

## The Roughton Benefice

# Sunday

22 December 2019

Fourth in Advent

### Collect

Eternal God,  
as Mary waited for the birth of  
your Son,  
so we wait for his coming in glory;  
bring us through the birth pangs of  
this present age  
to see, with her, our great  
salvation  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying,  
<sup>11</sup> Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it  
be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. <sup>12</sup>  
But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not  
put the LORD to the test. <sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah  
said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it  
too little for you to weary mortals, that  
you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the  
LORD himself will give you a sign. Look,  
the young woman is with child and shall  
bear a son, and shall name him  
Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> He shall eat curds and  
honey by the time he knows how to  
refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>  
For before the child knows how to  
refuse the evil and choose the good, the  
land before whose two kings you are in  
dread will be deserted

### Psalm 80:1-8, 18-20

<sup>1</sup> Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who  
lead Joseph like a flock! You who are  
enthroned upon the cherubim, shine  
forth <sup>2</sup> before Ephraim and Benjamin  
and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and  
come to save us!  
<sup>3</sup> Restore us, O God; let your face shine,  
that we may be saved.  
<sup>4</sup> O LORD God of hosts, how long will you  
be angry with your people's prayers?  
<sup>5</sup> You have fed them with the bread of  
tears, and given them tears to drink in  
full measure.  
<sup>6</sup> You make us the scorn of our  
neighbours; our enemies laugh among  
themselves.

<sup>7</sup> Restore us, O God of hosts; let your  
face shine, that we may be saved.

<sup>8</sup> You brought a vine out of Egypt; you  
drove out the nations and planted it.

<sup>18</sup> Then we will never turn back from  
you; give us life, and we will call on your  
name.

<sup>19</sup> Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let  
your face shine, that we may be saved.

### Second Reading

#### Romans 1:1-7

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the  
Roman Christians*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to  
be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of  
God, <sup>2</sup> which he promised beforehand  
through his prophets in the holy  
scriptures, <sup>3</sup> the gospel concerning his  
Son, who was descended from David  
according to the flesh <sup>4</sup> and was declared  
to be Son of God with power according  
to the spirit of holiness by resurrection  
from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>  
through whom we have received grace  
and apostleship to bring about the  
obedience of faith among all the  
Gentiles for the sake of his name, <sup>6</sup>  
including yourselves who are called to  
belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup> To all God's beloved in Rome, who are  
called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our  
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Gospel Matthew 1:18-end

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew*

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah  
took place in this way. When his mother  
Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but  
before they lived together, she was  
found to be with child from the Holy  
Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a  
righteous man and unwilling to expose  
her to public disgrace, planned to  
dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he

had resolved to do this, an angel of the  
Lord appeared to him in a dream and  
said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be  
afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the  
child conceived in her is from the Holy  
Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are  
to name him Jesus, for he will save his  
people from their sins.' <sup>22</sup> All this took  
place to fulfil what had been spoken by  
the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and  
bear a son, and they shall name him  
Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with  
us.' <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep,  
he did as the angel of the Lord  
commanded him; he took her as his  
wife, <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with  
her until she had borne a son; and he  
named him Jesus.

### Post Communion

Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of the promised  
saviour:  
fill us your servants with your  
grace,  
that in all things we may embrace  
your holy will  
and with her rejoice in your  
salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.