

Collect for Today

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming
as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
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 (may vary)

Micah 5.2-5a
(*Canticle*: Magnificat or
Psalm 80.1-8)
Hebrews 10.5-10
Luke 1.39-45[46-55]

Readings for Next Week (may vary)

1 Samuel 2.18-20,26
(Psalm 148*)
Colossians 3.12-17
Luke 2.41-52

Verse for the Week:

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the
child you will bear. **Luke 1 v42**

Contact Details:

- 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
- Revd. Jonathan Cook (Curate) 07768 836077
rev.jonathan.cook@gmail.com



Prayer & Reading Diary Okehampton

Monday

Read: 1 Samuel 2.18-20,26

Prayer: For our church officers Sara, Pete, Ruth and Ann.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 148*

Prayer: For the crib service and midnight service happening today.

Wednesday

Read: Colossians 3.12-17

Prayer: For all those attending the Christmas morning service, especially those who don't normally come.

Thursday

Read: Luke 2.41-52

Prayer: For Stephen and Gill as they spend time with their families following all the Christmas services.

Friday

Read: Isaiah 41.21 - 42.1

Prayer: For the church as it begins to look ahead to a year in which much will change.

Saturday

Read: 1 John 1.1-7

Prayer: For those who may be finding this "low" time of the year lonely or difficult.

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



Notices & Dates For your diary :



*** Saturday 21st December at 5.30pm St Mary's Church, Belstone** – Moor Harmony, Christmas Concert, Christmas songs and Carols for all the family. Mulled Wine and Mince Pies Free admission but retiring collection.

*** Bridestowe Christmas Tree Festival in St Bridget's Church.**
Opening times: Sunday 22nd December -11.00am to 4.00pm

*** St Mary's Belstone Presents**
The Life and Times of the Reverend Stephen Cook
As you may be aware, our Team Rector, Stephen Cook, is retiring in early January and, as our farewell tribute to him, St Mary's Church Belstone is planning an evening entitled "**The Life and Times of the Rev Stephen Cook**".
Everyone is invited to join us in Belstone Village Hall at 7.00 pm **on Friday 10th January** when '**This is Your Life Meets Desert Island Discs**'. Doors open at 6.30pm for an evening of music, memories and laughter, as we take a light hearted look at Steve's life so far.
What was life like for him growing up at the end of the 50s and into the 60s? Why did he join the police force? What happened in his life that brought about a change of career? Has he any great plans for his retirement?

The whole evening will be interspersed with personal musical interludes that have a connection to his story. Free entry with soft drinks, tea, coffee, light refreshments and a paid bar, **Everyone welcome.** For more info, contact Edwina on 07067179769 or edwinarobinhill@outlook.com

Church Services:



Tuesday 24th December

(Christmas Eve)

4:00pm

Belstone – Traditional Crib Service

Exbourne - Crib Service

Lydford – Christingle

Northlew – Crib Service

Okehampton - Crib Service

6:00pm

Bratton Clovelly - Carol Service in the Square

7:00pm

Hatherleigh – Carols in the Square

10:00pm

Northlew – Midnight Mass

11:00pm

Okehampton – Midnight Mass

11:30pm

Bridestowe - Midnight Mass

Hatherleigh - Joint Midnight Mass with Methodists

Wednesday 25th December

(Christmas Day)

9:30am

Inwardleigh - Holy Communion

Sourton – Holy Communion

Belstone - Holy Communion

10:00am

Jacobstowe - Christmas Family HC by ext.

10:30am

Okehampton – Christmas Holy Communion

Sticklepath - Holy Communion

Lydford – Holy Communion

11:00am

Hatherleigh – Christmas Family HC with Methodists

Germansweek – Holy Communion

Church Services:



Sunday 22nd December

(4th Sunday of Advent)

9:30am

Belstone – Holy Communion

Bratton Clovelly – Holy Communion

Jacobstowe - Holy Communion

11:00am

Okehampton - Holy Communion

Hatherleigh – Morning Service

Lydford – Holy Communion

Meeth – Holy Communion

Northlew - Holy Communion

3:00pm

Inwardleigh – Christingle

4:00pm

Sourton – Carol Service

6:30pm

Okehampton – Carol Service

Bridestowe - Joint Carol Service

Exbourne – Carol Service

7:00pm

Northlew – Carol Service

Sunday 29th December

(1st Sunday of Christmas)

11:00am

Okehampton - Holy Communion

Hatherleigh - 5 Parish Service

Lydford - Holy Communion

3:00pm

Bratton Clovelly – Christingle

4:00pm

Bridestowe - Evening Prayer

Grapevine

4th Sunday of Advent

22nd Dec 2024



grapevine.northmoor@aol.com



www.northmoorteam.org.uk

There will be lots of carol services and Christmas-looking services today, but the verse I've chosen from one of today's readings takes us back a few months in the nativity story to Mary's visit to Elizabeth, herself also pregnant with John (the Baptist). 'Blessed art thou among women' are words that resound down the centuries proclaiming the importance of Mary in the redemption story. God chose a young girl to bring our Saviour into the world, to care for Him as a baby and child, blessed indeed among women to be chosen for such a task. Amidst all the glitter and razzmatazz of Christmas let us try to remember the extraordinary faith and trust of that young woman, the risks she took, the uncertainties she faced, and the love she bestowed upon the Christ-child.

The Christmas story is more than anything else about love: God's love for His world shown through the Incarnation, Mary's love for Jesus, and Jesus' love ultimately for all of us but, initially in His infancy, focussed on His mother. Both Mary and Jesus are caught up in the loving purposes of God for all people, but in the nativity story we celebrate at Christmas, their love is for each other, that special intense and deep mother-child relationship.

We are called upon each Christmas to reflect on that love and to contemplate those nativity images of Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in a manger. A very blessed, peaceful and joyous Christmas to you all.

Michael Winter