



Sunday 4th April 2021

Easter Sunday

Andrew on Annual Leave until Sunday 18th April.

The Church Office will be closed due to Annual Leave: Monday 12th April to Friday 16th April.

Refresh, revisit, and reflect. 6 sessions exploring the Christian Way of Life – for all and particularly those wanting to prepare for confirmation - next session 18th April 4.30pm topic The Beatitudes.

Online Sermon from the Diocese: Bishop Jackie shares a reflection for Good Friday as we remember Jesus' journey to the cross and what it means for us.

<https://vimeo.com/cofedevon>

Floodlighting sponsors – St Andrew's, Ipplepen. The new email address for sending floodlighting donations to is ippleeflood@beaconparishes.co.uk. For those placing floodlighting messages into the grey letterbox at St Andrew's Church Hall, please write 'Floodlighting' on the front of the envelope.

In Memory Rex Osborn

Easter Journey at Broadhempston

Christ's journey from Palm Sunday to the Cross. Sunday 28th March to Wednesday 7th April, 9am to 5pm: Easter donkey, pictures and poetry, music and flowers, Easter gardens.

Foundations in Christian Ministry Course. If you would like to go deeper in your Christian faith and learn more about how you can play your part in the life of the Church in Devon then this is the course for you! The course is run by the South West Ministry Training Course on behalf of the Diocese of Exeter and will be held over seven Saturdays from September 2021. It also offers a great opportunity to meet other people and be part of a learning community in which to explore your calling. For more information and an application form, contact the SWMTC programmes co-ordinator Belinda Speed-Andrews, admin@swmtc.org.uk. (01392) 272544.

Thank you from SWMTC Dave Carrington from South West Ministry Training Course has sent his thanks to the parishes and all who contributed to Sarah Nicholls' recent placement with us.

Look out for the wonderful cards on sale to raise funds for our churches. Thank you to Robin and Pam Thomas for organising this. Fantastic picture Robin!

St Andrew's Youth Choir, Ipplepen Watch and hear our recording of 'Rainbow if Hope':

<https://asongforus.org/submissions/st-andrews-youth-choir-ipplepen/> The Youth choir is still going strong by using 'ZOOM', 5.30pm – 6pm on Thursdays for the senior group and 5.30pm – 6pm on Friday for the junior group.

Readings

| | This week | Next week |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|
| Readings for this Sunday: First Reading | Acts 10:34-43 | Acts 4:32-35 |
| Psalm | 118:1-2, 14-24 | 133 |
| Second Reading | 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 | 1 John 1:1-2:2 |
| Gospel | Mark 16:1-8 | John 20:19-End |

| Readings for the week ahead: | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Mon | 5 th | Matt 28.8-15 |
| Tue | 6 th | John 20.11-18 |
| Wed | 7 th | Luke 24:13-35 |
| Thurs | 8 th | Luke 24:35-48 |
| Fri | 9 th | John 21:1-14 |
| Sat | 10 th | Mark 16:9-15 |

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

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Office hours: Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri: 12 noon to 3pm. Thurs: 11am to 3pm

Tel: 01803 814178 E: office@beaconparishes.co.uk W: www.missioncommunity.org.uk

Facebook pages: www.facebook.com/StAndrewsIpplepen/

www.facebook.com/denburyworship www.facebook.com/Broad20/

Today's Sunday Services

| | | |
|----------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| 9.30am | Holy Communion | - St John The Baptist, Woodland |
| 9.30am | Holy Communion | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |

Telephone support/chat following the church services: Sheila Sheldon is available to speak to following our church services. Sheila's phone number is (01803) 814227.

Morning Prayer

9am - 9.30am Wednesday only this week and next week, on Zoom

For the Zoom password, email: rachelbelringer@gmail.com

Reflection

Our churches are open for private prayer and reflection throughout the week at the following times:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| St Peter & St Paul's, Broadhempston | 9am to 5pm | Daily |
| St Andrew's, Ipplepen | 9am to 5pm | Daily |
| St Mary the Virgin, Denbury | 10am to 5pm | Daily |

Please note, St John the Baptist, Woodland is currently closed for private prayer and reflection.

Mid-Week Services

| | | | |
|----------|---------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Tuesday | 10.15am | Celtic Morning Prayer | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| Thursday | 10.15am | Celtic Morning Prayer | - St Mary's, Denbury |

Next Sunday – Second Sunday of Easter

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9.30am | Holy Communion | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |
| 11.00 am | Celtic Morning Prayer | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |

Happy Easter – a whole 50 days of celebration

Today we begin our celebration of the mystery of Easter a celebration that lasts 50 days. We celebrate over the weeks ahead that in Jesus' resurrection darkness becomes light, death becomes life, sacrifice becomes love. God's amazing love is hard to believe so we need this time. Like the first disciples we too must see and then gradually come to believe.

Phoebe: a story by Paula Gooder: Questions to ponder whilst you read.

The story ends with phoebe discerning a new calling and vocation. Where is God calling you? Who has voiced your calling? What do you need to do now?

God making home with us – life in the spirit

Why not use the Examen each day during the 50 days of Easter to help you discern how God's Spirit is leading you. At the end of each day simply sit down, light a candle and replay the day past in your mind. Take particular notice of 1. What has given you life and 2. What has taken life from you. Speak to God about these experiences. Action: Do more of what gives you life and make time for this.



Reflection by Reverend Tony Meek

Easter Sunday
Mark 16:1-8
Sunday 4th April 2021

Although some church services are able to take place in a limited 'lockdown' form, I guess it will still be a while before we can all fully join in the joy and exhilaration of traditional Sunday, even Easter, worship.

Let me tell you a story from Russia in the last years of the Soviet Union. It comes from Michael Bordeaux's book *Risen Indeed* (pp 41,42). He describes how he was standing in a church in total darkness packed with people for the Easter service. Outside, a procession encircled the building, symbolically searching for the body of Christ. All at once there sounded a distant, mournful chant. Then a great hammering on the door at the back of the building. It creaked open. Next, voices were raised in these responses:

Whom seek ye? ***The body of Jesus***
Why seek ye the living among the dead?
He is not here, ***Khristos voskrese*** (He is risen)
And the great crowd broke its silence
Voistinu voskrese (He is risen indeed)

The rest must be told in Michael Bordeaux's own words.

'But now too there was light. Someone at the back had lit the first paschal candle, a single point of light not able to penetrate the darkness. But then there was another, and another. Swiftly the flame passed from hand to hand. I began to see what I had not known. Every one of the worshippers held a candle. In less than a minute the church was a blaze of light – no, not the impersonal glare of electricity – it was five thousand individual flames united in one faith. Each candle lit up a face behind it. That face bore the deep lines of sorrow, of personal tragedy. Yet, as it was illuminated, the suffering turned to joy, to the certain knowledge of the reality of the risen Lord. Seeing my empty hands, an old lady reached out to me across the low rail. I could hardly hear her say, "*Khristos voskrese*", above the exultant shouts that now came from worshippers, but as I replied "*Voistinu voskrese*", I felt the barriers of nationality and culture fall away. I was one of them.

Our service books say that from Easter Day to Pentecost, we begin every service with the acclamation:

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

To which all reply:

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

That is the very heart of our faith. That is why we would love to gather in churches in the way that we used to, at Easter most of all. That is how the darkness of our lives can be transformed in the light of our faith.

If you are struggling in darkness - and we have experienced so much darkness during the past year - welcome the risen Christ into your life and see how his light can be your salvation. And, if you know of others who are still in the dark, share with them the joy of your faith.

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

