Collect for Today

Almighty God,
you have knit together your elect
in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:
grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those inexpressible joys
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,

Amen.

Readings for This Week

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

Revelation 7.9-17 (Psalm 34.1-10) 1 John 3.1-3 Matthew 5.1-12

Readings for Next Week

Amos 5.18-24 (Psalm 70) 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18 Matthew 25.1-13

Verse for the Week

"Beloved, we are God's children now. What we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed we will be like him, for we will see him as he is." **1 John 3:2**

Prayer & Reading Diary Belstone

Monday

Read: Amos 5.18-24

Prayer: For the current bid for funding for a heritage

project in St Mary's Sticklepath.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 70

Prayer: For local businesses: the pubs, the shop, the B and Bs as they pick their way through the crisis.

Wednesday

Read: 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18

Prayer: That the excellent community spirit will

hold up as a sprint turns into a marathon.

Thursday

Read: Matthew 25.1-13

Prayer: That those who have made contact with church through watching online services will find their way to a fuller faith.

Friday

Read: Judges 7.2-22

Prayer: For the work of Bernard's Acre Youth and

Holiday centre.

Saturday

Read: John 15.9-17

Prayer: For the village halls: the people who run

them and the groups that use them.

Notices:



Government regulations now require the wearing of face coverings in church.

- Remembrance Sunday services are happening around the team next Sunday (8th November): contact your local church for exact details.
- Next Sunday the service in **Okehampton** will be entirely at the war memorial and will last about 30 minutes. Uniformed group representatives are asked to limit their numbers to three. Please bring a mask, arrive in good time and be prepared to socially distance.
- Grapevine is your publication: if you have notices of a church-related nature please send them to the editor by the Tuesday of the week of publication. It doesn't matter if you send them some time in advance.

Church Services:



Monday 2nd November

6:00pm

Lydford - Commemoration of All Souls

Sunday 8th November: Remembrance Services

9:30 am

Inwardleigh

10:40 am

Hatherleigh – at War Memorial

10:45 am

Okehampton – at War Memorial

Belstone

Bridestowe – at War Memorial

Bratton Clovelly – at War Memorial

Lydford – at War Memorial

Sourton – at Church

10:50 am

Northlew – at War Memorial

10:55 am

Exbourne – at War Memorial

2:30pm

Germansweek - at the War Memorial

6:30pm

Sourton - Taize Service

Church Services:



Sunday 1st November (These may change)

9:30 am

Sourton – Holy Communion Northlew - Holy Communion Belstone – morning Prayer Inwardleigh - Holy Communion Exbourne – Morning Prayer Jacobstowe – Morning Prayer Meeth – All Age Worship

11:00 am

Okehampton – Morning Prayer Hatherleigh – Holy Communion Lydford – Morning Prayer

11:15am

Germansweek & Bratton Clovelly – **Holy Communion**

4:00pm

Bridestowe – Commemoration of All Souls

6:30pm

Hatherleigh – Group Service for All Souls



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Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News All Saints Day 1st Nov 2020



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The Gospel reading for this Sunday, which is All Saints day, is the "Beatitudes": the "Blessed are..." sayings of Jesus at the start of the Sermon on the Mount. A huge amount has been written about all of them but the one that stood out for me as I read them again today was the 5th: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy".

What is the opposite of mercy? Is it revenge? Strangely the biblical contrast seems to be with justice. Two good things; mercy and justice, are set in opposition to one another. In our relationship with God we deserve justice and receive mercy. We dare not ask for justice because with it would come condemnation. Instead we ask for mercy and receive righteousness. If we are to be children of our Heavenly Father we are to model the same attitude in our dealings with others, moving beyond justice to mercy.

It wouldn't work for a state to adopt this policy: we need to punish crime and protect victims, but in our personal relationships we often have the opportunity to turn aside from justice and embrace mercy. Someone might deserve our anger or our rejection: it might be their fault they are where they are, but if we can discipline ourselves to see them through God's eves then we may find the strength to be merciful. That will come back on us: we in turn will receive mercy: that's what Jesus promised. Stephen