

Collect for Today

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.
Amen

Readings for This Week (may vary)

Isaiah 40.1-11
(Psalm 85.1-2,8-13*)
2 Peter 3.8-15a
Mark 1.1-8

Readings for Next Week (may vary)

Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11
(Psalm 126 *or* *Canticle*: Magnificat)
1 Thessalonians 5.16-24
John 1.6-8,19-28

Verse for the Week:

‘A voice of one calling in the desert, “prepare the way
of the Lord, make straight paths for him”’.

Mark 1: 3

Prayer & Reading Diary Exbourne

Monday

Read: Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11

Prayer: As we enter Advent, let us remember the
true meaning of this time and look forward to the
magic of Christ’s birth.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 126 *or Canticle*: Magnificat

Prayer: Grant teachers and students time to work
and play hard in such a busy term, patience and
strength; guidance and gentleness whilst celebrating
Christmas and learning together.

Wednesday

Read: 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24

Prayer: Lay your healing hand on all who are
struggling with illness; grief; mental health issues or
just day to day living. Grant them solace and comfort
through difficult times, give them strength and hope.

Thursday

Read: John 1.6-8,19-28

Prayer: Globally our World is in a bad place, we
beseech you to bring peace and reconciliation to halt
all wars, cease natural disasters and help us do our
small bit by being peacemakers in our daily lives.

Friday

Read: Isaiah 12

Prayer: All our Clergy: readers, wardens, choirs,
organists are overly busy during this period up to
Christmas. Keep their spirits, enthusiasm, equilibrium,
and voices strong as they lead us towards Christmas.

Saturday

Read: Luke 1.57-66

Prayer: We pray for the lonely and those recently
bereaved, imbue your strength on us, as individuals,
to recognise their needs and quietly comfort them as
you guide us along our journeys through life.

Notices:



- The annual “**Toy Service**” will take place at All
Saints Okehampton on **Sunday 10th December** at
11:00 am. Please bring a toy wrapped in non-
Christmas paper and labelled with age and gender.
These will be taken to a women’s refuge in Torquay.
You might instead like to give a present for a woman,
also suitably labelled.

- For the first time for many years, **St Mary’s
Belstone** will have a service of Holy Communion on
Christmas Day at 9:30 am. There will be no late
evening service on Christmas Eve.

- There will be a **Celtic Reflective Service: ‘Celtic
Epiphany’** - taking place in Jacobstowe on
Wednesday 10th January, starting at 7pm. If it goes
well, it will hopefully be followed up with a regular
version.

- Thank you to all who helped us celebrate our
Golden Wedding Anniversary last Sunday.
As a result of the generosity of family and friends, we
are able to donate £850 to the Hall Refurbishment
Fund with the promise of more to come. We hope
you enjoyed the day as much as we did. Thank you so
much. Ann & Cliff Pantrey

Dates for your Diary:



- **Moor Harmony Christmas Concert:**

Saturday 16th December starting at 5:30pm

St. Mary's Belstone – Christmas carols featuring Eric Thiman's "The Flower of Bethlehem"

Free admission with a retiring collection

- **Wednesday 13th December**

Jacobstowe – Carol Service @ 7pm

- **Monday 18th December**

Germansweek- Carols & Curry @ 7pm

- **Tuesday 19th December**

Meeth – Carol Service @ 7pm

Contact Details:



- Revd Stephen Cook (Team Rector)
01837 659297 SCook9673@aol.com
- Revd Adrian Brook (Team Vicar)
01837 861580 ajbrook2020@outlook.com
- Revd Leigh Winsbury (Team Vicar)
01837 810680 lwinsbury@googlemail.com
- Ruth Cartlidge (Team Administrator)
07551 655424 northmoorpa@gmail.com
- Maurie Webber
01837 53845 mwebberm@yahoo.co.uk
- Canon Tim Newcombe
01837 52901 tnewcombe001@gmail.com
- Revd Gill George (Curate) 07947
604160 revgillgeorge@gmail.com

Church Services:



Sunday 10th December

(2nd Sunday of Advent)

9:30am

Belstone – Holy Communion

Inwardleigh – Morning Prayer

Bridestowe – Holy Communion

Jacobstowe – Morning Prayer

Bratton Clovelly – Holy Communion

11:00am

Okehampton – Holy Communion: Toy Service

Lydford – Lessons and Carols

Hatherleigh – Nativity Service

Meeth – Morning Prayer

3:30pm

Sticklepath – Carol Service

6:00pm

Northlew - Carol Service

Sunday 17th December

(3rd Sunday of Advent)

9:30am

Meeth – Morning Praise

Northlew – Holy Communion

Bratton Clovelly – Morning Prayer

11:00am

Okehampton – Holy Communion

Hatherleigh – Family Service

Lydford – Morning Prayer

3:30pm

Inwardleigh – Christingle

4:00pm

Sourton – Lessons & Carols

6:00pm

Hatherleigh – Nine Lessons & Carols

6.30pm

Okehampton - Carol Service

Bridestowe - Joint carol service at St Bridget's

Belstone – Carol Service

Exbourne – Carol Service

Northlew – Joint Carol Service with Methodists

Grapevine

2nd Sunday of Advent



10th Dec 2023



grapevine.northmoor@aol.com

www.northmoorteam.org.uk

Well it seems to me that February rolled into December with alarming speed this year, yet here we are, in Advent.

I'd had an idea to present a very practical Advent series of sermons this month to give us all a health check as we 'eagerly await the coming of Messiah'. This hasn't quite worked out thanks to the impossible rota's, but here's a potted version.

First off; our service. Like every other organisation, the church runs on the old 80/20 method of 20% of the people doing 80% of the work. Now, I firmly believe that there is great joy to be found in giving ourselves to the 'good works God has prepared for us to walk into'. The trick is identifying what they are! Not necessarily the 'jobs to be done' but the desires of our hearts, that God has put there. What are they? And how can they find expression as part of a vibrant, creative local church?

I'd intended to follow this up with a 'Stewardship Sunday' to invite people to think again about giving. A touchy subject, especially now, but I believe it is vitally important to give, not as a response to need, but as part of our authentic discipleship. We must keep the money off the throne of our hearts and choices; that place belongs to Jesus alone, and giving is the best way to see that done.

So may your faith be earthed in reality, and may you know the joy and freedom of living creatively and generously in Jesus.

Leigh Winsbury