

The Marden Vale Team Ministry  
Christ Church, Derry Hill – St. John the Baptist, Foxham – St. Martin, Bremhill  
**Sunday 15th November – Second Sunday before Advent  
and St Martin of Tours**

**COVID-19 and SUNDAY WORSHIP**



'Der heilige Martin' by Fritz Boehle

In accordance with Government regulations church services are suspended from 5<sup>th</sup> November until 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

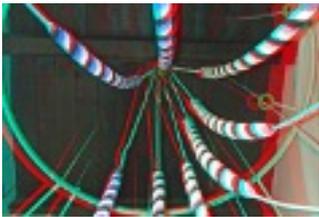
**This Sunday's [online service](#)** by the Marden Vale Team Ministry comes from Bremhill where we celebrate St Martin of Tours

Also available:

**8.10am** Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4

**9am** [Church of England online](#)

**1.15pm** Songs of Praise on BBC1



**Bells**

Tune in to 'Bells on Sunday' on Radio 4 at 5.43am. Or listen later [online](#) From St Mary's Church, Abergavenny

*Image credit: Steve Woodmore*

**Private Prayer:**

**Christ Church, Derry Hill**

Please note that during the winter months the church will be open for prayer each week from:

**Thursday to Saturday, 10am-3pm**

**Sunday 12-3pm**

**St Martin's, Bremhill**

**9am-4pm**

**Calne Food Bank** at Church House, 30 Church St., Calne: 12-4pm Tue & Fri, 10am-1pm Wed  
Visit [Calne Food Bank](#) for more information.

You can find out how to support your local church through the [Parish Giving Scheme](#)

**Keeping in touch** Contact Linda 01249 817926  
or email [lindac@mardenvale.org.uk](mailto:lindac@mardenvale.org.uk)  
Website [www.mardenvale.org.uk](http://www.mardenvale.org.uk)  
Derry Hill's [Facebook page](#)

**Prayer** Join the Church of England Daily Prayer by visiting our website: [www.mardenvale.org.uk](http://www.mardenvale.org.uk) and clicking on 'Pray' on the top line.

**In the coming week please also pray for:**

- all who are affected by coronavirus, all who work on the frontline to keep us safe, to help the sick, to keep us fed...
- all those affected by storm, flood, fire and earthquake - especially Greece & Turkey
- the people of France, Austria & Afghanistan in the aftermath of terror attacks
- the people of the US awaiting the outcome of the election
- an end to the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan
- the people of Ethiopia and Tigray region where conflict is escalating
- those who are anxious, exhausted, isolated. May those whose mental health is fragile be able to access the counselling, medication and support they need
- our local schools-for everyone to stay healthy
- local shops and businesses
- Kingston House residents and all who work there
- Lucy Aylen (YWAM) as she leads & teaches at Discipleship Training School
- the work of Christian Aid
- our brothers and sisters in Sudan & South Sudan
- all who are sick, awaiting diagnosis, those in hospital. Especially we pray for: **Mark Steele, Christine Gundry, Mark Jennings, Lynne Cottrell, Rob Simons, Len Jones, Jacob Maloy, Paul Crayford, Helen Lewis, Jackson Goodship, Jane Jordan, Angela Barker, Liz Kinch, Doreen Williams, Bill Norman, Brenda Beint, Sonia Strange and Barbara Starr.**
- All who have died in recent weeks, the bereaved, and all whose anniversary of death falls at this time.
- **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the Church of Ceylon (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury), The Rt Revd Dhiloraj Ranjit Canagasabay - Bishop of Colombo, The Rt Revd Keerthisiri Fernando - Bishop of Kurunegala

**Light a Candle** May I encourage you to continue this practice of praying, and lighting a candle and placing it in a window as a sign of hope each Sunday evening.

Join the Archbishops' call for [Prayer for the Nation](#) each evening at 6pm during November

*Loving God, at this time of crisis  
when so many are suffering,  
we pray for our nation and our world.  
Give our leaders wisdom,  
our Health Service strength,  
our people hope.*

*Lead us through these parched and difficult days  
to the fresh springs of joy and comfort that we find in  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

## Readings for St Martin of Tours

### Collect

God all powerful,  
who called Martin from the armies of this world  
to be a faithful soldier of Christ:  
give us grace to follow him  
in his love and compassion for the needy,  
and enable your Church to claim for all people  
their inheritance as children of God;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Psalm 112:1-9

Praise the Lord!

Happy are those who fear the Lord,  
who greatly delight in his commandments.  
Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.  
Wealth and riches are in their houses,  
and their righteousness endures for ever.  
They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.  
It is well with those who deal generously and lend,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.  
For the righteous will never be moved;  
they will be remembered for ever.  
They are not afraid of evil tidings;  
their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.  
Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid;  
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.  
They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;  
their righteousness endures for ever;  
their horn is exalted in honour.

### Deuteronomy, chapter 15, beginning at verse 7

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards your needy neighbour. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbour in your land.'

### Matthew, chapter 25, beginning at verse 34

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and

gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

### An extract from *The Life of Saint Martin* by Sulpicius Severus (c.363-425 AD)

*One day during a particularly severe winter, a winter so extreme that many of the populace were dying of the cold, Martin was out on duty. He was wearing his soldier's uniform and was armed. He met in the gateway of the city of Amiens a poor man who was destitute of clothing. He was begging for help, but all passed by the poor man without even acknowledging his presence. When Martin, that man full of God, saw the poor man whom no one pitied, he questioned himself about what was best to do. He had nothing left save the cloak he was wearing, having already given away the rest of his clothes to the destitute. Unsheathing his sword, he cut his cloak in two, giving one half to the poor man, and wrapping the remaining half round himself.*

*At this, some of the bystanders started laughing because Martin looked so peculiar. He stood out from the other soldiers, being only partly dressed. Other people of more sensitive understanding, however, were deeply moved by his action, ashamed that they had done nothing themselves. They felt this particularly, having more than Martin that they could have clothed the poor man without reducing themselves to nakedness if they had wanted to.*

*The following night, Martin fell into a deep sleep, and as he slept he had a vision of Christ arrayed in part of the cloak with which he had clothed the poor man....*

*He heard Jesus speaking to him quite distinctly, 'Martin...you have clothed me with this robe.' The Lord, mindful of his own words while on earth, (when he said 'Inasmuch as you have done this to the least of my brothers and sisters, you have done it to me') revealed that he himself had been clothed in that poor man.*



Martin was elected Bishop of Tours in 372, continuing his monastic lifestyle and ministry until his death in 397. Unlike many others, Martin was canonised not because of the way he died, but because of the way he lived.

*Cross of St Martin at Iona Abbey*

