

## St Arvans Church Mid-week Bulletin Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**Night Prayer:** Tonight at 8pm

**Sunday Eucharist:** at 10am every Sunday

**The church is closed for public worship until further notice**

### St Arvans online

Live service stream : [https://www.facebook.com/pg/vicaragecello1/videos/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/vicaragecello1/videos/?ref=page_internal)

Facebook : St Arvan's Parish group – please like us and become a follower

Webpage at: [www.starvanschurch.org.uk](http://www.starvanschurch.org.uk)

Instagram: starvanschurch

Twitter: St Arvans Church @Arvanschurch

Please send any contributions to this bulletin to [starvanschurchnews@btinternet.com](mailto:starvanschurchnews@btinternet.com)

Please share it with others whom you think be interested, and invite them to contact us if they want to go on the mailing list at: [starvanschurchnews@btinternet.com](mailto:starvanschurchnews@btinternet.com)

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## Prayer and Meditation

*The mind is its own place , and in itself*

*Can make a heav'n of hell, a hell of heav'n.      John Milton, Paradise Lost*

Today, January 27<sup>th</sup>, is **Holocaust Memorial Day**, a day dedicated to those whose lives have been lost to genocide. It is the 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. Over one million people were murdered in what was the largest Nazi concentration camp.

Today also calls on people to remember those lost in the genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur. Even in the UK, prejudice and the language of hatred must be challenged by us all.

This topic is the subject of the weekly reflection of Bishop Cherry, which you can find in full here:

[Bishop - Monmouth Diocese \(churchinwales.org.uk\)](http://churchinwales.org.uk)

She invites us to pray for the victims of genocide, and particularly for the Jewish people, 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s of whom were murdered by the Nazi regime. We remember, in particular, Esther Polack, who was born on this day in 1932, and died, aged 10, in a gas chamber in 1942.

## **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Hebrews 10: 11-18**

And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

"This is the covenant that I will make with them  
after those days, says the Lord:  
I will put my laws in their hearts,  
and I will write them on their minds,"

he also adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

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## **The Gospel according to St Mark 4: 1-20**

Again he began to teach beside the sea. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the sea and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold." And he said, "Let anyone with ears to hear listen!"

When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables. And he said to them, "To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; in order that

"they may indeed look, but not perceive,  
and may indeed listen, but not understand;  
so that they may not turn again and be forgiven."

And he said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? The sower sows the word. These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. And these are the ones sown on rocky ground:

when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy. But they have no root, and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word, but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing. And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.”

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## Music

It seems appropriate today to play the beautiful and haunting theme from the film Schindler’s list, written by John Williams. This version is played by the Netherlands Orchestra, with Simone Lamsma (violin) and Davida Scheffers (cor anglais)

[Schindler's list - John Williams - NL orchestra - YouTube](#)

Allegrì Miserer mei, Deus, sung by the Tenebrae Choir

[Miserere mei, Deus - Allegrì - Tenebrae conducted by Nigel Short - YouTube](#)

After all that emotion, here is something to provide a smile – especially all those young children in the congregation, looking so tidy and singing so lustily ! From Chester Cathedral, O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

[CHESTER CATHEDRAL-O WORSHIP THE LORD - YouTube](#)

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*‘No, not a disco. This is a  
24-hour vaccination site  
for the elderly’*

**On the lighter side**