

Collect for Today

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
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.

Amen

Readings for This Week

Ezekiel 33.7-11
(Psalm 119.33-40)
Romans 13.8-14
Matthew 18.15-20

Readings for Next Week (may vary)

Genesis 50.15-21
(Psalm 103[1-7]8-13*)
Romans 14.1-12
Matthew 18.21-35

Verse for the Week

“Owe no one anything except to love one another; for
the one who loves has fulfilled the law.”

Romans 12:8

Prayer & Reading Diary Exbourne

Monday

Read: Genesis 50.15-21

Prayer: We ask you to bring courage, comfort and safety to all children, youngsters and staff as they enter the new school year.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 103[1-7]8-13*

Prayer: We give thanks for the good weather forecast for the week ensuring our farmers can continue to bring the Harvest in, imbue your strength and fortitude on them during this time.

Wednesday

Read: Romans 14.1-12

Prayer: Bless, comfort and be with those who are sick and their loved ones; lay your hands upon them and give them Peace and Strength to carry on under trying times.

Thursday

Read: Matthew 18.21-35

Prayer: Encourage and strengthen all our Clergy, our PCCs and our congregations to continue their mission to bring more folk to your Kingdom.

Friday

Read: Isaiah 44.24 - 45.8

Prayer: Give those who have lost loved ones and grieve so strongly your strength, fortitude and love in knowing that even though they may have left us in this life we shall meet again in the next.

Saturday

Read: Revelation 12.1-12

Prayer: Let us all remember you are with us at all times, even if we don't always see or believe it, and that when we ask, you will respond in your own quiet way, lessen our fears and increase our love and understanding in eternal love.

Notices:



- St. Michael and All Angels, Meeth will be open on **Saturday 9th September** for **The Devon Historic Churches Trust Day** from 10am-3pm. We will be offering cream teas and cake and encouraging donations for the D.H.C.T

- **Gill's Ordination as Priest:**

Our curate, Gill, will be priested at 3pm on Sunday 24th September at All Saints' Okehampton. ***It is essential that you give your name to Ruth Cartlidge in advance if you are planning to attend.*** Gill would really love to see representatives from all the parishes in the team there, but we have to have a list of names in order to accommodate the other two people also being ordained with us that day. Either phone Ruth Cartlidge or email northmoorpa@gmail.com.

- **Ordination Service: PARKING**

As most of you know, parking at All Saints Church is limited and we are expecting a considerable number of guests at this service. Gill and two others (Phill and Pete) are being ordained so there will be a large number of their family members and friends arriving by car.

So - **please, please, please** team up with others to share car seating (squeeze in and fill the cars...) - or even better walk to church (its downhill - on your way back!).

- **Prayer Group:** This is a home-group style relaxed gathering at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday every month at Phil & Nan's house, 30 Leeze Park, Okehampton EX20 1EE. You don't need to book in advance – just turn up and enjoy refreshments, fellowship, and shared prayer for the team and community. Upcoming dates are 12th September, 10th October, and 14th November. See you there!

Dates for your Diary:



- **St James Church Jacobstowe**

We will be serving cream Teas in aid of Devon Historic Churches Trust from 2 to 4.30pm on **Saturday 9 September** and we would love to see you

- **Saturday 30th September: Quiz Night**

Sticklepath Village Hall, 7pm for 7:30pm start. £10 per team of four – BYO refreshments. Please book your teams in advance with Nikki Wooldridge on 01837 840876

- **Friday 6th October: Fun evening**

with French cuisine, music and more. Church hall at 7pm.

Tickets £18 with all profits going to Hall refurbishment.

To reserve a ticket or for more information email mishflexman@gmail.com

Contact Details:



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Church Services:



Sunday 10th September

(14th Sunday after Trinity)

9:30am

Belstone – Holy Communion
Inwardleigh – Morning Prayer
Jacobstowe – Morning Prayer
Northlew – Holy Communion
Bratton Clovelly – Holy Communion
Bridestowe – Morning Prayer

11:00am

Okehampton – Holy Communion
Hatherleigh – Morning Service
Exbourne – Joint Harvest Festival with
Methodists

Meeth - Morning Prayer

Lydford – Harvest Festival with Communion

Sunday 17th September

(15th Sunday after Trinity)

9:30am

Inwardleigh – Holy Communion
Meeth – Morning Prayer
Northlew – Holy Communion
Bratton Clovelly – Holy Communion or
Morning Prayer

Bridestowe – Joint Service with Methodists

(9:30am if at St Bridget's: 11am if at Methodists)

11:00am

Okehampton – Harvest Holy Communion
Hatherleigh – Family Service
Exbourne – Harvest Festival
Belstone – Harvest Service
Lydford – Morning Prayer

7:00pm

Hatherleigh – Prayer & Praise

Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News

14th Sunday after Trinity

10th Sept 2023



grapevine.northmoor@aol.com

www.northmoorteam.org.uk



“Love is the fulfilling of the law...” says St Paul in one of the readings set for today. At first sight, it seems a bit trite, like the Beatles famous song “All you need is love...” I can think of a few things you need as well as love: food, shelter and security for starters. But Paul, following the teaching of Jesus, is operating on another level.

When Jesus was asked which commandment was the greatest, he answered that the greatest was to love God with all your heart, mind soul and strength and the second was to love your neighbour as yourself. He went on “On these two hang all the law and the prophets.” There is a hierarchy of law: greater and lesser commands and the lesser ones derive their authority from the greater. At the pinnacle is the command to love.

So, whenever we face an ethical dilemma (take for example the current debate about who can get married in church) we are essentially trying to interpret the law of love in a particular context. We are asking “What is the most loving course of action in this case?” It’s no good jabbing your finger on a particular verse and claiming, “This is what the Bible says.” People on either side of the debate have to demonstrate how their position fits with this overarching moral teaching on which all other teaching depends. If we could live by this law then everything else would follow on and perhaps our debates with each other could be a little more civilised.

Stephen Cook