



Sunday 3rd October 2021

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Today's Sunday Services

9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St John the Baptist, Woodland
9.30 am	Celtic Morning Prayer	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am	Harvest Communion	
	(with Ipplepen Methodist Church)	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
2.00 pm	Wedding Meeting	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
4.30 pm	Reflective Evening Prayer – St Francis	- Holy Trinity, Torbryan

Morning Prayer

This week morning prayer will be said at the following times:

Tuesday	9.00 am	- St John the Baptist, Woodland
Wednesday	9.15 am	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
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)

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
St John the Baptist, Woodland	9am to 5pm	Daily

Mid-Week

Rev'd Andrew Down's Day Off on Mondays each week.

Monday	11.00 am	Visiting Bellringers	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
	3pm-5pm	T-Pot	- Church Cottage, Denbury
Tuesday	10.15 am	Holy Communion	- 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
	2.00 pm	Funeral	
		For Geoffrey 'Jeff' Williamson	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Saturday	12-2pm	Harvest Soup and Sweets Lunch	- Church Cottage, Denbury

Next Sunday 10th October – Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am	Harvest 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

Celebrating the Saints at Holy Trinity Torbryan - St Francis. 3rd October 2021, 4.30pm. Evening Prayer. Simple - Celtic inspired- time of silence - music - art - poetry – prayer.

Online Sermon this Sunday: This week will be the final video sermon and is kindly brought to us by Canon Chris Palmer from Exeter Cathedral. <https://vimeo.com/cofedevon>

Denbury Church is currently hosting another village wide collection of items for H.I.T.S. Contributions welcome on the church windowsills or in the church porch (open daily from 10am until 5pm), from now until 10th October, when our donations will be taken into HITS.

Denbury Harvest Soup and Sweets Lunch. On Saturday 9th October we will be holding a Harvest Lunch in Church Cottage from 12 noon to 2pm. Donations to HITS please. <https://hitsfood-bank.org/>

Coffee Mornings in Woodland will soon commence again - the first one on Saturday 6th November 2021 and then monthly on the first Saturday of each month.

Living in Love and Faith Course: Living in love and Faith is a series of resources looking at the topics of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. The hope is for people in Church of England churches across the country to use the LLF resources to study and pray together. The resources are designed to encourage and enable engagement and learning in a variety of settings. The purpose of the resources is to enable the Church of England churches across the country to participate in a process of learning and praying together as part of discerning a way forward in relation to matters of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. Part of the resources is a six session course which we will be running in The Beacon Parishes on the following dates:

On Tuesdays (19th Oct – 23rd Nov) 7.30pm – 9.00 pm

On Wednesdays (20th Oct – 24th Nov) 1.30pm – 3.00 pm

Diocese of Exeter's Next Steps Vision and Strategy 2021 'Next Steps' is our new vision and strategy to help the diocese and its mission communities move forward from the pandemic in a way that is both creative and sustainable. Learn more and sign up to discussion events:

<https://exeter.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Next-Steps-MC-vision-document-1-7-21.pdf>

<https://exeter.anglican.org/who-we-are/vision-strategy/vision-next-steps-events-autumn-2021/>

Readings

	This week	Next week
Readings for this Sunday:		
1st Reading	Genesis 2:18-24	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
Psalm	8	90:13-17
2nd Reading	Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12	Hebrews 4:12-16
Gospel	Mark 10:2-16	Mark 10:17-31

Readings for the week ahead:	Day	Reading
	Mon	4 th Luke 10.25-37
	Tue	5 th Luke 10:38-End
	Wed	6 th Luke 11:1-4
	Thurs	7 th Luke 11:5-13
	Fri	8 th Luke 11:15-26
	Sat	9 th Luke 11:27-28

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/

Points for Prayer. Those licensed as new Lay Ministers this weekend in Exeter Cathedral and amongst them, Sarah Nichols, who did her placement with us. All those ordained Priests in Exeter Cathedral last weekend. Those preparing and involved in COP26 in Glasgow 1-12 Nov 2021. Those finding they need to use food banks and the work of HITS.

