



In Memory: Cynthia Griffiths, Barbara Bradburn and John Shepherd.

New Growing in Prayer Course 'Growing in Prayer' explores how we enrich our prayer lives and help others to do the same, either as individuals, churches, or in small groups. It runs on 8, 15, 22 and 29 September and will be led by the Rev'd Sally Dakin, former Spirituality Adviser for Winchester Diocese.

<https://exeter.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Overview-Growing-in-Prayer.pdf>

Two great Musical Afternoons coming up soon both serving refreshments. A real treat!
(More Details can be found in the Beacon)

Sunday 14th August 3:00pm 'Tea for Two' concert - St Andrew's Ipplepen
by Marilyn Ellis and Tom Morris

Sunday 11th September Jim Causley - St Mary's Denbury
2:30pm Award winning Folk Musician

The August/September edition of the Beacon Magazine is available from any of the Mission Community Churches.

The schools have now broken up for the year so the summer holidays have now started. For those travelling we wish you a time of relaxation and for those visiting this area a warm welcome.

To ponder on today's theme of generosity

Proverbs 11:24-25... "Some give freely yet grow all the richer; others withhold what is due and only suffer want. A generous person will be enriched, and one who gives water will get water."

Readings	This week	Next week
Readings for this Sunday:		
1st Reading	Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
Psalm	49:1-12	97
2nd Reading	Colossians 3:1-11	2 Peter 1:16-19
Gospel	Luke 12:13-21	Luke 9: 28-36

Readings for the week ahead:

Mon	1st	Matt 14:13-21	Thurs	4th	Matt 16:13-23
Tue	2nd	Matt 14:22-36	Fri	5th	Matt 16:24-28
Wed	3rd	Matt 15:21-28	Sat	6th	Luke 9:16-19

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

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Today's Sunday Services

10.00 am Mission Community –
Holy Communion - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

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 on Mondays.

Church Office closed for annual leave until Monday 8th August.

Monday 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
4.30 pm Sta*x Youth Choir Practice - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Next Sunday 7th August 2022 – Keeping Transfiguration of Our Lord

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 -
with Children's Activities - St Andrew's, Ipplepen
4.30 pm Reflective Evening Prayer -
St Mary - Holy Trinity, Torbryan

Points for Prayer. For the Bishops as they meet at the Lambeth Conference. As they converse and discuss may they be prepared to listen to each other as they share their experiences and together listen to the Holy Spirit.

Reflection by Rev'd Tony Meek



Luke 12:13-21
Sunday 31st July 2022

Have you noticed that the pursuit for more money and possessions is usually motivated by worry? For example, have you ever thought that if you just had *enough* money, you wouldn't have to worry so much? This worry causes many to strive to be rich and accumulate an abundance of possessions. This morning we have heard what the Bible says about money and the desire to acquire more and more riches as we recall our Gospel reading from Luke 12:13-21.

The Bible clearly tells us that while this life is important, the next life is far better. Our life is given to us by God and our life is taken from us by God who has "*authority to cast into hell*". Our life is not given to us for the pursuit of an abundance of possessions, but rather our possessions have been given to us for the pursuit of God. If we are more concerned about what we have on earth, we are less concerned about what (or Who!) we have in heaven.

Jesus uses a parable to illustrate this point very effectively. It is commonly called the Parable of the Rich Fool because the man in the parable is very rich and very foolish. He is foolish because he is more focused on himself than anyone or anything else. His crops are plentiful and he is contemplating building bigger barns to hold them all. It all comes to an end when God says, "*You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?*"

The man was not guarded against covetousness, he was gratified by covetousness. He bought into the ungodly worldview that says: "Life consists in the abundance of possessions". He thought, as in the old - probably American - saying: "Get all you can, can all you get, and sit on the can".

Jesus says this type of thinking is foolishness. The final verse of today's Gospel tells us the point of the parable is to show the foolishness of "*those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.*"

The Christian worldview tells us to sell our unnecessary possessions and goods and give to anyone who has need (Matt 19:21, Mark 10:21, Luke 12:33, 18:22, Acts 2:45, 4:34).

St Augustine said about the man in this parable: "He did not realize that the bellies of the poor were much safer storerooms than his barns." The Christian worldview tells us that since our life belongs to God, we should not strive to be rich, but strive to be rich towards God.

The command is clear: Protect yourself from the unquenchable desire for more and more possessions. The reason is clear: God is not impressed by how many cars or boats you have, how big your house is, how much money you have, or the extent of your shareholdings.

Therefore, knowing your life belongs to God, use the possessions you have to meet your needs and the needs of others. If you do this, you demonstrate that you are a follower and worshipper of Jesus Christ.

