

Collect for Today

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son
Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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)

Ezekiel 37.1-14
(Psalm 130)
Romans 8.6-11
John 11.1-45

Readings for Next Week (may vary)

Isaiah 50.4-9a
(Psalm 31.9-16*)
Philippians 2.5-11
Matthew 26.14 - 27.66 *or*
Matthew 27.11-54

Verse for the Week:

The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind
governed by the Spirit is life and peace.

Romans 8 v 6

Prayer & Reading Diary

Bridestowe

Monday

Read: Isaiah 50.4-9a

Prayer: For the Holy Spirit to breathe life into our
church that it may be led into the way of truth, unity
of spirit, the bond of peace and righteousness of life.
Book of Common Prayer

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 31.9-16*

Prayer: To give us boldness to preach the gospel in
season and out of season. *2 Timothy 4:2*

Wednesday

Read: Philippians 2.5-11

Prayer: God our creator who wouldst be pleased to
make thy ways known to all men, have mercy on all
unbelievers and take from them all ignorance,
hardness of heart and contempt of thy word.
Book of Common Prayer

Thursday

Read: Matthew 26.14 - 27.66

Prayer: Almighty God defend us in all assaults of
our enemies and deliver us from evil. *Matthew 6:13*

Friday

Read: Matthew 21.1-11

Prayer: For those afflicted in mind, body or estate;
that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them,
giving them patience under their sufferings and a
happy issue out of all their afflictions.
Book of Common Prayer

Saturday

Read: Psalm 118.1-2,19-29*

Prayer: That our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful
and we shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips
but in our lives and giving up ourselves to thy service.
Book of Common Prayer

Notices:



* There is no service at **Inwardleigh church** this
Sunday 22nd March because of installation of new
heaters and there will also be no service on the 29th
March because it's a joint service at Belstone.

* **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 Lent lunches:** (homemade soup and bread) Every Wednesday during Lent from 12-1.30 in the Hall. All proceeds to Christian Aid.

* **Friday 27th March: All Saints Quiz night.**
7 for 7.30 start in Church Hall. Licensed bar, refreshments, raffle. £6pp, teams of 4-6. Booking essential, contact Ruth on 07551 655424 (if you don't have a team we will find you one)

Contact Details:



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Church Services:



Sunday 22nd March

(5th Sunday of Lent)

9:30am

Belstone – Morning Prayer
Inwardleigh – **NO SERVICE**
Northlew – Morning Prayer
Jacobstowe – Holy Communion
Bridestowe – Holy Communion
Bratton Clovelly - Holy Communion
Sourton – Morning Prayer

11:00am

Okehampton - Holy Communion
Hatherleigh – Morning Service followed by
APCM and Bring & Share Lunch
Lydford - Holy Communion
Meeth - Family Worship
Exbourne – Morning Prayer
6:00pm
Hatherleigh – Evensong

Wednesday 25th March

Jacobstowe – Celtic Evening Prayer @ 7pm

Sunday 29th March

(Palm Sunday)

10:00am

Belstone – United Service for Okehampton,
Sticklepath, Inwardleigh & Belstone

10:30am

Bridestowe – Procession: Meet @ Springfields
Bratton Clovelly - Procession: Meet @ Old Rectory

11:00am

Hatherleigh – Five Parish Service
Lydford - Palm Liturgy

Grapevine

5th Sunday of Lent

22nd March 2026



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Inevitably these editorials are written a week or so in advance, so that Sandy has enough time to pull together each week's edition of Grapevine, for which we are very grateful. Things are moving at such pace with the war in the Middle East and its global impacts that it is hard to envisage what we will be feeling by the 22nd March. Perhaps things will have calmed down, maybe not. Either way, for sure, there will be continuing grief and despair amongst the families of those who have lost loved ones and intense distress afflicting those who have seen their lives shattered, their livelihoods destroyed. More widely in our own nation, and across the world, the events in the Middle East will serve to increase the anxiety already felt by many, especially young people, about other wars, climate change and economic uncertainties. Anxiety is magnified and sometimes distorted by social media. We read in Romans at this start of the Passiontide season, how our minds should be 'governed by the Spirit' so that we may have 'life and peace'. As Christians it is our duty to pay deep and prayerful attention to the tribulations of the world, to share in its suffering just as Christ shared and shares, but also to walk with confidence in the love of God. There are no easy theological answers to the evils of war, so beware glib platitudes that suggest otherwise. Rather seek God's Spirit, His peace, His wisdom that we may live in His love and thereby offer comfort to those beset by anxiety.

Michael Winter