

Holsworthy Benefice ~ News Sheet No 6

Bridgerule, Hollacombe, Holsworthy and Pyworthy with Pancrasweek

3rd May 2020 ~ FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Priest in Charge: Mother Elizabeth Burke

Tel: 01409 255490

Email: elizabethmaburke@icloud.com

Mob: 07990 978485

Online Sunday Morning Prayer at 10.30am

The link to join the service on line is;

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85395682131>

Please just follow the instructions on the screen you do need to accept the app.

By one tap mobile

+442030512874,,85395682131# United Kingdom

+442034815237,,85395682131# United Kingdom

By any phone

Dial by your location (several numbers in case lots of people are ringing at the same time)

+44 203 051 2874 United Kingdom

+44 203 481 5237 United Kingdom

+44 203 481 5240 United Kingdom

+44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom

You will be asked for this meeting ID: 853 9568 2131



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Are you in need of some daily hope during this lockdown?

We have a new FREE telephone line for you to ring to hear comforting hymns, daily prayers and reflections.

0800 804 8044



CONNECTIONS



VE75 DAY 2020 - 8th May

Exeter Diocese will be broadcasting a special service for the 75th Anniversary of VE Day on Friday 8 May at 10am, led by the Bishop of Plymouth. You will be able to watch it on their **YouTube channel** and **Facebook** pages.

Timings on the Day

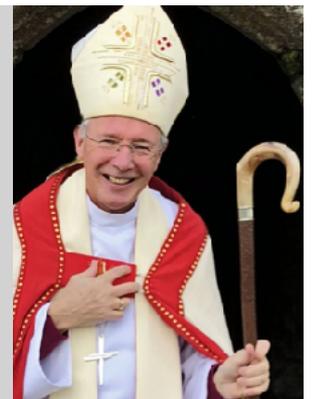
10am: Bishop Nick & Diocesan Service of Reflection

11am: Two Minutes Silence & National Reflection

Lunchtime: Picnic at Home Celebrations

3pm: Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2

9pm: Queen's VE Day Speech



The Bishop of Plymouth, the Rt Rev'd Nick McKinnel, will be leading the service

5 simple ways to get involved...

Take part in the [Dan Snow History Challenge](#)

Take part in the [Big Picnic for Hope](#)

Create bunting for [Great British Bunting](#)

Promote & take part in the 'Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2' at 3pm



COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the
resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of
righteousness,
that we may seek those things
which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

(Alternative readings)

The reading from Acts must be
used as either the first or second
reading.

Acts 2:42-end

*A reading from the Acts of the
Apostles.*

Many were baptized and were
added to the community. They
devoted themselves to the
apostles' teaching and fellowship,
to the breaking of bread and the
prayers. Awe came upon everyone,
because many wonders and signs
were being done by the apostles.
All who believed were together
and had all things in common; they
would sell their possessions and
goods and distribute the proceeds
to all, as any had need. Day by day,
as they spent much time together
in the temple, they broke bread at
home and ate their food with glad
and generous hearts, praising God
and having the goodwill of all the
people. And day by day the Lord
added to their number those who
were being saved.

Or Genesis 7

PSALM Psalm 23

R *I will dwell in the house of the
Lord for ever.*

The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green
pastures
and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of
righteousness for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they
comfort me. **R**
You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who
trouble me;
you have anointed my head with
oil and my cup shall be full.
Surely goodness and loving mercy
shall follow me all the days of my
life,
and I will dwell in the house of the
Lord for ever. **R**

SECOND READING

(Alternative readings)

Either 1 Peter 2:19-end

*A reading from the first letter of
Peter.*

Brothers and sisters: It is to your
credit if, being aware of God,
you endure pain while suffering
unjustly. If you endure when you
are beaten for doing wrong, what
credit is that? But if you endure
when you do right and suffer for
it, you have God's approval. For to
this you have been called, because
Christ also suffered for you, leaving
you an example, so that you should
follow in his steps. "He committed
no sin, and no deceit was found in
his mouth." When he was abused,
he did not return abuse; when
he suffered, he did not threaten;
but he entrusted himself to the
one who judges justly. He himself
bore our sins in his body on the
cross, so that, free from sins, we
might live for righteousness; by his
wounds you have been healed. For
you were going astray like sheep,
but now you have returned to the
shepherd and guardian of your
souls.

