



In Memory: Michael Dow and Edith Mortimore, Penelope Kittow, David Day and Rita Day.
Points for Prayer. We hold in prayer the ongoing conflict in Ukraine praying for peace. We particularly pray for those families who are facing separation due to the conflict.

Lent Course 2022: 'Surprised by Generosity' This weeks theme 'The Power of the Cross'. Come and see what it is all about 6pm Sunday evening St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen.

Lent Compline 2022: 'Cross Encounters' - come and reflect on the meetings people had with Jesus and his cross. Tuesday evening 7pm, St Andrew's Church, Ipplepen.

Over 200 Offers of Homes for Ukraine Thank you to everyone who has filled in the online expression of interest form offering accommodation to refugees from Ukraine. Around 220 people have filled it out so far. The Diocese of Exeter is working with the charity Citizens UK <https://www.citizensuk.org/> to act as a key sponsor in Devon to co-ordinate providing homes for Ukrainian refugees and help ensure ongoing community support. Citizens UK is linked to the Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme. Work is now underway with aid agencies in Poland to identify Ukrainians who would like to travel to the UK. The Diocese of Exeter will then be working to match up refugees with householders in Devon.

Exeter Diocese has set up a donations page to pay for the transport costs for Ukrainian refugees to travel to Devon. You can find out more and donate by clicking the link below. Or search for Exeter Diocese Ukraine Appeal at givealittle.co.uk

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/2d2a1971-a8af-4500-a701-57eff0308c24>

Services in Holy Week

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 7pm Simple Eucharist at St Andrew's Church, Ipplepen.

Maudy Thursday 5.30pm Holy Communion followed by watch at St Mary the Virgin Denbury
7.30pm Holy Communion followed by watch at St Andrew's, Ipplepen.

Good Friday 10.30am. Joint Service & Walk of Witness starting at Ipplepen Methodist Church.
2pm Reflecting Around the Cross at St Mary the Virgin Denbury.

Holy Saturday 8pm Easter Vigil at St Mary the Virgin Denbury.

Cream Teas in Denbury on Easter Monday 18th April, 3 to 5pm at Church Cottage, Denbury

New Editions of The Beacon Magazine are available in the churches now.

Readings	This week	Next week
Readings for this Sunday:		
1st Reading	Isaiah 43: 16-21	Isaiah 50: 4-9a
Psalm	126	118:1-2, 19-End
2nd Reading	Philippians 3:4b-14	Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel	John 12: 1-18	Luke 22: 14-End
Readings for the week ahead:		
Mon 4 th	John 8:1-11	Thurs 7 th John 8:51-End
Tue 5 th	John 8:21-30	Fri 8 th John 10:31-End
Wed 6 th	John 8:31-42	Sat 9 th John 11:45-End

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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	Holy Communion	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
4.30 pm	Reflective Evening Prayer - St George	- Holy Trinity, Torbryan
6.00 pm	Lent Course 'Surprised by Generosity'	- St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen

Morning Prayer

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

Tuesday	9.15 am	- St Andrew's Ipplepen
Wednesday	9.15 am	- Online Via Zoom (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)

Reflection

All our churches are open for private prayer and reflection throughout the week from approximately 9am to 5pm each day.

Mid-Week

Rev'd Andrew Down day off Monday.

Monday	3pm-5pm	T-Pot	- Church Cottage, Denbury
	7pm	APCM – Meeting	- St Andrew's Ipplepen
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
Tuesday	10.15 am	Holy Communion	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
	2.00 pm	Wedding Meeting	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
	6.00 pm	Wedding Meeting	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
	7pm	Compline	- St Andrew's Ipplepen
Wednesday	12 noon	Lunch Club	- St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Thursday	10.15 am	Holy Communion	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
	12 noon	Interment of Ashes – David Day & Rita Day	- St John the Baptist, Woodland
	4.30 pm	Youth Choir Practice	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Next Sunday 10th April 2022 – Palm Sunday

