

Collect for Today

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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

Isaiah 51.1-6
(Psalm 138)
Romans 12.1-8
Matthew 16.13-20

Readings for Next Week

Jeremiah 15.15-21
(Psalm 26.1-8)
Romans 12.9-21
Matthew 16.21-28

Verse for the Week

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.” **Romans 12:2**

Prayer & Reading Diary Jacobstowe

Monday

Read: Jeremiah 15.15-21
Prayer: We thank God for the opportunities we have to worship in different ways and pray that this will renew us and give us strength.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 26.1-8
Prayer: For those suffering in mind, body or soul at this time. Bless them with your presence.

Wednesday

Read: Romans 12.9-21
Prayer: For people seeking work and worrying about finances.

Thursday

Read: Matthew 16.21-28
Prayer: For leaders of nations as they seek to curtail the spread of coronavirus.

Friday

Read: 2 Kings 6.24-25; 7.3-20
Prayer: For areas of the world troubled by conflict and disaster.

Saturday

Read: Acts 18.1-16
Prayer: For our farmers, food producers, delivery people, shopkeepers and employees.

Notices:



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

Apologies to those who found it difficult to access last Sunday's video: we are still not sure what went wrong: hopefully you found your way there in the end. If it happens again try going via the Northmoor team website or follow a previous link and click on "All Saints Church" below the video and that should bring up all that is available on that channel. Last Sunday's service is still there so not too late.

It has been lovely to see more and more people slowly venturing back to church. If you find wearing a face covering difficult you may be in a category that is exempt: please see the government advice. Please be aware that people may not be wearing a covering for good reasons. You may also find a face shield works better for you and it is an acceptable alternative.

In addition to all that is on offer locally you will also find some good material available on the Exeter Diocese website, including armchair talks by Bishop Robert. Search Exeter Diocese and you will find your way there.

Notices:



Stephen has begun “Night Prayers”, which are daily 7-10 minute reflections for use at the end of the day available as a podcast. There is a reading, a thought and a series of prayers in the Celtic tradition. You can find this podcast if you search for “Moorthoughts” on any of the major platforms. OR if podcasts are not for you there are short videos with the same content on YouTube.

If you do email, you are strongly encouraged to receive Grapevine this way. You will then also receive the weekly bulletin containing any last minute changes to service times etc. and the occasional “Grapevine Plus” which is a news and inspiration bulletin to which anyone can contribute.



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Church Services:



Sunday 23rd August

8:30am

Sticklepath – Holy Communion

9:30 am

Jacobstowe – Holy Communion
Northlew – Church Family Service
Bridestowe – Holy Communion
Belstone – Holy Communion
Inwardleigh – Morning Prayer

11:00 am

Okehampton – Holy Communion
Hatherleigh – Holy Communion
Lydford – Holy Communion

Sunday 30th August (These may change)

9:30 am

Exbourne – Holy Communion
Belstone – Morning Prayer
Inwardleigh – Holy Communion

11:00 am

Okehampton – Holy Communion
Hatherleigh – Joint Service
Sourton – Benefice Service

Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News

11th Sunday after Trinity

23rd August 2020



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www.northmoorteam.org.uk

Throughout history human beings have been offering sacrifices to gods: their crops, their animals, their enemies even their children have been laid out altars, thrown off high places or burned in fires. The people of the Old Testament were forbidden human sacrifice but the sacrifice of animals reached a high point with the building of the first temple: it must have been less like a cathedral and more like an abattoir if the numbers are to be taken at face value. The noise and the stench must have been terrible.

The idea was that you took something which was valuable to you and offered it to God as a sign of devotion and repentance. Christians saw it s a prefiguring of the time when the one sacrifice which really could take away sins would be offered once for all upon the cross, rendering the old system obsolete. Now a new kind of devotion was called for.

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters by the mercy of God to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God” says St Paul in one of the readings set for today and he goes on to talk about the way in which each one of us needs to see ourselves as part of something bigger: that our gifts whatever they may be are to be surrendered to the greater purpose of God’s plan. The Old Testament is ambiguous as to whether God ever really demanded the system of animal sacrifice but the New Testament is quite clear that what God most wants from us is that we should find life by offering ourselves in service to a greater cause.

Stephen