

Collect for Today

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water
and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling
as your adopted children;
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

Genesis 1.1-5
(Psalm 29)
Acts 19.1-7
Mark 1.4-11

Readings for Next Week

1 Samuel 3.1-10[11-20]
(Psalm 139.1-5, 12-18*)
Revelation 5.1-10
John 1.43-51

Verse for the Week

“John proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’”

Mark 1:7-8

Prayer & Reading Diary

Monday

Read: 1 Samuel 3.1-20]

Prayer: Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 139.1-5, 12-18

Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake.

Amen.

Wednesday

Read: Revelation 5.1-10

Prayer: God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayer & Reading Diary

Thursday

Read: John 1.43-51

Prayer: For those who are ill
Merciful God,
we entrust to your tender care
those who are ill or in pain,
knowing that whenever danger threatens
your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe.
Comfort and heal them,
and restore them to health and strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Friday

Read: Isaiah 60.9-22

Prayer: For hospital staff & medical researchers
Gracious God,
give skill, sympathy and resilience
to all who are caring for the sick,
and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.
Strengthen them with your Spirit,
that through their work many will be restored to
health;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Saturday

Read: Hebrews 6.17 - 7.10

Prayer: From one who is ill or isolated
O God,
help me to trust you,
help me to know that you are with me,
help me to believe that nothing can separate me
from your love
revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Notices:



- We are back in lockdown but this time churches remain open. It is remarkable that the government has responded to calls to see worship as an essential part of the nation's life in a time of crisis and it is also an indication that church services are deemed relatively safe activities because they are so well regulated. It is essential that we keep to the rules, cover our faces, sanitize our hands and keep a respectful distance from each other. It is also essential that we avoid conversations inside the building, tempting though that is. If you want to chat please do so in the open air and at a safe distance.

- All the churches are open for worship this Sunday as normal. We will keep this under review and any change will be announced as early as possible. The online services will resume this Sunday and a link will be provided later in the week.

- The "Zoom Fellowship" meetings will also resume on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm. A link will be provided with the next email. It might be a good New Year's resolution to get to grips with Zoom if you have not already done so. It really isn't that hard: if you have conquered YouTube there are plenty of "How to" videos there to help, but it is really just a matter of downloading the programme then clicking on the link.

- Do you know anyone you think would appreciate a phone call from the church? Please let the clergy or readers know.

- 'The History of the Bible Today by John Barton was Book of the Week on BBC Radio 4 for the five days Mon 28th Dec - 1st Jan. Each episode is still available on BBC Sounds for 30 days. The Book published in 2020 was widely reviewed and very well received. The radio adaptation read by Hugh Bonneville explores how relevant this revered tome still is to our modern world.' - Tim Newcombe

Church Services:



Sunday 10th January:

9:30am

Jacobstowe – Holy Communion

Meeth – Morning Prayer

Northlew – Morning Prayer

Bridestowe – Holy Communion

Inwardleigh – Morning Prayer

Belstone – Holy Communion

11:00am

Okehampton – Holy Communion

Lydford – Holy Communion

Hatherleigh – Morning Prayer

6:30pm

Sourton – Taize Service **

(Unconfirmed at time of printing)

Contact Details:

- Revd Stephen Cook (Team Rector)
01837 659297 SCook9673@aol.com
- Revd Adrian Brook (Team Vicar)
01837 861580 adrian@ministry.plus.com
- Revd Leigh Winsbury (Team Vicar)
01837 810680 lwinsbury@googlemail.com
- Revd Richard Bache (Curate)
01822 820536 rich.foley@btinternet.com
- Ruth Cartlidge (Team Administrator)
07551 655424 northmoorpa@gmail.com
- Maurie Webber
01837 53845 mwebberm@yahoo.co.uk



Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News

1st Sunday of Epiphany

10th Jan 2021



grapevine.northmoor@aol.com



www.northmoorteam.org.uk

Both the gospel and the epistle readings set for today talk about the difference between baptism with water and baptism with the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist contrasts what he is doing with what the one who is coming will do and Paul comes across some people in Ephesus who have received John's baptism only. Both these passages come down through the centuries to us as a reminder that repentance in itself is not enough: it needs to be accompanied by renewal.

This is a time of year when we resolve not to repeat the mistakes of the past: to exercise more, eat less, improve our minds and clean up our acts. I spent yesterday cleaning my study and I now have about ten bin bags full of stuff for the recycling centre. All the surfaces are clear and the out of date notices are off the wall. But I know that left to my own devices the clutter will begin to accumulate again: resolution is not enough, I need to change.

Our nation, indeed the whole world, is facing a major crisis. We need vaccines, we need discipline, we need financial support for businesses but above all we need renewal. We can't simply call people to repentance, we also need to discover the fundamental message of hope and new life that Jesus came to bring. "I baptise you with water," said John, "but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."

Stephen