Light for the Lectionary syllabus

October - December 2008

5 OCTOBER Proper 22

Isaiah 5:1-7; Matthew 21:33-46

Aim: to recognise the importance of accepting what God wants us to be

12 OCTOBER Proper 23

Matthew 22:1-14; Philippians 4:1-9

Aim: to explore what it means to have an attitude towards God that pleases him

19 OCTOBER Proper 24

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

Aim: to understand that serving God is the most important thing even if it doesn't make us popular

26 OCTOBER Proper 25 Bible Sunday

Psalm 1; Matthew 22:34-46

Aim: to see how God's Word (the Bible) affects the sort of people that we are

1 NOVEMBER All Saints' Day

1 John 3:1-3 and Matthew 5:1-12

Aim: to celebrate the way God is working to make us more like Jesus

2 NOVEMBER Fourth Sunday before Advent

Micah 3:5-12; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Aim: to value the importance of being truthful and discerning when God speaks, because he always speaks the truth

9 NOVEMBER Third Sunday before Advent

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Aim: to prepare ourselves for the return of Jesus

16 NOVEMBER Second Sunday before Advent

Psalm 90:1-8, 12; Matthew 25:14-30

Aim: to think about how we might live for Jesus while we wait for him to come back.

23 NOVEMBER Sunday Next before Advent

Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

Aim: to affirm the importance of loving others as Jesus did

30 NOVEMBER Advent Sunday

1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

Aim: to celebrate God's blessings as we wait for Jesus to return

7 DECEMBER Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11; Mark 1:1-8

Aim: to explore how the Lord God promises hope

14 DECEMBER Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11; John 1:6-8,19-28

Aim: to investigate the way John the Baptist pointed to Jesus

21 DECEMBER Fourth Sunday of Advent

Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

Aim: to celebrate and declare the good news about Jesus given to Mary and the prophets

25 DECEMBER Christmas Day

Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2: (1-7), 8-20

Aim: to celebrate the birth of Jesus

28 DECEMBER First Sunday of Christmas

Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

Aim: to explore the greetings given to baby Jesus and then how we too greet God

Light for the Lectionary syllabus

January - March 2009

4 JANUARY Second Sunday of Christmas; **6 JANUARY** Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1•6; Matthew 2:1•12

Aim: to recognise that just as the wise men came from the east to worship Jesus, so all nations can come to worship him

11 JANUARY Baptism of Christ

Acts 19:1•7; Mark 1:4•11

Aim: to recognise the importance of the Holy Spirit at the start of Jesus' ministry – important for any ministry

18 JANUARY Second Sunday of Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1•10; John 1:43•51

Aim: to explore what it means to hear God calling us

25 JANUARY Third Sunday of Epiphany (Common Worship)

Revelation 19:6•10; John 2:1•11

Aim: to discover how Jesus came to the rescue in a family crisis

25 JANUARY Third Sunday of Epiphany (Revised Common Lectionary)

Jonah 3:1•5,10; Mark 1:14•20

Aim: to recognise that Jonah did what God told him to do, however unwilling he was

1 FEBRUARY Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Psalm 111; Mark 1:21•28

Aim: to recognise Jesus' uniqueness, seen in his powerful teaching and his authority over evil

8 FEBRUARY Third Sunday before Lent

Isaiah 40:21•31; Mark 1:29•39

Aim: to acknowledge that God gives strength to the weak

15 FEBRUARY Second Sunday before Lent

Colossians 1:15•20; John 1:1•14

Aim: to explore what it means that Jesus is the Word of God

22 FEBRUARY Sunday before Lent

2 Kings 2:1•12; Mark 9:2•9

Aim: to reflect on the character of God as shown in the stories of the death of Elijah and the transfiguration

1 MARCH First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 9:8•17; 1 Peter 3:18•22

Aim: to see how God made and kept his promise to Noah

8 MARCH Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 17:1•7,15,16; Romans 4:13•25

Aim: to see how God made and kept his promise to Abraham

15 MARCH Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 20:1•17; Psalm 19

Aim: to reflect on the wonders of God and the goodness of his guidance for living

22 MARCH Fourth Sunday of Lent

Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-21

Aim: to appreciate that God's salvation is available to anyone who trusts God and looks to him

22 MARCH Mothering Sunday

1 Samuel 1:20•28; Psalm 127

Aim: to explore the fact that, like God, we give to others, and, like God, we also receive from others, with gratitude

29 MARCH Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jeremiah 31:31•34; John 12:20•33

Aim: to recognise that Jesus chose to suffer and give up his life