



Sunday 8th January 2023

Baptism of Christ/Epiphany

Today - Sunday 8th January

9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am	Holy Communion	
	With Children's Activities	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
11.00 am	Baptism of Christ Carol Service	- St Andrew's, 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	2.00 pm	Funeral Service of Frank Petty	- St Andrew's Ipplepen
	3pm-5pm	New Year T-Pot OAP Tea Party	- Church Cottage, Denbury
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
Tuesday	10.15 am	Holy Communion	- St Andrew's Ipplepen
Wednesday	10.30 am	Coffee Mates	- Church Cottage, Denbury
	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 15th January – Second Sunday of Epiphany

9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St John the Baptist, Woodland
11.00 am	Holy Communion	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
4.30 pm	Come Holy Spirit: An informal service of reflection	- St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen

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/>

January 2023 Prayer Diary. The January Prayer Diary for 2023 is now available on our website!! You can find daily prayers for the month, which include prayers for each mission community and their leadership teams by clicking on this link <https://exeter.anglican.org/prayer-diary> The prayer diary is a great way to pray for the mission and ministry of the Church of England in Devon.

Living and Learning Well Together: A Five Week Study Group. Would you like to join with others to learn more about how we grow as Christians? Would you like to reflect on the things which may get in the way of our doing so and find ways around these obstacles? The Pastoral Principles for Living and Learning Well Together course developed by the Church of England can help us respond to these questions. There will be an opportunity each week to explore each of the principles in detail, and discover ways of applying them in our everyday lives. The course will run for five weeks, and will be hosted by Anne Eyre and Phil Wales. It will be held in person on Sunday 29 January, and 5, 12, 19 and 26 February from 11:45-13:15. Please note places are limited, and it's essential that you are able to commit to all 5 sessions. www.churchofengland.org/media-and-news/press-releases/pastoral-principles-course For further information and to reserve your place, please email Rev'd Phil Wales: phil.wales@exeter-cathedral.org.uk

Readings	This week	Next week
Readings for this Sunday:		
1st Reading	Isaiah 60:1-6	Isaiah 49:1-7
	Psalms 72:1-9, 10-15	40:1-2
2nd Reading	Ephesians 3:1-12	1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Gospel	Matt 2:1-12	John 1:29-42
Readings for the week ahead:		
Mon 9 th	Matt 3:13-End	Thurs 12 th Mark 1:40-End
Tue 10 th	Mark 1:21-28	Fri 13 th Mark 2:1-12
Wed 11 th	Mark 1:29-39	Sat 14 th Mark 2:13-17

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: At the turning of the year we pray for anyone we know who is anxious, fearful and feeling hopeless about the what this New Year will bring.

In Memory: Ian House, Frank Petty, Arthur Guppy, Jenny Buckle, Peter Byrom, Ann Hockin Higby and Mary Cleave.

New Year T Pot OAP Tea Party will be taking place on Monday 9th January, 3pm-5pm at Church Cottage, Denbury.



Reflection by Tessa Amies

Baptism of Christ
8th January 2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR !

This Sunday we reflect on the Baptism of Christ by St. John the Baptist in the River Jordan. This beautiful, calm, serene painting springs to mind whenever the subject is mentioned!

Painted by the Italian Renaissance painter Piero della Francesca as the centre of an altar piece for the Chapel of St. John the Baptist in a convent in Borgo San Sepolchro in Umbria, the artist's birth-place. Little is known of its history until it was discovered in the Cathedral of the town in about 1808, bought by an English collector and acquired by the National Gallery in 1861, where it hangs today.

The painting can be 'divided' into 3 vertical sections; 1) the figures under the trees, 2) the figure of Christ, 3) St John the Baptist and a figure preparing for baptism. The figure of Christ as the most important part of the painting, stands in the centre. An imaginary vertical line passing from centre top to centre bottom would pass through the Dove, the bowl, Christ's head, his hands and the heel of his right foot which bears his weight.

Christ, in white, seems very pale, it is unclear if this is due to fading or was intentional. The modelling of the figure would have been painted first in green under-paint which can just be seen under the white tempera. John the Baptist in a brown tunic seems a more robust, earthy figure. The 3 angels under the trees wear colourful tunics and the wings of one can just be seen as she turns towards Christ.

The River Jordan is a rather disappointing trickle of water, as it winds its way back into the landscape. The town of San Sepolchro can just be made out in the background amongst hills dotted with trees.

Piero, like several of his contemporaries, was interested in perspective.

This includes foreshortening - painting objects as they come towards you - and can be seen in the foreshortening of the Dove, the bowl above Christ's head and Christ's feet.

Whatever the details and explanations of the painting it can be admired for his deep sense of calm and spirituality. Perhaps it's worthwhile spending a few moments to contemplate and take in.



*The Baptism of Christ. Piero della Francesca. 1450s
Egg tempera on wood (poplar)*