Tower door. Please continue to be generous.

**Help wanted** to clean the gravestones in time for the Remembrance Service on 14th November. See Pat Mounce.

**The Hiding Place.** The Corrie ten Boom Story. Friday 12th & Saturday 13th November. Riverside Christian Centre. Doors open 7pm, Performance at 7.30pm Tickets £12 Advance, £13 On the Door. Available at [w.w.w.oddments-theatre.co.uk](http://w.w.w.oddments-theatre.co.uk). See poster.

**Winter Market** 20th November 12-4pm in the Church Hall and Churchyard. Stalls, children's activities, entertainment, food! Come and be part of the fun.