Or Acts 2:42-end (as above)

GOSPEL John 10:1-10

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to John.*

Jesus said to the Pharisees: "Very
truly, I tell you, anyone who does
not enter the sheepfold by the
gate but climbs in by another
way is a thief and a bandit. The
one who enters by the gate is
the shepherd of the sheep. The
gatekeeper opens the gate for
him, and the sheep hear his voice.
He calls his own sheep by name
and leads them out. When he has
brought out all his own, he goes
ahead of them, and the sheep
follow him because they know
his voice. They will not follow a
stranger, but they will run from
him because they do not know the
voice of strangers." Jesus used
this figure of speech with them,
but they did not understand what
he was saying to them. So again
Jesus said to them, "Very truly,
I tell you, I am the gate for the
sheep. All who came before me
are thieves and bandits; but the
sheep did not listen to them. I am
the gate. Whoever enters by me
will be saved, and will come in and
go out and find pasture. The thief
comes only to steal and kill and
destroy. I came that they may have
life, and have it abundantly."

POST COMMUNION

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to
be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down
his life and rise again:
keep us always under his
protection,
and give us grace to follow in his
steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Puzzle Sheet



How many sheep can you count on this page?

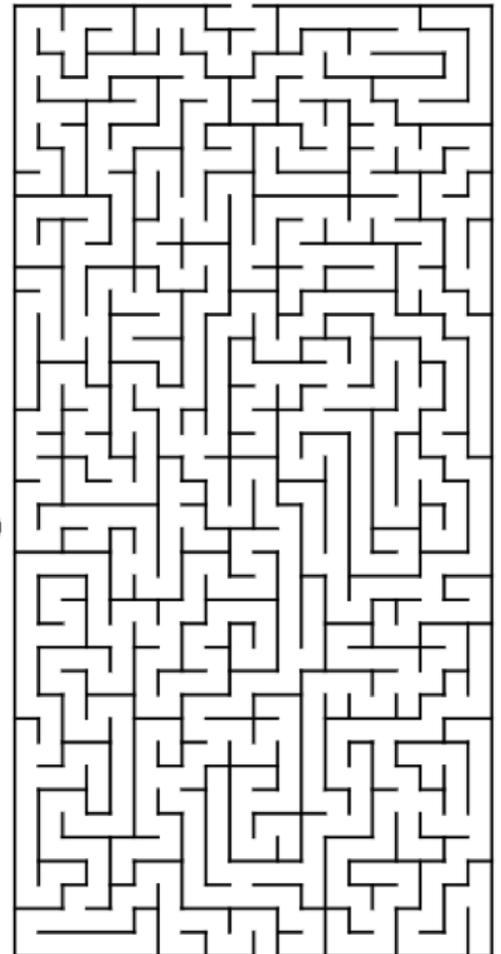
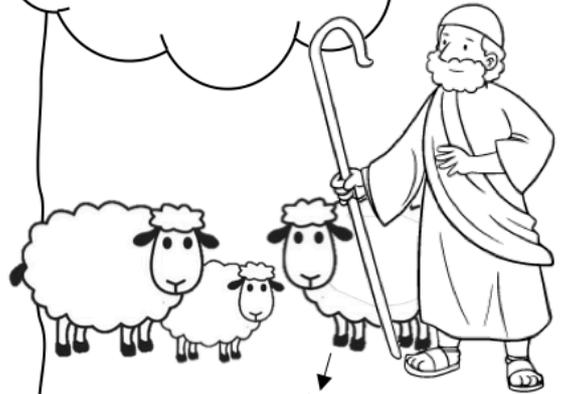
Don't fall asleep while you count them!



