

Points for Prayer. During this time do remember Lauren, Emily, Isabelle, Charlotte, Jo and Freda as they prepare for their confirmation on Saturday 12th June at 4pm in Exeter Cathedral. We pray for Roger and Vikki, married in Woodland on 8th May and also for Ashley and Hannah to be married in Broadhempston on 30th May.

Online Sermon for Pentecost Sunday: No Longer Locked Down The Rev'd Prebendary James Grier, Diocesan Mission Enabler, shares a 10 minute video sermon thinking about how the Disciples felt emerging from their post-Ascension lockdown.

<https://vimeo.com/cofedevon>

In Memory. Fredric Lang.

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!

Living in Love And Faith is 'The Task Of Our Generation' The Church of England's Living in Love and Faith (LLF) process, looking at gender, sexuality, identity and faith has been underway since November. Some Mission Communities have run the five week study course already, we are waiting to run it when people can meet together inside. We plan to run a number of groups in the autumn.

Synod Elections: Will You Stand To Vote On Important Issues? There are elections this June and July for Exeter Diocesan Synod (governing body) and the Church of England's General Synod (like Parliament). We would really love a diverse mix of people of different ages and backgrounds to stand for election. People are elected to the Diocesan Synod for three years and meet three times a year. You need to be over 16, on the electoral roll of a CofE church and be taking Communion. Nominations close in mid June. <https://exeter.anglican.org/who-we-are/synod/>

Vision and Budget for 2021 Discussed at Diocesan Synod The last diocesan synod meeting before the election took place on Zoom on Saturday 15 May. This extra meeting was designed to deal with the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the Diocesan Budget for 2021. The revised final budget, which recognises the difficulties experienced by parishes in making full Common Fund contributions in the current circumstances, was whole-heartedly approved. In addition, members spent time in small groups discussing the emerging national Vision and Strategy for the Church of England and how that fitted with our own Diocesan Vision and Strategy. There was also a discussion about self-supporting ministry and a report from a recent meeting of the General Synod.

Phoebe We are looking forward to our zoom gathering with Paula Gooder on 14th June. Details to follow.

Readings

| | This week | Next week |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Readings for this Sunday: | | |
| First Reading | Acts 2:1-21 | Isaiah 6:1-8 |
| Psalm | 104:25-35. 37 | 29 |
| Second Reading | Romans 8:22-27 | Romans 8:12-17 |
| Gospel | John 15:26-27 | John 3:1-17 |

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|-------------------------------------|-------|------------------|----------------|
| Readings for the week ahead: | Mon | 24 th | Mark 10:17-27 |
| | Tue | 25 th | Mark 10:28-31 |
| | Wed | 26 th | Mark 10:32-45 |
| | Thurs | 27 th | Mark 10:46-End |
| | Fri | 28 th | Mark 11:11-26 |
| | Sat | 29 th | Mark 11:27-End |

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

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Notice Sheet_ Sunday_23rd May 2021



Weekly Notices

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

Sunday 23rd May 2021

Pentecost

Today's Sunday Services

| | | |
|---------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9.30am | Holy Communion | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00am | Holy Communion | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |
| 11.00am | Churches Together – Family Service | - 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 Monday to Thursday this week on Zoom

For the Zoom password, email: rev.andrewdown@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 | Sundays and Wednesdays |
| 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

| | | |
|----------|---------|--|
| Monday | | Rev'd Andrew Down's Day Off |
| Tuesday | 10.15am | Holy Communion - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| Tuesday | 11.00am | Interment of Ashes |
| | | Fredric George Lang - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| Thursday | 10.15am | Holy Communion - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |

Next Sunday – Trinity Sunday

| | | |
|---------------|--|--|
| 9.30am | Holy Communion | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00am | Holy Communion | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 1.30pm | Wedding of Ashley Harvey and Hannah Mole | - Ss Peter & Paul, Broadhempston |
| 4.30pm | Mission Community Evening Prayer | |
| | For the Feast of Holy Trinity | - Holy Trinity Church, Torbryan |

Trinity Sunday This year we are holding a mission community evening prayer service at Holy Trinity Torbryan on Sunday 30th May at 4.30pm. This will be a gentle service of music, readings and reflection. Why not include it as a stopping off point on your bank holiday weekend walk.

