



Sunday 15th January 2023

Second Sunday of Epiphany

Today - Sunday 15th January

9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St John the Baptist, Woodland
11.00 am	Holy Communion and Baptism of William Mortimore	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
4.30 pm	Come Holy Spirit: An informal service of reflection	- 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 on Mondays.

Monday	3pm-5pm	'T-Pot'	- Church Cottage, Denbury
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
Tuesday	10.15 am	Holy Communion	- St Andrew's Ipplepen
	11.00 am	Funeral and Burial Service of Jennifer Buckle	- St John the Baptist, Woodland
	2.00 pm	Funeral Service of Arthur Guppy	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
Wednesday	7.00 pm	Bellringing Practice	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice	- St Andrew's Ipplepen
Thursday	10.15 am	Holy Communion	- Church Cottage, Denbury

Next Sunday 22nd January – Third Sunday of Epiphany

9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am	Holy Communion	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
11.00 am	Churches Together	- Ipplepen Methodist Church

The Diocese of Exeter Annual Report 2022 Our annual report for 2022 has just been published. Grab a cup of tea or coffee and have a read of all the exciting things which have been happening across the Diocese over the past 12 months. <https://exeter.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Annual-Report-2022-2.pdf>

Bishop of Plymouth's New Year Message of Realistic Hope The Bishop of Plymouth, the Rt. Rev'd James Grier has published a message for the New Year, in which he says there will undoubtedly be challenges ahead, but also hope. <https://exeter.anglican.org/bishop-of-plymouth-new-year-message/?fbclid=IwAR0bhJu-HDHub6TPSFPrdNAw4HOA-yrmbl1iAGIDnKfaJn9eDzyWEg0gZD8>

New Year Honour for Torbay's Rev'd Nathan Kiyaga A Devon vicar has been made a medallist of the Order of the British Empire in the 2023 New Year's Honours, for services to the community in Devon and Cornwall. <https://exeter.anglican.org/new-year-honour-for-torbays-revd-nathan-kiyaga/>

Report into Church's Historic Links to Transatlantic Slavery The Church Commissioners of the Church of England have published their full report into historic links to Transatlantic Slavery. They have also announced a new £100m funding commitment in response to the findings, saying "The Church Commissioners' Board has committed itself to trying to address some of the past wrongs by investing in a better future. It will seek to do this through committing £100 million of funding, delivered over the next nine years commencing in 2023, to a programme of investment, research and engagement." www.churchofengland.org/media-and-news/press-releases/church-commissioners-publishes-full-report-historic-links

Judge Rinder to mark Holocaust Memorial Day in Exeter 27 January, 10am, Exeter Cathedral Criminal barrister and television personality Rob Rinder, known to many as Judge Rinder, will be giving a talk as part of the Holocaust Memorial Day event at Exeter Cathedral on 27 January. Rinder's own family were affected by the Holocaust; his grandfather was sent to and survived concentration camps during the Second World War. The memorial event at Exeter Cathedral will also feature songs from local primary school children and will be an opportunity to remember the innocent lives lost along with honouring the survivors. If you would like to attend this free event, tickets are available here. www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/holocaust-memorial-day-20230127-100000/

Readings	This week	Next week
Readings for this Sunday:		
1st Reading	Isaiah 49:1-7	Isaiah 9:1-4
	Psalms 40:1-2	27:4-12
2nd Reading	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Gospel	John 1:29-42	Matthew 4:12-23

Readings for the week ahead:

Mon	16 th	Mark 2:18-22	Thurs	19 th	Mark 3:7-12
Tue	17 th	Mark 2:23-End	Fri	20 th	Mark 3:13-19
Wed	18 th	Mark 3:1-6	Sat	21 st	Mark 3:20-21

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

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

Points of Prayer: We keep in our prayers William Henry Owen Mortimore, his parents and Godparents on the day of his baptism.

In Memory: Ian House, Frank Petty, Arthur Guppy, Jenny Buckle, Peter Byrom, Ann Hockin Higby, Mary Cleave, Derek Reed, John Harris and Ron Paston.



Reflection by Rev'd Tony Meek

Epiphany 2
Year A
John 1.29-42
15th January 2023

Just over a week ago, with the Epiphany, we celebrated Jesus being shown to the whole world. The magi, wise men, kings or whatever we call them, represented each one of us. They offered their gifts as we are called to offer ours.

This week, as we hear John the Baptist proclaim Jesus as the Son of God, and two of John's disciples accept that invitation from Jesus to come with him, it is we to whom firstly John the Baptist is speaking. And it is we who are then called by the Son of God to follow him and become his friends.

Jesus could have commanded his disciples. He could have dominated them. He could have bidden them to believe this or that without question.

Why did he not give them – and us – a creed and so save all the great conflicts of early Christendom? He might have dictated their every action and they would have obeyed him.

Why did he not turn his teaching into a book of regulations? It would have been easier for all of us. Some people today try to use the scriptures in that way. It just will not work! Jesus did not lay down those sort of rules. Most of us have something in us which longs for that kind of control, but it was not his way. When people wanted explicit guidance, he would throw them back to the voice within: *“What do you think yourself?”*

There are no rules in the teaching of Jesus except the command to love.

What Jesus did was to admit people to his friendship. He gave himself to them, sharing with them his thoughts about life and money and God, but only as they were willing to trust him fully and to learn. Our Lord never stood to dictate or coerce, and what agony it must sometimes have caused him! Think of him letting Judas Iscariot go, when one sudden strong note of appeal might have brought him to his knees. But the Son of God refused to dominate.

This distinction is the key to all right relations between us and others: between parents and children, husbands and wives, even employers and employees. Many a so-called friendship breaks down because there is on one part a subtle desire to dominate. We like sometimes to try to form the opinions of others, to dictate to them their conduct. What we call love may be corrupted by this desire for power, and our affection for the other may become only the satisfaction of unconscious pride.

Because of this, strain sometimes breaks out between husbands and wives, parents and children. We may seek to dominate our partners or children, to coerce them, to try and make them into the image of ourselves, or more often, what we have not been able to become.

The friendship of Jesus had in it, and still has, a far surer power. Through his love, truth becomes clear and the way of right becomes obvious. The whole world of love and goodness becomes alive through him.

The first disciples found that in the obedience which followed their accepting their calling, they were free. They were free because they were taking the road of their surrender through desire, because they wanted more than anything else to take it. Life became a glad companionship, in which they walked with Jesus in the kind of service which they willingly followed. They were not servants, they were friends.

Jesus holds out his hand to us. He offers us his friendship. He says to us, *“Come and see”*. The burden of our life can become one that we share with him; but it all depends how far we allow the Son of God to enter.

As he invited those first disciples to see where he lived, make sure that you are constantly ready to welcome Jesus into your home, into the centre of your life.