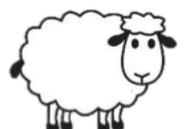
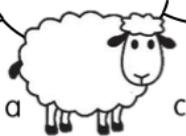
Draw a big tangly scribble to give the sheep a body, then finish the picture by adding a lovely green field full of delicious grass for the sheep to eat!



Can you help the shepherd find their way through the maze to the lost sheep?



Which path should the sheep follow to get back to their shepherd?



10th May 7pm - **Exeter Cathedral's Holy Ground** will be going ahead on YouTube and Zoom. We're delighted that the Rev'd Catherine Duce will join us to talk about 'The Desert in the City', for full details <https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/news-events/whats-on/something-else-about-community/> The talk will be available on Youtube a couple of days before the service. On the evening, we invite you to join us on Zoom for a 40 minute service, including hearing the talk together, then, after a break to make a coffee, return at 8pm for questions and a conversation in response to the talk.

Topic: Holy Ground at Exeter Cathedral
 Time: May 10, 2020 19:00
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84666509907>
 Meeting ID: 846 6650 9907



God in the Arts

Editor: *The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on animals and birds as seen in art and Scripture... this will run throughout 2020.*

'He gave us eyes to see them': early Persian painting of Jonah and whale

The prophet Jonah is mentioned three times in the Gospels when Jesus refers to 'the sign of Jonah.' In the Old Testament he was swallowed by a large fish, traditionally a whale, and in its belly for three days and three nights. It is easy to see in that sign a reference to the death and resurrection of Jesus, but the book is also a powerful allegory of life. The prophet runs away from God, only to encounter a storm and possible shipwreck. He is thrown overboard and swallowed by the whale.



We are living through difficult and anxious days with the coronavirus: we seem to be surrounded by fear and danger, like Jonah. Where, we ask, is our hope and safety amid the storm and threat of breakdown? In his distress Jonah prays to the Lord and places his trust in God. The psalm he utters ends with the words, 'Deliverance belongs to the Lord.' As he speaks, the whale spews him on to the safety of dry land.

The story of Jonah is depicted here in this beautiful painting from a 14th century manuscript from Persia. The whale is friendly and smiling, basking in the expanse of blue sea. Jonah is safe: his hope has triumphed, and God has delivered him from danger and possible death. In 1988 Heathcote Williams wrote a long poem called 'Whale Nation' in praise of these mysterious, gifted and intelligent creatures. We hunt them, we plunder the seas for them. But they are also our friends and guides, and it is easy to neglect those truths. The book ends with examples of whales and dolphins guiding ships and saving human lives. So, we, in the midst of all that worries and perplexes us, can give thanks to God our guide and Saviour, and pray that He will bring us safely through life.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Fourth Sunday of Easter | ~ | For vocations to the priesthood, Youth Worker All who live at Craddock Close, Stanhope Close and West View |
| Monday 4th May (English Saints) | ~ | Those who are new to the Church |
| Tuesday 5th May | ~ | For integrity |
| Wednesday 6th May | ~ | Our giving |
| Thursday 7th May | ~ | For tolerance |
| Friday 8th May (Julian of Norwich) | ~ | Right judgement |
| Saturday 9th May | ~ | That we may speak the truth |

Why do Politicians (and All of Us) Find it Hard to Say Sorry?

By Canon Chris Palmer

(Canon Chancellor Exeter Cathedral)

This is a perennial question, but it's being repeated a lot at present in the face of coronavirus. Why can't policy makers and those in government say sorry for their mistakes? I think we shouldn't kid ourselves that politicians are worse than the rest of us. *All* of us find it hard to say sorry. We *think* we're good at saying sorry, because we're used to doing it with our families and loved ones – but that's different from owning faults in public life. Faced with the faceless scrutiny of the press and public opinion, we would all be as bad.