In Memory. Karen Hooper, Cynthia Floyd, Betty Adams, Jennifer Mitchelmore. Edna Mackrill, John Hutcheson and Geoffrey Williamson.



Reflection by Steve Sheldon

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Mark 10:2-16

Sunday 3rd October 2021

From the very first days it seems that Christians have argued among themselves. And what did they argue about? About which social injustice is the most evil? About the best way to share God's love with the world? No! Rather they often squabbled about the minutiae of the law, about legalistic things. Luckily Jesus had more patience than you or I.

I know that when my kids were little and would squabble and fight I'd get upset. But Jesus didn't just tell the disciples to put a sock in it and then carry on down the road, but he would always use their bickering as teaching opportunities and like all good teachers, Jesus believed in using visual aids, so in this reading, Jesus grabs a child from among the crowd, holds him up and said THIS is what God thinks is important; THIS is what you must be like if you are going to enter the Kingdom of God.

Now we lose something in the English translation from the language Jesus spoke, because the Aramaic word for 'child' (talya) can also be translated as 'servant'.

Hebrew families of 2000 years ago were very different from our modern British families. No cool trainers or hair styles, no smart phones, no clubs. Children of 2000 years ago were not the indulged, pampered creatures of today, but were of the lowest possible status.

Slaves who were able to free themselves from servitude by whatever means remained free people and could never be sold back into slavery. But a father could resell his son back into slavery as often as that child might be redeemed or freed. Children had no rights or privileges in society. So Jesus was saying that to enter the Kingdom Of God you must change your attitude and become like a servant.

In doing so, Jesus gave status to those who had no status, gave value to those who even today we see as having only potential value. We sometimes look at children as only potential adults, trainee grown-ups.

This might make sense out in the world where we must learn how to properly manage worldly power. But maturity in God's kingdom is not about acquiring more and more influence or status or wisdom or merit. Growth in God's kingdom is about changing, turning right around and becoming small and powerless. God does not love children because of the adults they are going to become, but loves them right now as they are. Children are not adults in training in God's eyes; we adults are children in training, learning how to become more like them. This is why the Church needs to be full of children, so that we adults can have them as our role models. One can't use adult reasoning or intelligence or power to understand and enter the Kingdom of God. This does not mean that children are morally better. We all know the terrible things kids get up to, and are often prevented from doing worse only because they lack the worldly power to do so. In that, they are no better or no worse than adults, you or I. But there are other qualities children have we need to copy.

We need to be like children because they haven't had time to build up all the prejudices and preconceptions we adults have. To be a spiritual child one must be **weak and vulnerable**. I can suggest a few more characteristics: **trusting**, faithful, like God is to us; **generous** giving of our money, time, ability, feelings, love; **curious**, seeking, asking, searching for God in ourselves and the world; **happy**, enjoying life, saved and strengthened by God. Children can also be **restless and impatient**. As we sit in church each Sunday we too need to be restless to get out; to get out and share with a dying world the Good News that God is Love and is seeking us out.

Back in July, after England's near success at the Euro 2020 final, there followed a wave of racial abuse on three young black players. A college lecturer in theology pointed out that "*Saka, Sterling and Rashford embody the best of the black British Christian tradition; faith and spirituality are at the core of their lives. In some Christian practice there is a sense that faith is about assenting to a set of beliefs: you read the liturgy, recite the creeds, assent to doctrine. Black Christian traditions are more about the embodiment of faith, how you live out what you say in a Sunday service, how you are attentive to the felt needs of people around you as part of your faith commitment.*"

In the 1960s British musicians became excited by music coming from the US, music that Americans no longer listened to until British musicians reinvigorated that music and brought it back to America. In the past we sent missionaries to Africa to teach them about Jesus. Excited by what they heard it seems they are coming here to hopefully reinvigorate us in our love for Jesus.