



Sunday 26th March 2023

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Points of Prayer: We pray for parts of the world where there is conflict and where violent people seem to be in control. Give wisdom, compassion and resolve to the leaders of nations and restore in them a passion for justice and mercy that they work towards peace in their own lands and throughout the world.

The fifth and last Lent Group based on ‘The Book of Forgiving’ by Desmond and Mpho Tutu is this Tuesday 28th March at 6.30pm at St Andrew’s Church, Ipplepen. All are welcome. The reading for this last session for the Lent group is Chapter 10. As it is the last session, we will be also reviewing the book as a whole. Things to think about for our discussion are: What have you learnt from reading this book? How will your actions be different?

‘Walking the Way to the Cross’ - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury. There will be another opportunity to walk the way of the Cross (Stations) on Thursday 30th March in St Mary’s, Denbury at 9:15am. All are welcome.

‘Coffee & Chat!’ At St Andrew’s Church on Saturday 8th April from 10.30am to 12 noon (ish). Everyone is welcome to this second ‘Coffee & Chat!’ on Saturday 8th April. There is no charge, donations only. We are hoping that you will come and enjoy a cup of delicious fresh coffee and tea and a piece of cake or biscuit. Bring friends and enjoy the space in our historic building. The coffee morning will be held on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

Cream Teas Bank Holiday Monday 10th April 3pm to 5pm in ‘Church Cottage’, Denbury.

Dr Paul Russell, Churchwarden from Broadhempston, is running the London Marathon for Compassion UK, a Christian charity, supporting children in extreme poverty. Please read his article in The February and March 2023 edition of The Beacon Magazine.
<https://challenges.compassionuk.org/profile/4850/paul-russell>

Save the Date: Sunday 14th May, 2.30pm. Denbury Folk and St Mary’s Church present rising stars in the folk world, Filkin’s Drift (duo). Chris and Seth are coming to St Mary’s, Denbury. More details and tickets from Rachel (rachelbelringer@gmail.com 07751 804 007)

Readings	This week	Next week
Readings for this Sunday:		
1st Reading	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Matt 21:1-11
Psalm	130	118:1-2, 19-End
2nd Reading	Romans 8:6-11	Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel	John 11:1-45	Matt 27:11-54
Readings for the week ahead:		
Mon 27 th	John 8:1-11	Thurs 30 th John 8:51-End
Tue 28 th	John 8:21-30	Fri 31 st John 10:31-End
Wed 29 th	John 8:31-42	Sat 1 st John 11:45-End
Readings can be viewed/downloaded from https://bible.oremus.org/		

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Today - Sunday 26th March

9.30 am	Sung Holy Communion	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am	Sung Holy Communion	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
11.00 am	Churches Together – Family Service	- Ipplepen Methodist Church
2.00 pm	Baptism of Isla Rose Hopkins	- 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	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
Thursday	9.15 am	- ‘Walking the Way to the Cross’ - 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 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
	6.30 pm	Lent Group: “The Book of Forgiving”	- St Andrew’s, Ipplepen
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
	4.30-5.30pm	Sta*x Youth Choir Practice	- St Andrew’s, Ipplepen
Friday	11.00 am	Interment of Ashes of Pamela Lloyd	- St Andrew’s Churchyard, Ipplepen
Saturday	10.00 am	Coffee Morning	- The Parish Rooms, Woodland

Next Sunday 2nd April – Palm Sunday

10.00 am	Sung Holy Communion	
	Mission Community Service	- Starting in St Andrew’s Church Hall, Ipplepen
4.30 pm	A Celtic Holy Week – Your Essential Guide	- Holy Trinity, Torbryan

In Memory: John Harris, Margaret Maddicott, Ron Paston, Ann Hockin Higby, Vernon Kerslake, Teresa Irish, Sarah Long, Mabel Gallon, Fran Howells, Geoffrey Bamford and Pamela Lloyd.

Sunday 7th May at 11am – Mission Community Holy Communion Celebrating the King’s Coronation at St Andrew’s Church, Ipplepen. All Welcome!



Reflection by Rev'd Andrew Down

**Fifth Sunday of Lent
26th March 2023**

The Great Mystery of Love and the importance of timing

We are journeying into the time that we celebrate the great mystery of God's love culminating with our Easter Celebrations. We have been preparing for this throughout Lent which began back on 22nd February and now our Lenten journey comes to its climax with Passiontide. **Passiontide** begins this Sunday, the 5th Sunday of Lent often called Passion Sunday and runs for two weeks ending on Holy Saturday also called Lazarus Saturday. It is the time we focus our attention and reflect on the suffering of Christ. Suffering is the word from which we get the word passion - Latin passio = suffering). To be passionate about something is to be willing to suffer for something. We love it or them so much we are willing to suffer. What an expression of love.

During Passiontide crucifixes/ crosses and images in our church buildings are covered in veils which are usually purple or violet in colour (the colour for the Lenten season). Crosses are covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday and statues and images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil, often being unveiled during the singing of the Gloria.

This practice of covering draws our attention to **the importance of timing** in the Easter story and the fact that part of this timing was Jesus not responding straightaway as is the case in today's Gospel passage of the healing of Lazarus and more than that at times hiding himself from the people as in John 8: 46-59. Timing is so important. We live in a time-bound world, and we need to pay attention to our timing. Ecclesiastes puts it like this:

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. Ecclesiastes Ch3 v1-8

Part of our attention during our Lenten journey has been on the practices that help us be people who are good at timing. People who have eyes to see what is going on around us and are tuned in. We then know when to act and when not to. Our regular practices, our prayer, reflection and reading scripture build our ability to do this. These practices have more effect when we are not doing them than when we are doing them. That is why attending to these regular practices and making habitual time for them (whether it feels productive or not) is so important. It is exactly what Jesus models to his disciples and to us. Time to pray, reflect and read the scriptures - together and individually. This time spent has its working out and fruit in the cut and thrust of our lives with life's various demands and challenges. By developing our spiritual antenna, we know when to act and when to restrain from acting. This ability is a direct result of our regular and habitual practices of prayer, reflection and study of scripture.

The second week of Passiontide is Holy Week this begins on Palm Sunday 2nd April when as well as remembering Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, we read the passion gospel often in dramatized form. We then journey through the week which it includes Jesus being in the home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus again, his last meal with his disciples at which he washes their feet, his trial, agony and death on Good Friday, the emptiness of Easter Saturday or Tomb day and finally the wonder of the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday morning when we celebrate that his death was not the end.

Below is a list of our services over Holy Week beginning with Palm Sunday and going through to Easter Day.

Sunday April 2nd	Palm Sunday	
10.00 am	Holy Communion	
	Mission Community Service	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
4.30 pm	A Celtic Holy Week –	
	Your essential guide	- Holy Trinity, Torbryan

Monday April 3rd	Monday of Holy Week	
6.30 pm	Holy Communion	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Tuesday April 4th	Tuesday of Holy Week	
10.15 am	Holy Communion	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Wednesday April 5th	Wednesday of Holy Week	
6.30 pm	Holy Communion	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Thursday April 6th	Maundy Thursday	
5.30 pm	Holy Communion followed by Watch	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
7.30 pm	Holy Communion followed by Watch	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Friday April 7th	Good Friday	
10.30 am	Joint service and Walk of Witness	- Gathering at St Andrew's, Ipplepen
2.00 pm	Reflecting around the Cross	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

Saturday April 8th	Holy Saturday	
8.00 pm	Easter Vigil	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

Sunday April 9th	Easter Sunday	
9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St John The Baptist, Woodland
9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am	Holy Communion	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
11.00 am	Holy Communion	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen