

# HOLSWORTHY MISSION COMMUNITY NEWS

ISSUE 78

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## Starting Lent

Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday**, a day of penitence or cleansing of the soul. Many Christians will attend Lent services and be marked with a cross of ashes on their forehead.



This is a sign of mortality, based upon the idea from the book of Genesis that humankind came into the world from dust and will return to it. It is a time to express sorrow over sin, and a reminder that Jesus brings freedom from sin. The following 40 days are an opportunity to remember Jesus' death; many give something up, whilst others take something on. **Mothering Sunday** occurs on the fourth Sunday of Lent, which many use as an opportunity to celebrate mothers, but also all who care for us. Mothering Sunday is thought to originate from when individuals returned to their mother church, typically a main church or cathedral of the area. It further developed when servants were allowed Mothering Sunday off to return home to their mother church and would often take a rare opportunity to see family. Lent culminates in **Holy Week**.

## AROUND THE BENEFICES:

**ASHWATER:** Sunday February 4<sup>th</sup> Café Church 10.30am at Baptist Hall, Halwill

**Lent Course** – Wednesdays – February 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> 7.30 to 9.00pm at 26 Beeching Close, Halwill

**Saturday February 3<sup>rd</sup> Big Breakfast** 9.30am – 11.30am. Served in the Parish Hall £6.00 a head. Bring & Buy stall, raffle.

**Saturday March 3<sup>rd</sup> Ploughman's Lunch** 12.00 – 1.30pm.

**BLACK TORRINGTON:** Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February

9.00am – 12.00 noon Benefice Coffee Morning at Holsworthy Memorial Hall

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February** 10.00 am Saturday Church at Bradford Village Hall. Theme: **Pancakes before Lent**. We

have songs, stories, prayers, crafts, games, a lending library and good things to eat! A short informal Holy Communion service takes place after Saturday Church at about 11.15 am in the committee room. All are welcome.

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February** 10.00am – 12.00 Black Torrington Table Top Sale, to be held in the Village Hall. Stalls, Bacon Baps, Raffle, Tea and Coffee. *The Benefice has now taken over the running of this event.*

**BRADWORTHY:** Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February – Coffee and Pancakes – in Church from 10.30am – St Andrew's, Sutcombe

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February** Bradworthy Coffee Morning and Jumble Sale in Church from 10.00am

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February** Bradworthy Church at 7.30pm – Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes.

**HOLSWORTHY:** Candlemas and Christingle - Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 4.00 pm in St Peter & St Paul's Church, Holsworthy everyone welcome **Hollacombe & Holsworthy churches - Coffee Morning -**

Holsworthy Memorial Hall **Wednesday February 28<sup>th</sup>, 9.30 – 12.00** Stalls and Raffle Everyone welcome – please come and support us

**Women's World Day of Prayer Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2.30 pm** Service followed by refreshments Methodist Chapel, Bodmin Street Holsworthy Everyone welcome

**St Swithun's Church Pyworthy - Mothering Sunday Lunch - Sunday March 11<sup>th</sup>** in Pyworthy Village Hall 2 Course Roast Lunch Main Course Choice of: Roast Beef ~ Roast Pork ~ Vegetarian Alternative; served with all the trimmings 12.30pm for 1.00pm **Cost: £12.50p adults; £6.00p under 12s** Bookings please, by March 2<sup>nd</sup> to Carol on 01409 253174 or Liffy on 01409 254423

**Fridays in Lent** 11am Benefice Communion and 11.30pm no cost Cafe followed by Lent reflection and lunch at SS Peter and Paul, Holsworthy.

**Lent Quiet Day 24<sup>th</sup> February** 10am-4pm at the Long House, Holsworthy. Archdeacon Mark leading the day of reflections and services for Lent. To book a place email Mthr Elizabeth elizabethmaburke@icloud.com or ring 01490 255409.

**Thursdays, 7pm** starting for Lent on 16<sup>th</sup> February - **Benefice Eucharist** at SS Peter and Paul, Holsworthy.



