

Collect for Today

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water
and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling
as your adopted children;
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 (may vary)

Isaiah 43.1-7
(Psalm 29)
Acts 8.14-17
Luke 3.15-17,21,22

Readings for Next Week (may vary)

Isaiah 62.1-5
(Psalm 36.5-10)
1 Corinthians 12.1-11
John 2.1-11

Verse for the Week:

“Now when all the people were baptised, and when Jesus also had been baptised and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from Heaven, “You are my son, the beloved, with you I am well pleased.” **Luke 3:21-22**

Prayer & Reading Diary Belstone

Monday

Read: Isaiah 62.1-5
Prayer: For Michael, Sandra and Wendy our church officers.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 36.5-10
Prayer: For Belstone and Sticklepath, as they have said goodbye to Stephen this Sunday.

Wednesday

Read: 1 Corinthians 12.1-11
Prayer: For wisdom in knowing how to make the most of our church buildings and the many visitors who pass through.

Thursday

Read: John 2.1-11
Prayer: For continuing good relations between St Mary's Sticklepath and the Community church, especially through Village Praise.

Friday

Read: Isaiah 49.1-7
Prayer: For the funds to complete the work necessary on both church buildings.

Saturday

Read: Acts 16.11-15
Prayer: For the work of Bernard's Acre youth and retreat centre in the parish.

Notices:



* 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

* **Epiphany House Group:** This is the final session of our course which began in Advent. They're standalone sessions and you're welcome to drop in. 7.30pm at 30 Leeze Park (Phil & Nan's house).

* **Grow: Children, Youth and Schools** – a free course for people interested in improving our work with children, young people or schools, led by Sharon Blyth, the Diocesan Children's Mission Enabler. This is running online over 4 evenings. The first is 29th January at 7.30pm. To sign up and find out more, go to: <https://forms.gle/J1EyKC4CFPzHs5Aj9> or phone Sharon on 01392 294932.

Dates for your diary :



* Details of Stephen's final services:

Sunday 12th January: Belstone at 9.30am
Sunday 19th January: Inwardleigh at 9.30am
Sunday 26th January: All Saints at 10.30am (Please note earlier time)

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



Church Services:



Sunday 12th January

(Baptism of Christ/1st Sunday of Epiphany)

09:30am

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

11:00am

Okehampton - Holy Communion
Hatherleigh - Morning Service
Lydford - Holy Communion
Exbourne - Morning Prayer
Meeth - Morning Prayer

3:00pm

Sticklepath - Holy Communion

Sunday 19th January

(2nd Sunday of Epiphany)

9:30am

Exbourne - Holy Communion
Northlew - Morning Prayer
Belstone - Morning Prayer
Inwardleigh - Holy Communion
Bratton Clovelly - Holy Communion/Morning Prayer
Bridestowe - Joint Service with Methodists

11:00am

Okehampton - Holy Communion
Hatherleigh - Family Service
Lydford - Morning Prayer

3:00pm

Meeth - Plough Service

7:00pm

Hatherleigh - Prayer and Praise

Grapevine

Baptism of Christ

12th Jan 2025



grapevine.northmoor@aol.com



www.northmoorteam.org.uk

This Sunday is the second of Epiphany: a series of weeks after Christmas when we celebrate the revelation of Jesus to the world: to the gentiles in the wise men last week, to the followers of John in his baptism this week, and to his disciples at the wedding in Cana next week. It's a pulling back of the veil to show the son of an unmarried woman and a carpenter as the Lord of Heaven and Earth; no more than little glimpses, but enough to sustain the faith of those who were there and a reminder to us all these centuries later.

By his baptism Jesus demonstrated his obedience to his Father's will by complete identification with the human race. John offered a baptism of repentance in preparation for the coming of the king and, in a way that took even John by surprise, the king himself took part. The church fathers saw this as Jesus sanctifying the waters of baptism; by his baptism he was made one with us, by our baptism we are made one with him.

As he came up out of the water Luke records that the skies were opened and the spirit descended on him like a dove with the blessing of Heaven: "This is my son with whom I am well pleased." That knowledge of his father's approval must have been important to Jesus as he began his ministry. It's my prayer at the beginning of this new year that we too might have just a tiny glimpse of the majesty and the love of God as we dedicate ourselves afresh to his service.

Stephen Cook