

Collect for Today

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above
all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
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)

Genesis 25.19-34
(Psalm 119.105-112)
Romans 8.1-11
Matthew 13.1-9,18-23

Readings for Next Week (may vary)

Genesis 28.10-19a
(Psalm 139.1-11,23,24*)
Romans 8.12-25
Matthew 13.24-30,36-43

Verse for the Week:

“But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone
who hears the word and understands it. This is the one
who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or
thirty times what was sown.” **Matthew 13.23**

Prayer & Reading Diary Okehampton

Monday

Read: Genesis 28.10-19a

Prayer: We continue to pray for the victims of the two Venezuelan earthquakes and those who are now seeking to find their loved ones buried in the rubble. Pray for all those who are injured and bereaved, for aid workers, and for communities struggling to rebuild their lives.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 139.1-11,23,24*

Prayer: Pray for Claire's vision to establish a Worshipping Community in St James school, reaching out to those who live to the far side of Okehampton.

Wednesday

Read: Romans 8.12-25

Prayer: Pray for our three schools - Okehampton primary, St James primary and Okehampton college; for pupils and staff as end of term and school year approach.

Thursday

Read: Matthew 13.24-30,36-43

Prayer: Pray for the work of the Street pastors in Okehampton who patrol and support people on our streets late at night on a Saturday.

Friday

Read: Deuteronomy 30.1-10

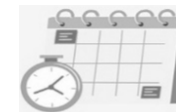
Prayer: Pray for the mission of All Saints Church, and for our outreach in WLTDO and Brick church.
Pray for our church choir and our director of music Kevin.

Saturday

Read: 1 Peter 3.8-18

Prayer: Pray that all who come to our churches on Sunday will be welcomed and experience your Loving Presence in our time of worship.

Notices:



* St James Chapel

There will be NO 10am Holy Communion Service at St James on **Thursday July 9th** as St James' Primary School have their leavers' service.

* There will *not* be a service on the **19th of July** at **Inwardleigh Church at 9.30am** owing to the village Fair, as all attending are involved in the running of this.

* **Monday 20th July: Hatherleigh Archdeacon's Visitation at 7pm.** There will be refreshments after the service.

* **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.

Dates for your Diary:



* Inwardleigh country Fair on July 19th from 12 noon to 5pm.

Lots to do and entertainment, refreshments available. Also there will be no church service at St Petroc's Church Inwardleigh on Sunday 19th July.

* Belstone Cream Tea: Sunday 26th July

St Mary's Church, Belstone are having their next Cream Tea on Sunday 26th July in Belstone Village Hall from 2:30pm to 5pm.

Why not come for a cuppa and delicious homemade scones and cakes. All proceeds are for the Church.

Contact Details:



- Revd Claire Reynolds (Team Vicar)
07858 313677 reverend.claire.reynolds@gmail.com
Day off on Fridays
- Ruth Cartlidge (Team Administrator)
07551 655424 northmoorpa@gmail.com
- Revd Adrian Brook (Team Vicar)
01837 861580 adrian@ministry.plus.com
- Revd Leigh Winsbury (Team Vicar)
01837 810680 lwinsbury@googlemail.com
- Revd. Jonathan Cook (Curate) 07768 836077
rev.jonathan.cook@gmail.com
- Revd. John Hall 07771848412
sarasgarden@hotmail.co.uk
- Maurie Webber 01837 53845
mwebberm@yahoo.co.uk
- Canon Professor Michael Winter,
Licensed Lay Minister. 01837 851718
d.m.winter@exeter.ac.uk

Church Services:



Sunday 12th July

(6th Sunday after Trinity)

9:30am

Belstone – Celtic Morning Prayer
Inwardleigh – Holy Communion
Northlew – Morning Prayer
Jacobstowe – Morning Prayer
Bratton Clovelly – Holy Communion
Bridestowe – Morning Prayer

11:00am

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

Sunday 19th July

(7th Sunday after Trinity)

8:30am

Sticklepath – Holy Communion

9:30am

Belstone – Holy Communion
Inwardleigh – NO Service
Bratton Clovelly – Morning Prayer
Meeth - All Age Worship
Northlew – Morning Prayer

11:00am

Okehampton - Holy Communion
Hatherleigh – Celebration Service
Lydford - Morning Prayer
Exbourne – Holy Communion by ext'n
Bridestowe – Joint Service with Methodists

7:00pm

Hatherleigh – Prayer and Praise

Grapevine

6th Sunday after Trinity

12th July 2026

grapevine.northmoor@aol.com

www.northmoorteam.org.uk

This week's Gospel is the Parable of the Sower. It's a well known passage and often preachers take the angle of how we all look to sow the seed of God's word in others. However, it is also an opportunity for us all to reflect on the condition of *our own hearts* and how *we* respond to God's Word. Jesus explains that the seed represents the message of the Kingdom, while the different types of soil symbolize the various ways people receive it. This reminds us that with hearing God's word, what also matters is how deeply it takes root in my life.

The image of the good soil inspires me to become more open, faithful, and willing to let God's teachings shape my thoughts and actions. Distractions, worries, and the desire for worldly success can easily crowd out my faith, just as thorns choke the growing plants. Difficulties and challenges can also test my faith, much like the rocky ground where the plants quickly wither.

So, whilst this is a helpful parable to understand why different people react in different ways when we tell them the good news - it also encourages me to examine what prevents *me* from fully accepting God's message. Through Jesus we can have a restored relationship with God, which is great news. The Holy Spirit helps me to understand this and to change to become more Christ-like. But I can also actively cultivate a heart that is receptive and obedient through prayer, regular reading of Scripture, and trusting in God's promises. So can I encourage us all to be the good soil.

Claire Reynolds