**Holy Week** begins with Palm Sunday, a day which commemorates Jesus' triumphant procession into Jerusalem on a donkey. In many churches the congregation are given palm crosses, whilst others wave palm branches. Occasionally a donkey is paraded near (or even in!) a church. The Lectionary invites us to listen to the Gospel telling of all that is to come in the following days. The Thursday before Easter is Holy Thursday or **Maundy Thursday**. It is a reminder of the last meal Jesus ate with his disciples, washing their feet and leading them in the first ever Eucharist. He foretold his death; drawing a direct parallel between the bread and his body, and the wine and his blood. The following day is **Good Friday**, a day commemorating Jesus' death on the cross. It is a day of mourning, when we remember the suffering and pain of Christ. The service on this day provides an opportunity for solemn reflection. **On Easter Sunday**, the Church celebrates **Jesus' resurrection**. Fasts are finished, chocolate Easter eggs consumed, and the resurrection foreshadows the renewal of creation. Good Friday is so called because the death of Christ, as terrible as it was, led to the resurrection of Easter Sunday, which brought new life to those who believe. Good Friday challenges mere human goodness – it is the nature of Jesus' sacrifice that overcomes the weakness of humanity. Some Churches will light a **paschal candle** to represent the eternal presence of Jesus, as he rises from the dead.

The story of Lent is a spectacular story of sadness and joy; a story which is still celebrated in diverse ways throughout the world today.

On **Ash Wednesday** we have two Eucharists with Imposition of Ashes - **Holsworthy 11am** and **Bridgerule 7pm**.

**Additional services in Holsworthy in February are:**

**Friday 2nd February**, Bridgerule, 7.00 pm, Benefice Candlemas and Patronal Festival

**Saturday 3rd February**, Holsworthy, 4.00 pm, Creative Candlemas with Christingle

**Wednesday 14th February**, Holsworthy, 11.00 am, Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes

## **CHURCHES TOGETHER**

## **LENT COURSE 2018**

For 2018 Churches Together have partnered with Hope for a Lent course which is based on the book **40 Stories of Hope**.

There are weekly downloads for individual reflection and group discussion, plus for those who prefer daily study during Lent they recommend the 40 Stories of Hope book.

**40 Stories of Hope** is available from CWR for £7.99 individually and for Church groups a box of 20 books can be bought for just £40.

### **Theme:**

The stories within the course and book give a unique insight into prison life and point to the hope we can find as followers of Jesus. The group studies provide the whole Church – inside and outside prison – with the opportunity to walk with Jesus through Lent, learning from Mark's Gospel and from the lessons prisoners, ex-prisoners and chaplains have learned. Whether we take this spiritual journey through Lent, alone or in company, there is much to draw on to refresh and encourage our faith.

The PDF files for each week are designed to be printed as A5 booklets on A4 paper but can also be printed as A4. For a Large Print version print the pamphlet as A4.

These Resources are available on <https://ctbi.org.uk/lent/>

## **URGENTLY NEEDED—NEW DEANERY TREASURER**

As most of you will be aware, I am planning on standing down as Deanery Treasurer at Easter. I took over the role in the summer of 2013 and it is now someone else's turn. Ideally, my successor should be, or have been a Parish Treasurer, as a good understanding of parish finance is very helpful but not essential. There is a lot of help and advice available both from the DBF and online.

Parish Treasurers - Please consider stepping forward to take on this very interesting and fulfilling role. The most time-consuming part - the checking of Annual accounts and Parish Returns - is optional, although it does make sense for this to be done at a local level. The Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) would also prefer it that way to ease their workload.

I will be attending the regular Barnstaple Archdeaconry Deanery Treasurers meeting with the Archdeacon and Neil Williams on 1st February where all matters of Parish finance will be discussed.

Please let me know as soon as possible if there are any points or concerns that you wish to be raised at the meeting and I will put them forward for you.

Best wishes

**Letitia—Deanery Treasurer**