

## Notices and Forward Look – continued

### Services:

On the Feast of St Michael and All Angels on 29<sup>th</sup> September, we will be holding a service of art, poetry, music and reflection at 7.30pm at Holy Trinity Torbryan.

Harvest Festivals will be taking place on 11<sup>th</sup> October focusing on creation and our care of it.

- Professor David Griggs will be speaking at Denbury and Ipplepen on Sustainable Development bringing to us his global experience in this important area.
- 'B-Wild', a local initiative set up to promote biodiversity in the village of Broadhempston, will be speaking there.
- Farming will be our focus in Woodland.

Looking ahead on 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, we are focusing on gifts and stewardship with Stephen Mitchell, the Diocesan Mission Resources Advisor

**Meetings:** APCM meetings are taking place.

**Social and community events:** St Andrew's Church Hall is now open again. The latest issue of the Beacon will be out soon – a bumper issue.

**In memoriam:** We continue to pray for John Eastley and Nora Dennis and their families.

**Coronavirus:** We continue to wear masks, social distance and wash and sanitise hands. The specific restrictions for occasional offices continue to apply e.g. limited to 30 people for funerals and now 15 people for Weddings.

**Diocese/Deanery:** Our Deanery is growing to include some of Morton Deanery – formal consultation will be happening soon.

**Thoughts for prayer:** Those being ordained to the priesthood this weekend across Devon

## Readings

		This week	Next week
<b>Readings for this Sunday:</b>	First Reading	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32	Isaiah 5:1-7
	Psalm	25:1-9	80: 9-17
	Second Reading	Philippians 2:1-13	Philippians 3:4b-14
	Gospel	Matthew 21:23-32	Matthew 21:33-46
<b>Readings for the week ahead:</b>	Mon 28 <sup>th</sup>	Luke 9:46-50	
	Tue 29 <sup>th</sup>	John 1.47–End	
	Wed 30 <sup>th</sup>	Luke 9.57–End	
	Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Luke 10.1–12	
	Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Luke 10.13–16	
	Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Luke 10.17–24	

They can also be viewed/downloaded from <https://bible.oremus.org/>

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Beacon Parishes Mission Community of Ipplepen with Torbryan,  
Denbury, Broadhempston and Woodland

## Weekly Notices

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

#### Weekly Morning Prayer

Mon	9.00am	- Ipplepen
Tues	9.00am	- Woodland
Wed	9.00am	- Broadhempston
Thurs	9.00am	- Denbury

#### Services and Diary Dates

Sun 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Holy Communion	- Woodland
	9.30am	Thanksgiving Service	- Denbury
	10.00am	Pet Service	- Ipplepen
Tue 29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Pet Service	- Broadhempston
	7.30am	Service for Feast of St Michael and All Angels	- Holy Trinity, Torbryan
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup>	5.00pm	APCM	- Denbury
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	9.30am	Holy Communion	- Denbury
	11.00am	Holy Communion	- Ipplepen
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	9.30am	Harvest Festival	- Woodland
	9.30am	Harvest Festival	- Denbury
	11.00am	Harvest Communion	- Broadhempston
	11.00am	Harvest Festival	- Ipplepen (Field)
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct	7.00pm	APCM	- Ipplepen
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	7.00pm	APCM & PCC meeting	- Broadhempston

## Notices and Forward Look

### Andrew's thoughts:

We are entering a busy end and beginning of the church year. Transitions are always busy! We end the church year with Harvest Festivals, Remembrance, All Saints and All Souls, Christ the King and the Feast of St Andrew and we begin the new church year with Advent, a season leading up to our celebrations of Christmas.

These celebrations will be different this year as we make the adaptations needed to keep everyone safe and well. We will need to be creative and nimble in our approach but celebrate and mark these things we must.

The image that comes to my mind is that of day markers such as the one at Gribbin Head in St Austell Bay where I grew up. Such day markers are incredibly important points of navigation for shipping and, as we navigate what can feel at times like very stormy seas, we will need our church day markers more than ever, however we are able to celebrate them, to give our communities points of reference and stability and a guide of how to navigate through these times.



## Reflection by Hillarie Griggs

Matthew 21:23-32

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020

At first reading it does not seem at all odd that the chief priests and the elders would ask Jesus, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” The “things” were Jesus’ triumphant entry in Jerusalem with the crowds shouting “Hosanna,” his teaching and miraculous powers, and the overturning of the tables in the temple. They were, after all, expected to protect the people from false prophets. They were secure in their own authority and standing within the community, although they felt increasingly threatened by Jesus’ popularity with the ordinary people.

Jesus resists the temptation to talk about himself and show them his power and authority. They had already seen and heard it and had closed their minds. Instead, he answers them with a question about John the Baptist to expose the real reason for their questioning. Their debate about how to answer and their reply of “we don’t know” shows their real concern was about protecting their own positions and reputations and they did not want to lose the privileges that they had. They had had to carefully weigh up their response because they did not want to look bad in front of the people. They may as well have said, “We aren’t willing to commit, we don’t want to lose face.” Jesus exposes their words as not matching their intentions or actions.

Jesus then illustrates this teaching with the parable of the two sons. It is a challenge to us as it forces us to ask ourselves the question, “Which son am I behaving like?” Obviously, we would all like the answer to be the son whose initial response was no but who then goes on to do as his father requested. The parable focuses on what the sons did, not on what they said. Both sons were children of the landowner, both shamed and mocked their father, but it was their action that determined who was the true son. What separates the sons is that the first one was willing to admit that he was wrong and then do something about it. He had gone from resistance to obedience.

In the same way we are all loved as children of God, but it is through our actions and our willingness to participate in our Father’s business that will determine whether we are true sons and daughters or not. It is asking us to think about our response to the truth of the gospel and what God is asking us to do. Jesus is teaching that it is not only what we say, it’s what we do that shows our commitment to our faith. It is not our lip service or what fancy words we use that God wants, it’s our repentance and our obedience that matters. Like the first son, we must acknowledge when we get things wrong and then we have to open our hearts so that our attitudes are transformed. It is not a simple changing of our minds. It is about changing the established patterns of our lives. This will enable us to be willing to do something about our wrongdoing. When we follow Christ, we become less self-centered and open ourselves to being changed towards reconciliation, redemption, and justice for the oppressed.

Our challenge is about what we do after we leave church on Sunday? Do our words match our belief, and do our deeds match our words? Do we behave with love to the people we meet? Are we transformed to be more Christ-like in our relationships with each other and with our wider communities?

