

Collect for Today

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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 32.1-3a,6-15
(Psalm 91.1-6,14-16*)
1 Timothy 6.6-19
Luke 16.19-31

Readings for Next Week (may vary)

Lamentations 1.1-6
(*Canticle*: Lamentations 3.19-26 or Psalm 137*)
2 Timothy 1.1-14
Luke 17.5-10

Verse for the Week:

‘[Jesus said] “If they didn’t listen to Moses and the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.” ‘
Luke 16: 31.

Prayer & Reading Diary Sourton

Monday

Read: Lamentations 1.1-6
Prayer: Our clergy, especially Adrian Brook and his family, lay readers and Sourton lay worship leader, Caroline North.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 137*
Prayer: Local families, farmers and children; Boasley Cross Primary School and all the schools in the Dartmoor MAT.

Wednesday

Read: 2 Timothy 1.1-14
Prayer: The Sourton Commoners Association and Sourton Parish Council.

Thursday

Read: Luke 17.5-10
Prayer: Our PCC members and all who care for St Thomas’ Church.

Friday

Read: Isaiah 49.13-23
Prayer: All who visit St Thomas’ Church; our outreach to visitors and to all people seeking faith and direction.

Saturday

Read: Luke 12.1-12
Prayer: Those who are sick in body, mind or spirit.

Notices:



* 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 on 07913329148 mishflexman@gmail.com for details.

* ‘Last Afternoon of the Proms!’

St Mary’s Church Belstone invite you to join them for their version of ‘*The Last Night of the Proms*’ in Belstone Village Hall, on **Sunday 5th October** from 3.00-5.00pm, with cream tea and cakes provided. Led by music from the Bondleigh Barn Band, this promises to be great family entertainment, with all proceeds from the event helping to keep our beautiful, historic church open for all. Doors open from 2.30pm. Tickets (including cream tea refreshments) £10.00; 16s and under £5.00, available online from belstonevillage.net from 14th September. For further information, contact Edwina on 07967179769

* 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 :



* Art exhibition, entitled: "Jesus Laughing and Loving."

We are holding the above exhibition over the weekend of **Friday 17th October - Sunday 19th October**, from 10.00 - 4.30pm at Church House, next to St. Andrew's, South Tawton, near Okehampton, along with refreshments, teas, coffees, savouries and cakes, etc. This exhibition has been held just once at Newton St Cyrs and is owned by Revd. Tim Collins along with some others in that benefice. It is an international art exhibition which Revd. Tim first saw at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

One of the many beautiful things about this art exhibition is that Jesus is portrayed laughing, smiling and looking very joyous. Also, the paintings have been done by artists from across the world, including places like Pakistan, Bali, South America, India, etc. which so enables us to see how people from different cultures see Jesus. That apart, it is a very attractive and appealing exhibition, as it is bright and uplifting.



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Church Services:



Sunday 28th September

(15th Sunday after Trinity)

9:30am

Belstone - Harvest Festival Holy Communion
Inwardleigh - Holy Communion
Jacobstowe - Holy Communion
Northlew - Morning Prayer
Bridestowe - Family Service
Bratton Clovelly – Holy Communion
Sourton - Morning Prayer

11:00am

Okehampton - Holy Communion
Hatherleigh – Morning Service
Lydford - Holy Communion
Exbourne – Holy Communion
Meeth - Patronal Holy Communion

6:00pm

Hatherleigh - Evensong

Thursday 2nd October

Jacobstowe – Harvest Festival @ 7pm

Sunday 5th October

(16th Sunday after Trinity)

9:30am

Belstone - Holy Communion
Inwardleigh - Morning Prayer
Sourton - Holy Communion

10:30m

Sticklepath - Village Praise

11:00am

Okehampton - Family Service
Hatherleigh – Harvest Holy Communion
Lydford - Morning Prayer
Meeth - All Age Worship

11:15am

Germansweek - Holy Communion

6:00pm

Northlew - Harvest Festival

Grapevine

15th Sunday after Trinity

28th September 2025



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Today's gospel is for me, a prime example of how to, and how not to, read a parable. An important thing to learn is the distinction between the 'point' of a parable and the 'furniture' of it. The first, is what we are intended to take away, the latter, merely a setting within which to make that point.

Rigid theologies of salvation have been based on this particular scripture, placing dread of 'the void' in our hearts which I believe are missing the intent of the tale.

What Jesus really wants, is for us to notice the poor at our gate and do something about it; that simple. God, through Moses, gave laws of protection for the poor, notably the great freedom feast of Jubilee which the nation soundly ignored for centuries. The prophets also called for the care of orphans and widows, typically from Amos 'Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream.'

By Jesus' time, all these have been systematically ignored by the religious elite in favour of power games and ritual. Jesus is lamenting how hard it is for the self-righteous to experience a change of heart. Hard, but not impossible!

Leigh Winsbury