Appeal for Prayer and Aid for Children and Adults "Grievously Suffering" in Gaza and Israel. The Bishop of Cyprus and the Gulf, which is linked with the Diocese of Exeter, has said "Christians ought to be in prayer and solidarity with everyone who is grievously suffering" in Gaza and Israel at the moment "irrespective of identity." The Most Reverend Michael Lewis is also Archbishop-Primate of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. The new Anglican Archbishop of Jerusalem, the Most Reverend Hosam Naoum, has called for the authorities on both sides of the conflict to call an immediate ceasefire. The Diocese of Jerusalem runs the Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza. The Archbishop said, "It is becoming a beacon of hope to those trying to remain alive under such dire circumstances. But they are overwhelmed and in desperate need of upwards of \$1.6 million to obtain fuel for hospital generators, and to purchase emergency medicine and medical supplies."



Reflection by Rev'd Anne Burden

Pentecost

John 15:26-27

Sunday 23rd May 2021

The Day of Pentecost - the third most important festival of the Church's year after Christmas and Easter - and we celebrate it today. We used to call it Whit Sunday - before the Church decided to use the much earlier biblical name of Pentecost. Pentecost means 50th in Greek - and it's the Greek name for the Jewish Festival of Weeks, which comes 50 days after Passover, when the first fruits of the corn harvest were presented to God. So our Christian festival is planted on our Jewish roots - as indeed is our whole faith. But what we are celebrating today is not a kind of harvest festival - but the climax of Jesus's life on earth - and his promise that when he left the world at his ascension, he "would not leave us comfortless". Jesus was not abandoning his people - but was clearing the way for the Holy Spirit to come into the world to be present in every corner of creation and in every human life.

The account of the Day of Pentecost in the Acts of the Apostles starts with a few verses of vivid imagery - the rushing mighty wind filling the whole house and the tongues of flame resting on the disciples' heads. It sounds a bit like a horror movie - but then how would you describe the strange and mysterious Holy Spirit. [Give it a try - answers on a post card!!]. The Holy Spirit has come - and immediately the story moves on - out of the place where the disciples were meeting and into the streets of Jerusalem. The focus is on the multi-national crowd, full of bewildered, amazed and disbelieving people - but able to hear the disciples speak in their own native languages. The gift of the Holy Spirit has changed the frightened, inward-looking group of disciples into confident and courageous ambassadors for Jesus, speaking with conviction and authority.

One of the things I think this account makes clear - to the disciples and to us - is what the gift of the Holy Spirit is given for. It is not to fill people with religious feelings, or unshakable certainty, or to impress others with our power, or even to turn us into the Church - though indeed it may have some of those effects too. The gift of the Holy Spirit is primarily to equip and empower disciples of all generations to continue the work Jesus began, of showing God's transforming love throughout the world.

I tried to convey some of this in the design of one of the stoles I made when I was ordained many years ago now. It gets an occasional outing for Pentecost and other "red letter" days. On one side there is a cross - the main Christian symbol - but it is a broken cross - showing how resurrection overcame the devastation of crucifixion, bringing joy and the possibility of new life. Out of this broken cross, flies a dove - another symbol of the Holy Spirit. Not down from heaven but out of the cross. It flies through cloud or breath or wind - the Holy Spirit released when Jesus completed his journey through death to new life and ascension. On the other side of the stole are the tongues of flame, and holding this symbol of the Holy Spirit are four hands - all different - representing the Holy Spirit making a home in the diversity of human life.

This is what we are celebrating on the Day of Pentecost. The event from the past, but more importantly the continuing gift of the Holy Spirit to enliven our Christian lives today. It's a gift which is always present - but given in God's way of gentleness - waiting for us to stop and listen and open our hearts, so that we can give the Holy Spirit a home in our troubled world.

