



Sunday 4th July 2021

Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Online Sermon this Sunday: Sunday 4 July is the first-ever National Thank You Day, a chance to say thanks to the people who have been making a difference during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Archdeacon of Plymouth, Nick Shutt, looks at what it means to give and receive thanks in this 10-minute video sermon <https://vimeo.com/cofedevon>

Could You Pray for Living in Love and Faith at Lunchtime on the Last Friday of each month? The Exeter Diocese LLF team has committed to pray for those running the LLF course, those participating in it and those whose lives will be impacted by the outcome of the LLF process on the last Friday of every month at lunchtime. We would be delighted if you could join-in by praying at that time too. For prayer ideas for Friday 30th July go to the LLF webpage:

<https://exeter.anglican.org/resources/living-in-love-and-faith/>

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!

The Safeguarding Team want to thank everyone who is working hard to keep Safeguarding on the agenda by implementing good safeguarding practice in your churches, engaging with training and safer recruitment processes and by flagging concerns as and when they arise. Please continue to contact us any time you need to for support, advice and guidance."

<https://exeter.anglican.org/resources/safeguarding/safeguarding-team/>

Round Two of the National Community Lottery Connections Fund is now open! Grants of between £300 and £2,500 are available to small charities, faith groups and community groups with an income of less than £50,000 who are working to reduce loneliness by helping people feel more connected with their communities. Grants could be used to cover the costs of technology and equipment that will help make people feel more connected with their communities or help strengthen services through training and development. People understand what is needed in their community and what will make a difference. To check out whether you are eligible, how to apply and the closing date visit the website. www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk

Mothers' Union Job Vacancy The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Exeter is looking for a kind person who would be prepared to act as Examiner for its annual accounts. Watch the video to find out about the Mothers' Union and how they support families. If interested, please contact the MU Administrator Julie Hingston. office@mu-exeter.co.uk

Readings

| | This week | Next week |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Readings for this Sunday: | | |
| 1st Reading | Ezekiel 2:1-5 | Amos 7:7-15 |
| Psalm | 123 | 85:8-End |
| 2nd Reading | 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 | Ephesians 1:3-14 |
| Gospel | Mark 6:1-13 | Mark 6:14-29 |

| Readings for the week ahead: | Day | Scripture |
|------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| | Mon | 5 th Matt 9:18-26 |
| | Tue | 6 th Matt 9:32-End |
| | Wed | 7 th Matt 10:1-7 |
| | Thurs | 8 th Matt 10:7-15 |
| | Fri | 9 th Matt 10:16-23 |
| | Sat | 10 th John 20:24-33 |

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

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Facebook pages: www.facebook.com/StAndrewsIpplepen/

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

Today's Sunday Services

| | | |
|----------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | - St John the Baptist, Woodland |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 6.00 pm | Zoom Evening Prayer | - Zoom |

For the Zoom password, email: rev.andrewdown@gmail.com

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

| | | |
|-----------|---------|--|
| Tuesday | 9.15 am | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| Wednesday | 9.00 am | - For the Zoom password, email: rev.andrewdown@gmail.com |
| Thursday | 9.15 am | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| Friday | 9.15 am | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |

(A time of silent prayer and meditation at Broadhempston)

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 | 10.15 am | Holy Communion - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| | 2.00 pm | Funeral of Valerie Dakin - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| Wednesday | 7.30 pm | Bellringing Practice - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| Thursday | 10.15 am | Holy Communion - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |

Next Sunday – Sixth Sunday after Trinity

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9.30 am | 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 |

In Memory. Valerie Watson-Jackson, Frances Fey, Betty Elders, Valerie Dakin, Sheila Stacey and Andy Vickerstaff.

June and July Edition of the Beacon is now available for you to collect from our churches. We are always looking for new contributors. If you have an idea or article do contact the editor.

Points for Prayer. We pray for all organisations that help us with our wellbeing: our Health Centre, village groups, gymns etc.

Reminder Rachel Belringer has asked for feedback on our use of zoom. See article in the June and July edition of 'The Beacon' magazine on pages 22 and 23.



Reflection by Rev'd Anne Burden

Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Mark 6:1-13

Sunday 4th July 2021

There seem to be a number of red letter saints days at the moment. Two of our churches have celebrated their Patronal Festivals - Woodland, St John the Baptist on 24th June and Broadhempston, St Peter and St Paul on 29th June. Most churches choose their dedication because of things they admire in the life of their saint - and looking at these three, and the others we find in our lectionary, they have much to teach us. The trouble is that those who become famous saints have so much to be admired that they seem rather remote and inaccessible - far beyond how we think we could ever be as we struggle with the challenges and failures of our ordinary lives. We might think that we need something closer to home to inspire and encourage us.

But it's more complicated than this - because as Jesus found in the Gospel reading for today - we don't always notice and appreciate - far less learn from and emulate - those close to us. Jesus's family, friends and neighbours didn't recognise him as being special - "how could he be - he's just one of us" - and when he spoke in the synagogue they didn't take him seriously. We heard "they took offence at him". They didn't expect to hear God's wisdom from someone they knew so well - someone they knew as an ordinary human being, no doubt with ordinary failings and weaknesses. Perhaps we sometimes fall into the same trap. God shows himself in unexpected and (to us) unlikely places - and unless we have eyes to see - we miss him.

One of my guilty time wasting secrets during lockdown has been watching back episodes of "Call the Midwife" - some for the first time, and some I've seen before. My favourite character is Sister Monica Joan - an elderly nun who is muddled and confused - but at the same time is still rebellious and sometimes downright naughty. The rest of the community manage her well and kindly - but I'm sure, like her TV audience, miss some of the profoundly wise things she says. One of her remarks which I did notice recently - and I

wrote it down because these things are so easy to forget - was "The hands of the Almighty are so often found at the ends of our arms." It was a comment which came and went quickly - we don't expect wisdom from dotty old ladies after all - and it was easy to miss. How often, I wonder, do we miss things like this - full of meaning and just under our nose, but ignored because they're not as we expect them to be.

God shows himself in the big name leaders of our faith - the saints and martyrs, the brave and heroic, the wise and eloquent. But he is also present in the ordinary and the unexpected - in those who in the world's eyes are insignificant. We know that this is true with the heroes of the pandemic - ordinary people who do extraordinary things. Showing the love that we often fear has gone missing from our world. We need to rejoice when we see what they are doing - point out the glimpses of good/God around us - and emulate them in our own ordinary lives.

It is so easy to become down hearted at the greed and selfishness around us, the abuse of power, the disregard of the poor and vulnerable. But our task as Christians is to seek God in the likely and more particularly the unlikely places. To point him out to others and to translate what we see into action. We are to be God's hands and feet, his mind and heart - and remember, those hands may be no further away than the ends of your arms!

