

## Collect for Today

Almighty God,  
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles  
the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your mighty power;  
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 14.17-20  
(Psalm 128)  
Revelation 19.6-10  
John 2.1-11

## Readings for Next Week

Deuteronomy 18.15-20  
(Psalm 111)  
Revelation 12.1-5a  
Mark 1.21-28

## Verse for the Week

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, 'Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.'"  
**Revelation 19:6-7**

## Prayer & Reading Diary

### Monday

**Read:** Deuteronomy 18.15-20  
**Prayer:** Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church  
is governed and sanctified:  
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful  
people,  
that in their vocation and ministry  
they may serve you in holiness and truth  
to the glory of your name;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

### Tuesday

**Read:** Psalm 111  
**Prayer:** Most gracious God and Father,  
in whose will is our peace,  
turn our hearts and the hearts of all to yourself,  
that by the power of your Spirit  
the peace which is founded on justice  
may be established throughout the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

### Wednesday

**Read:** Revelation 12.1-5a  
**Prayer:** Lord God of Abraham,  
bless the children of your covenant, both Jew and  
Christian;  
take from us all blindness and bitterness of heart,  
and hasten the coming of your kingdom,  
when the Gentiles shall be gathered in,  
all Israel shall be saved,  
and we shall dwell together in mutual love and peace  
under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus  
Christ.  
Amen

## Prayer & Reading Diary

### Thursday

**Read:** Mark 1.21-28  
**Prayer:** Merciful God,  
creator of all the people of the earth,  
have compassion on all who do not know you,  
and by the preaching of your gospel with grace and  
power,  
gather them into the one fold of the one Shepherd;  
Christ our Lord.  
Amen

### Friday

**Read:** 1 Samuel 3.1-20  
**Prayer:** Almighty and everlasting God,  
the comfort of the sad, the strength of those who  
suffer:  
hear the prayers of your children who cry out of any  
trouble,  
and to every distressed soul grant mercy, relief and  
refreshment,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

### Saturday

**Read:** 1 Corinthians 14.12-20  
**Prayer:** O God of unchangeable power and eternal  
light,  
look favourably on your whole Church,  
that wonderful and sacred mystery,  
and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual  
providence carry out the work of our salvation:  
and let the whole world feel and see that things which  
were cast down are being raised up  
and things which had grown old are being made new  
and that all things are returning to perfection  
through him from whom they took their origin,  
even Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen

## Notices:



- Some of the churches in the team continue to be open for public worship; others have decided it is not possible for them to open safely. We are also finding that people are being very cautious, and so numbers are low where we are open. If you want to come you are most welcome but whether you come or not we are here for you and will be praying for you and the wider community. The online provision will continue as before and we are always looking for ways in which we can improve what we do.

- Live streaming from All Saints Okehampton is working better than we thought it would! (Apart from a battery saving feature meaning the camera turned itself off at a critical moment last week: lesson learned). It is quite a hassle setting it up but we are learning and will persist: more details later in the week.

- It has been decided to pause Thursday communions in St James for the time being. They will be resumed as soon as it seems wise to do so. The chapel will remain open for private prayer on Thursdays and Sundays.

- There will be no services in St Mary's Sticklepath this month or next. We are keeping this under review and will start again as soon as it is sensible to do so.

## Church Services:



### Sunday 24th January:

9:30am

Sourton – Morning Prayer

Belstone – Holy Communion

Inwardleigh – Morning Prayer

11:00am

Okehampton – Holy Communion

Lydford – Holy Communion

**Services are subject to last minute changes at the moment. If there are any changes/ cancellations to this Sunday's services, they will be updated in the email that comes out later in the week.**

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# Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

24<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021



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I have been to Cana in Galilee and you won't be surprised when I tell you there are lots of shops which sell wine. I bought a bottle and asked the shopkeeper if it was part of the original batch. He smiled and assured me that it absolutely was. I have to say it was OK but probably not up to Jesus' standard.

One of the things that strikes me about the first recorded miracle that Jesus performed is how ordinary it was. A wedding was a big deal in those days as now and not to have provided enough for your guests would have been a matter of shame and dishonour. Either the guests had drunk too much or the bridegroom's family had been too mean and unbeknown to him the bridegroom was about to be seriously embarrassed, but that was all. No one had died: no one was suffering from a debilitating illness. The guests would have gone home sober, that was all, and yet, a little reluctantly it is true, Jesus not only provided wine but the very best wine they had ever tasted in quantities they couldn't possibly have drunk.

The Bible tells us that God is able to do "abundantly more than we can ask or imagine". There is no shame in bringing our ordinary needs to him. When you think about it, those wine shops in Cana's narrow streets show how Jesus not only provided wine for a wedding, he ensured a town's prosperity for centuries to come. Our God is indeed a God of abundance.

*Stephen*