

Collect for Today

Almighty God,
who alone can bring order to the unruly wills
and passions of sinful humanity:
give your people grace so to love what you
command and to desire what you promise,
that, among the many changes of this world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed
where true joys are to be found;
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 Today (may vary)

Isaiah 58.1-9a [b-12]
(Psalm 112.1-9 [10])
1 Corinthians 2.1-12 [13-16]
Matthew 5.13-2

Next week's Readings (may vary)

Deuteronomy 30.15-20
(Psalm 119.1-8)
1 Corinthians 3.1-9
Matthew 5.21-37

Later Today

3.00pm **Germansweek** – Confirmation Service
4.00pm **Hatherleigh** – Praise@4.00
6.30pm **Okehampton** – Evensong

Verse for the Week

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords
of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break
every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your food with the
hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with
shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them,
and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?”

Isaiah 58:6-7

Prayer and Reading Diary Jacobstowe

Monday

Read: Deuteronomy 30.15-20,
Pray for: Our farming community and may the
blessing of the plough last Sunday bring them good
fortune this year.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 119.1-8,
Pray for: Those in the community who are sick,
lonely or missing loved ones.

Wednesday

Read: 1 Corinthians 3.1-9,
Pray for: Giving thanks to Leigh and Lynn who have
given us so much in their first year with us.

Thursday

Read: Matthew 5.21-37,
Pray for: Those in Australia who have suffered loss
in the dreadful bush fires.

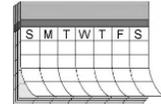
Friday

Read: Amos 3.1-8,
Pray for: The end to the bitter divisions which have
caused so much unhappiness in this country over the
last three years.

Saturday

Read: Ephesians 5.1-17,
Pray for: New arrivals in the village, may they find
friendship and contentment within our community.

Events This Week:



Tuesday 11th February:

9am Hatherleigh Prayer Group - Methodist
Prayer Room
10am Prayer Group – St James, Okehampton

Wednesday 12th February:

9am Bridestowe weekly jnt. church prayer meeting
7.45pm Deanery Synod – Church Hall, Okehampton

Thursday 13th February:

10am Holy Communion - St James Church,
Okehampton



Notices:

- Just a reminder that for the next few weeks while the Rectory is refurbished if you want to contact Stephen it is best to do so on his mobile (07790 909442) or by email scook9673@aol.com. Prayers for the Cook family during this disrupted time would be appreciated!
- After two and a half years, the **Taize group** are taking a well-earned winter break from singing monthly at St Thomas a Becket, Sourton until Sunday 10th May when their 'Second Sunday of the month Taizeprayer' will resume.

• **Lent groups** will be taking place in various places around the team and details are available in the various parishes.

Bridestowe : Christ and the Chocolaterie
A Lent Course based on the film Chocolat will be held at Bridestowe Methodist Church on Mondays at 7.30pm. The Course starts on February 24th.

In **Okehampton for Lent**: Tuesday evenings at 7:30 beginning on 3rd March, we will be looking at “Big Issues”: those questions at the back of your mind which seem to hang around like unwanted guests at every conversation about faith: Who needs God? (Faith and Science) How did the dinosaurs fit on the ark? (Faith and the Bible) Where was God when...? (Faith and suffering) Loaves and fishes (Faith and miracles) Dead man walking (Faith and resurrection). There will be an introduction to the subject and an open conversation. All welcome.

Future Events:



- **Sunday 16th February**: Games afternoon - Church Hall, Okehampton: 3pm ~ 5pm. Tea and crumpets.
- **Tuesday 25th February: Pancake Evening** at Old Schools, Hatherleigh from 5.00 - 7.30 on Shrove Tuesday. Freebie evening - donation pot available if you wish to contribute.
- **Wednesday 4th March: How to guide children and young people to healthy video gaming** at 7:00pm at Belmont Chapel, Exeter. This event is being run by Andy Robertson, a Christian journalist. He is bringing a unique session on how to guide children and young people to healthy video gaming. This event is aimed at Parents or Youth Workers who have a concern in video gaming or want to use it for positive interaction with the young people and children around them.
- **Thursday 12th March: “Prayer in a Secular Age – Finding the Secret of prayer in the Earliest Teachers”** - a talk by Laurence Freeman at 7pm: St James’ Church, Mount Pleasant Road, Exeter EX4 7AH. This talk will provide an introduction to Christian meditation and is suitable for those new to meditation as well as those with more experience. No need to book and there is no charge but there is a suggested donation of £5 to £10 to cover costs.

Services for 16th February 2020 Second Sunday before Lent

8.00am	Bridestowe – Holy Communion
9.30am	Belstone – Morning Prayer
	Inwardleigh – Holy Communion
	Bratton Clovelly – Messy Church
	Bridestowe – Messy Church
	Meeth – Morning Prayer
	Northlew – Holy Communion
11.00am	Okehampton – Holy Communion
	Sourton – Holy Communion
	Lydford – Morning Prayer
	Hatherleigh – Morning Prayer
	Exbourne – Holy Communion
4.00pm	Hatherleigh – Praise@4.00
5.00pm	Germansweek – Evening Prayer
6.00pm	Hatherleigh - Evensong
6.30pm	Okehampton – Evening Prayer: Joint Service at Fairplace

Contact Details

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Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News

Third Sunday before Lent

9th February 2020



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www.northmoorteam.org.uk

I haven't tried this, but imagine if you go round asking people if they are religious most people will say no. It's not a word we like to apply to ourselves because it does not have especially positive connotations. On the other hand people will tell you they do their best to live a decent life: to be good parents, to lend a helping hand, to be a force for good in the world.

In the Old Testament reading set for today God lays in to religious people. All their fasting and religious observance isn't going to get them anywhere unless it is accompanied by a concern for justice and mercy. “If you offer food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom will be like the noonday.” If their heart is where God's heart is, then their “religion” will come alive.

This Sunday marks the beginning of the run up to Lent and if we are going to keep Lent well now is the time to ask what we are going to do. Fasting in various forms is a good idea if its purpose is to enable us to draw closer to God and to bring our lives more in line with God's priorities but if it is to be more than empty religion it needs to result in change. “Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice... to let the oppressed go free and to break every yoke?” How can your life come that little bit more into line with God's priorities so that your religion will come alive?

Stephen