

Collect for Today

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in
great humility;
that on the last day, when he shall come again
in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him 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 64.1-9
(Psalm 80.1-8)
1 Corinthians 1.3-9
Mark 13.24-37

Readings for Next Week

Isaiah 40.1-11
(Psalm 85.1-2, 8-13*)
2 Peter 3.8-15a
Mark 1.1-8

Verse for the Week

“He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you
may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
⁹ God is faithful; by him you were called into the
fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”

1 Corinthians 1:7-8

Prayer & Reading Diary Jacobstowe

Monday

Read: Isaiah 40.1-11

Prayer: At the time of advent may we focus with
expectation on the birth of Jesus.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 85.1-2, 8-13*

Prayer: For people in our communities who are
vulnerable, in poor health, worried or fearful.

Wednesday

Read: 2 Peter 3.8-15a

Prayer: For the much anticipated WC project at
Jacobstowe and for Colin and helpers working on the
scheme.

Thursday

Read: Mark 1.1-8

Prayer: As Christmas approaches, that we may think
of ways to involve the community in the life of the
Church in these challenging times.

Friday

Read: 1 Kings 22.1-28

Prayer: For families and friends who we have
missed seeing and hope that there may be
opportunities to share together again soon.

Saturday

Read: Romans 15.4-13

Prayer: For the Northmoor team - Vicars and
Readers - as they seek to share the faith and encourage
us in new and different ways.

Notices:



• Christians Together in Okehampton are praying
together every Thursday evening for twenty minutes
from 7.00pm. If you're able to join us on the zoom
link then please come along and pray for our town and
all the people who live and work here.

Date: 26-11-2020

Start Time: 7pm

Duration: 20mins

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76366191592?pwd=VVc2cjdxdnJKRUlrS2RFcnNMZndpZz09>

Meeting ID: 763 6619 1592

Passcode: 9z5W2k

• It is nice to know that people are keeping in touch
with each other by phone. Please continue to do so
and have a look through your contacts list and think if
there is anyone who might appreciate a call. You
don't have to talk for long for them to know they have
been remembered and are cared about.

• Every Tuesday is Zoom fellowship night from 7:30-
8:30 pm. This is an opportunity to catch up with
others and to think a little together about a passage for
the coming Sunday. The link you need will be sent
with the information about the Sunday service.
There is plenty of information on the Exeter Diocese
website and on the Church of England website. You
can join in with Morning Prayer at the cathedral and
all sorts of things. Do check it out.

Notices:



• Churches are allowed to be open for private prayer. The churches in the team each have their own policy on this. St James in the centre of Okehampton will be open on Sundays and Thursdays and you are positively encouraged to pop in and pray. Material will be provided to help you pray for the world, for our country and for our local area. Please carefully observe the usual rules.

• In preparation for our **Toy Service on Sunday 13 December** in this unusual year, we thought you might like to drop your gifts off at my house in advance and then I can take them all up to All Saints on the day or, if we do it differently, Steve can come along here to bless them. So, **from Friday, 27 November**, you can either put gifts in the clean, plastic-line recycling box near my front door or in the porch on the table. Bev Johnson: 56 North Street, Okehampton. Phone 078158 821532 if you'd like me to collect them. Let's fill my home with gifts for those who have suffered abuse during lockdowns. Thank you. Best wishes, Beverley

• **South West Carols** are hosting a Festive Carols and Nativity event live online on December 5th and 6th, starting at 7pm each evening. Celebrate with people all over the South West tuning in from their homes for a festive online production featuring home grown talent and headline acts.

The link is below if you are interested:

[South West Carols](#)

Church Services:



Please note all Church services are cancelled for the 4 weeks of lockdown.

Belstone & Sticklepath:

We are aiming to hold our Christingle & Toy Service at Belstone on

Sunday 6th December @ 4pm



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Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News

Advent Sunday

29th Nov 2020



grapevine.northmoor@aol.com



www.northmoorteam.org.uk

I went out for a walk the other day and was surprised to find that by 5:00 pm it was dark. I shouldn't have been: it happens every year after all, but it is strange to think that in the summer you can still see to read at 10:00 pm and in the depths of winter you start needing a torch at about 4:30. In a few days' time we will reach the shortest day, then a couple of weeks later we will start to notice the days getting longer again. That is not a maybe; it is one of the very few things we can be 100% sure of.

This week there has been some rare good news and the analogy of light at the end of the tunnel has been much overused. The prospect of life returning to something approximating to normal sometime next year seems to be a real one. But if that happens we will be returning I hope with a realisation that there are very few things that are certain. We would be very foolish indeed to simply return to the old mindset; worrying about the little things and ignoring the big ones.

“Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will never pass away” says Jesus in the Gospel reading set for today. Even the passage of the earth around the sun won't go on forever but there are some things that are eternal; some things that last forever; some things that will never pass away. Next summer will happen: that is a rare certainty, but even more certain is the solid, dependable, unchanging Word which called the world into being in the first place: on that we can rely absolutely.

Stephen