10.00 am	Procession, Dramatised Reading of the Passion and Holy Communion – Mission Community Service	- Starting at Village Hall, Broadhempston
4.00 pm	Celtic Evening Prayer	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
5.00 pm	Lent Course 'Surprised by Generosity'	- St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen
6.30 pm	BCP Evensong	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen



Surprised by Generosity Reflection for the Fifth Sunday of Lent

The Rev'd Trevor Marshall –
National Giving Ministry Advisor

Today we are looking at the passage where Mary anoints Jesus' feet in John 12, also found in Luke 7: 36-50.

A whole pint of nard! Such extravagance! No wonder such generosity is recorded. For someone to spend a whole year's wages on an act such as this surely shows how much Jesus meant to Mary. But it is interesting to note that her devotion to Jesus went far beyond pouring expensive perfume over his feet. She then wiped his feet with her hair. This was unthinkable – a Jewish woman uncovering and letting down her hair and then wiping someone's feet with it. This was an act of unselfish generosity. Generosity of wealth, attention, and care.

These acts of Mary were not the acts of someone who was showing off. They were not acts of someone who was giving of great wealth and emotion for their own benefit. This was someone who was acting out generosity as a result of unwavering faith and love. The anointing of His feet was done out of humble and heartfelt love, of generosity of spirit.

It is a question that we should ask ourselves about our generosity; is it done with humble and heartfelt love? Is it done out of our personal spirit of generosity? We should ask ourselves why we act generously. We know that there are times when our giving is done out of a sense of duty towards the church community to which we belong. A sense of our giving being a response to the needs of the church. While it is true that the church has needs that can only be met through the generosity of the church community, is this the true response to God's love that is heartfelt and humble?

What does it mean to respond to God's love in a generous way? If we look at the actions of Mary in this passage, we can see that her response is more than what was needed at the time. Her response was to go overboard with her generosity; to give a whole pint of this precious perfume. We can infer that Mary and her family were rich enough to be able to keep back a significant amount of their wealth and hold it in the form of this expensive perfume. But at the time, Mary used this saved wealth in the service of Christ. What was being held back is used. This act of Mary should lead us to ask ourselves what is generous in our own situations. How much of our wealth and resources are we willing to hand over to God?

Mary's generosity was not just of the expensive perfume. Mary was generous with her time. Time that could have been spent on herself. But she gave that time to care for Jesus. Mary was generous with her attention. Sitting at the feet to Jesus and focusing on anointing his feet; generous with her care. Mary's generosity was of her reputation. Letting her hair down in spite of what the assembled disciples would say. And Mary was generous with her comfort. Jesus was shortly to die on the cross. Mary's act was the act of comforting a man who knew his fate. Mary was generous in so many ways.

If we believe that God's generosity towards us is so great that He gave his only son for our sake and that everything that comes to us comes from God, then what can we do to repay that generosity? We are not able to anoint the feet of Christ, but we can respond in a way that recognises the sacrifice that has been made for us. What may seem to be an extravagant sacrifice on our part is nothing compared to the sacrifice made for us. The wasteful generosity of Mary's anointing is nothing compared to the generosity of God's love for us. No matter how much we give, it is but a widow's mite compared to what we receive from God. Our generous giving in response to God's love can be a sacramental token of the loyalty, love and devotion that we have towards our Lord and Saviour. The act of giving reminds us of all that we have been given. The act of giving is our sacrifice in response to His sacrifice made one for all upon the cross.

As we prepare ourselves for remembering the sacrifice the Christ made, we may ask ourselves how we are being generous in response to that sacrifice made once for all upon that cross. Let us take this opportunity to reflect on that sacrifice made by Mary at the feet of Christ. Let us take this opportunity to find our own, personal pint of pure nard. Let us make our own sacrifice. Let us sit at His feet and offer ourselves in response to his generosity.

