

Collect for Today

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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)

Jeremiah 2.4-13
(Psalm 81.1,10-16*)
Hebrews 13.1-8,15,16
Luke 14.1,7-14

Readings for Next Week (may vary)

Jeremiah 18.1-11
(Psalm 139.1-5,12-18*)
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14.25-33

Verse for the Week:

‘For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted’.

Luke 14: 11

Prayer & Reading Diary Exbourne

Monday

Read: Jeremiah 18.1-11

Prayer: We ask you Lord to use all your powers to help instil Peace and Reconciliation throughout the World in this terribly divided and troubled Universe.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 139.1-5,12-18*

Prayer: We give thanks for the holidays to refresh our youngsters and Teachers, let them come back soon to a busy Term full of vigour and eager minds.

Wednesday

Read: Philemon 1-21

Prayer: We pray for all our Clergy, sustain them in their vocations and help bring forth a new Minister for the Okehampton area.

Thursday

Read: Luke 14.25-33

Prayer: We pray for all those in need, through sickness, sorrow, grief and personal struggles, lay your hand gently on them and bring forth acceptance and peace.

Friday

Read: Jonah 3.10 - 4.11

Prayer: Encourage others within our Parishes to attend Church and find your presence within their lives and within our lovely buildings.

Saturday

Read: Revelation 8.1-5

Prayer: Help us pray for each other, our needs and those of others are not always obvious, so make us aware of our shortcomings and of the help we can offer to others.

Notices:



* **Sunday 31st August: The Songs of Praise at Inwardleigh** is a joint Benefice service and the only one in the Okehampton group of churches (Okehampton, Inwardleigh, Belstone and Sticklepath)

* ALL SAINTS DISABLED TOILET

This toilet is temporarily out of action. Please use the toilets in the car park. Sorry for the inconvenience. (Church Wardens)

* Prayer during the Interregnum

Lord, you know what we need before we ask. Be with us and guide us as we seek a new Incumbent. Open our eyes to new opportunities and possibilities and give us clear minds and open hearts that we may trust in your will for us, and your timing. We ask all this through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

* **Okehampton All Saint's Parish Church** is open every Tuesday morning between 10am and 12 noon for prayer. This is an opportunity to meet and pray with others, or just to sit quietly. Refreshments will be available.

* **St James Chapel**, in the centre of Okehampton, is open all day, every day. **Every Thursday:** 10am Communion at St James, Okehampton.

Dates for your diary :



* All Saints and friends Tearfund Lunches and Suppers: Friday 26th September

Hosts provide a simple two course meal in their home. Guests donate £10 to Tearfund and bring a bottle.

There is a list at the back of All Saints for people to state their choices ~

Lunch or supper? Host or guest?

Belstone, Sticklepath and Inwardleigh, we would be delighted if some of you would join us. Please phone or email Mish Flexman

07913329148 mishflexman@gmail.com for details.

Contact Details:



- Ruth Cartlidge (Team Administrator)
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Church Services:



Sunday 31st August

(11th Sunday after Trinity)

11:00am

Hatherleigh – Five Parish Service

3:30pm

Inwardleigh - Joint Benefice Songs of Praise
(see Notices)

6:00pm

Bridestowe - Evensong

**** No other details for 5h Sunday services
received at time of going to press ****

Sunday 7th September

(12th Sunday after Trinity)

9:30am

Belstone - Holy Communion

Inwardleigh - Morning Prayer

Sourton - Holy Communion

Northlew - Morning Prayer

Exbourne – Breakfast (9am start) followed by Service

10:30am

Sticklepath - Village Praise

11:00am

Okehampton - Café Church in Hall

Hatherleigh – Holy Communion

Lydford - Morning Prayer

Meeth - All Age Worship

11:15am

Germansweek - Holy Communion

Grapevine

11th Sunday after Trinity

31st August 2025



grapevine.northmoor@aol.com



www.northmoorteam.org.uk

Last night found me singing in our local rock band for a beer festival gig. It was all good fun and went very well, but in the wash of compliments after, I began to see how easily such things could go to your head if you're not careful: pity the famous!

In today's gospel reading, Jesus finds himself in a situation where people are elevating themselves and teaches a warning about such people risking being publicly shamed and corrected. This sort of thing would be embarrassing enough in our culture, but to an Eastern 'shame/ honour' culture such an occurrence would be socially disastrous. We are used to the idea that humility is a virtue, often without recognising that such thinking only began with the teachings of Jesus. To consciously self-efface and focus on the elevation of others is an entirely Christian idea: following as it does from Jesus' own behaviour in coming down to us, leaving all his glory behind and ending up on a cross; the very instrument of shame created by the Roman world to desecrate all dignity value from its victims. Both the world before Jesus and those parts of the world today that have not yet been culturally shaped by his teaching see no value in humility. This is worth understanding. It goes some way to explain the trouble the Pharisees had in understanding Jesus, and the 'James and John incident' where they asked Jesus for places of honour: and even in understanding Judas who could not comprehend why Jesus kept making enemies instead of seizing opportunities for fame and recognition. It may also help us understand the world around us. If we're going to be 'church', we'd best do it the Jesus way, and in the words of Paul; 'not think more highly of ourselves than we should, but consider ourselves with sober judgement' and leave room for Jesus to elevate those whom he will,

Leigh Winsbury