



Sunday 2nd July 2023

Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Today - Sunday 2nd July

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 and baptism of Martha Reynolds & Erin Reynolds	- 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	- 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 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
	6.30pm-8pm	'The Unity Course'	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Wednesday	12 noon	Food for Thought - Lunch Club	- St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Thursday	10.15 am	Holy Communion	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
Friday	10.30 am	'Grand Opening of the Festival of Flowers'	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
	10.30am-6pm	'Festival of Flowers'	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
Saturday	10.30am-12pm	'Coffee & Chat!'	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
	10.30am-6pm	'Festival of Flowers'	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

Next Sunday 9th July – Fifth Sunday After Trinity

9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
10.30am-6pm	'Festival of Flowers'	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am	Holy Communion with Children's Activities	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
11.00 am	Celtic Morning Prayer	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
5.00pm-6.30pm	'St Andrew's Outside'	- St Andrew's Church Field, Ipplepen
6.00 pm	Service of Thanksgiving – Festival of Flowers	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

In Memory: Myfanwy 'Myfi' Jones and Michael Skinner.

Points of Prayer: We pray for Martha and Erin as they are baptised this Sunday and are welcomed into the Family of God.

'The Unity Course' continues this Tuesday 4th July at St Andrew's Church Ipplepen 6.30pm – 8pm and then the following 3 Tuesdays in July. This week's theme is praying: **The inevitability of disagreement and the problem of anger.** All welcome. Please see the poster on our notice boards, in the 'Beacon Magazine and on the welcome page of our website for more details:

www.missioncommunity.org.uk

'Food for Thought' Lunch Club takes place at St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen, this Wednesday 5th July at 12 noon. If you would like to start attending the lunch club, please contact Maria Alsop on (01803) 813110. All Welcome!

'Coffee & Chat!' At St Andrew's Church, Ipplepen, on Saturday 8th July from 10.30am to 12 noon (ish). Everyone is welcome to this regular coffee morning held on at second Saturday of each month in St Andrew's Church, Ipplepen. There is no charge, donations only.

The Grand Opening of the 'Festival of Flowers' in Denbury with Guest appearance by Judi Spiers will take place on Friday 7th July at 10.30am at The Church of St Mary the Virgin.

The 'Festival of Flowers' in Denbury runs from Friday 7th July until Sunday 9th July, 10.30am to 6pm each day at The Church of St Mary the Virgin. Each village group has designed a display on the theme of the Five Senses: A Floral Sensory Journey. They have been assisted in this by the tutors and students from the British Academy of Floral Art, who have advised on ideas, and helped to coordinate the overall presentation. Based in Exeter, they have been Chelsea Flower Show Gold winners on several occasions. So come and feast your eyes on the wonderful displays before enjoying some delicious refreshment! The festival will conclude with a 'Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving' which will be held at 6pm on Sunday 9th July in the church. All welcome.

St Andrew's Outside - Free Event for all ages - Sunday 9th July 5pm-6:30pm in the Church Field, Ipplepen. 'St Andrew's Outside' invite you to picnic at our free community event in our Church Field next Sunday 9th July from 5-6:30pm. All age field activities, cold drinks, hot chocolate and treats provided. Enjoy toasting marshmallows around the fire pit. Bring a picnic, rug/chair and mug/water bottle for drinks. Please pray for the Team, the event and all who attend. Thank you. Team vacancies: Drinks preparation assistant, Fire pit marshall, Welcomers. Please contact Lesley Mawson 07708037838 if you would like to join the Team for the day. See you there!

Readings	This week	Next week
Readings for this Sunday:	1st Reading Jeremiah 28:5-9	Zechariah 9:9-12
	Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18	145:8-15
	2nd Reading Romans 6:12-End	Romans 7:15-25a
	Gospel Matthew 10:40-End	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-End

Readings for the week ahead:

Mon	3 rd	John 20:24-29	Thurs	6 th	Matt 9:1-8
Tue	4 th	Matt 8:23-27	Fri	7 th	Matt 9:9-13
Wed	5 th	Matt 8:28-End	Sat	8 th	Matt 9:14-17

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

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Reflection by Rev'd Tony Meek

Fourth Sunday after Trinity
Proper 8 Year A
2nd July 2023
Matt 10:40-End

There has always been a great Christian tradition of hospitality. Until the Reformation, travellers could always be sure of rest and refreshment at a monastery or convent. The maintenance of Church House Inns, long after the expiration of their often original function of lodging for the masons building the church, shows how the tradition extended.

Jesus said, 'Whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple – truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.' In that last verse of our gospel this morning, Jesus was not of course giving his disciples an instruction to be hospitable; I guess he assumed that to be their nature. He was talking of those who welcomed them, and in so doing welcomed him and God. He was establishing a firm linking of four parties to the transaction. When the host welcomed a disciple, they welcomed Jesus, and whoever thus welcomed Jesus, welcomed the one who sent him, God.

Little wonder then that hospitality has always been at the heart of our faith. Not as an end in itself, but as a natural working out of our faith in our lives. Social events are far more important in church life than just a way to raise funds and to keep the faithful happy. If we live the gospel in our lives, we will naturally want to be hospitable and to be sharing in each other's company.

In my last parish we used to hold a Hospitality Sunday. People were asked to indicate whether they would prefer to be guests or hosts, and if the latter, how many people they could entertain at a Sunday lunchtime. It was a nightmare to organise, making sure that energetic children went where they would be welcomed, and those with special dietary needs where that could be catered for. And we tried to put together those who did not normally visit each other. Many lasting friendships were forged, and many fringe members found their place within the heart of the church family

But it's not just about being hospitable and being nice to each other and having a nice time and increasing our membership.

So often at churchy meetings, from PCC to General Synod, Christians are desperate to cry out, 'But where is God in all of this?' Mundane things have to be dealt with as expeditiously as possible. Hard commercial decisions must sometimes be made. But if God is not at the centre of all that we discuss, what business have we to be there?

The wider message from today's gospel goes beyond the concept of hospitality and its due reward. The power of positive thinking was, in its day, hailed as a breakthrough in the search for a healthier way of living; and certainly it has helped many who would otherwise have succumbed to the pressures of life. But it is only a part of the real solution: even a non-believer can think positively. Non-believers can be incredibly hospitable.

We need to involve God in all our thinking, letting his divine alchemy accomplish what we cannot, as he not only *transforms* situations, but *produces* them – situations where we can show not our love, but his; not our talents, but his; not our generosity, but his. When we act in his name, out of love for him, we are bringing others into contact with him, and opening the door for him to move powerfully in their lives, as well as in ours.

Today's gospel only contains three verses, but what a powerful reminder they are of what we should be about. And how appropriate they are for what the Government has asked us to regard as Thank-you Day! When we can be sure that we are doing what those three verses say, we are on the road to heaven – not just in intention, but in actuality.