The Christian Gospel helps us understand this. Christianity teaches that God's grace – God's love, God's desire to forgive – are the *first move*. God in Jesus reached out to love us *before we were even aware of our wrongdoing*. God has already done everything needed to restore us when Jesus died on the cross and rose again. Christians call this *prevenient grace*: grace that 'goes before' us. And *in the light* of this amazing love we get a sense of just how bad our sins are and are able to say sorry, to repent.

Christians have a word for this 'being sorry in response to love'; we call it *contrition*. In the face of love, saying sorry feels hopeful, because it restores relationship. God is ready to throw arms around us and welcome us home when we say sorry, as described in the story of the Prodigal Son. We experience something like this in a loving family: we already know we're loved enough that our sorry will rebuild relationships. There is a lesser version of being sorry, traditionally called *attrition* – which is saying sorry in order to avoid punishment. And God accepts this penitence too, though with this kind of sorrow it's not clear that *we* are open to restored relationship, even when God is. But when we talk about politicians (and all of us) saying sorry for our public mistakes, *neither contrition nor attrition apply*. The press is *not* waiting to throw their arms around public figures who say sorry and welcome them home with love; it's not even offering to stop blaming and shaming them. In fact there's a good chance any 'sorry' will be followed by public humiliation and that ever after they will be described as 'disgraced'.

In such a context saying sorry is pretty impossible. And we need to own that the fault is *not* just with public figures who can't say sorry,

but with a public culture which is addicted to apportioning blame and creating scapegoats. It must be said that healthy forms of penitence and forgiveness in human relationships do involve the wrongdoer making restitution. Restitution is an important aspect of genuinely owning the harm we have done. But the context in which this happens is a constructive and hopeful one. Projects in restorative justice – such as the well-documented Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa – show that this can work, and that it's hard work. And most of the time we don't want to work that hard. So we stick with pointing the finger, blaming public figures on social media, and making sure we don't look weak by admitting mistakes.

But God still comes to us with 'prevenient grace', offering us love, and opening up the possibility that we might say a heartfelt sorry for our sin and seek to make amends for the harm we've done. When we've experienced God's 'welcome home' ourselves, we might be able to embody this spirit in the public sphere: we acknowledge our own contributions to the dysfunction of society and we offer public figures the chance to be reintegrated when they own their faults.

Here's a story from the Bible that has it all – prevenient grace, public grumbling, contrition, restorative justice, and forgiveness:

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

Luke 19:1-10

HOLSWORTHY COVID-19 MUTUAL AID

USEFUL CONTACTS FOR HOLSWORTHY

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Food | Perkins Butchers, The Square | 01409 253649 |
| | Country Kitchen Holsworthy | 01409 254408 |
| | Waitrose | |
| Food deliveries | Happy Pear | 07949 409298 |
| | Blackberry farm | 01409 261440 |
| | Dave Barnes (venison) | 07583 752062 |
| | Dunstaple Dairy Herd | 07791 658801 |
| | Meet 'n' Eat Holsworthy | 01409 259003 |
| Take away | Indian Ocean Holsworthy | 01409 254942 |
| Chemists | Lloyds, The Square Holsworthy | |
| | Boots, Holsworthy medical center | |
| Firewood | Grascott Firewood | 01409 281393 |
| General/Farm | Harpers Farm Supplies | 01409 259600 |
| | Mole Valley Farmers Holsworthy | 01409 253014 |
| Pet Supplies | Holsworthy Pets | 01409 404006 |
| General Builder | Darren Derosa | 07947 193850 |
| | Paul Crook | 07793 074963 |
| | Carlo Chandler | 07812728619 |
| | Stallion Home Developments ltd | 01409 240099 |
| | Holsworthy Tiling services | 01409 478413 |
| Plumbing Heating | G A Plumbing | 07792 239756 |
| | BRC Heating and Plumbing | 01409 9211128 |
| Electrician | John Rank | 07710 656587 |
| Fuel Station | Southcott Garage | 01409 254277 |
| | BP Holsworthy | |
| Mobile car repairs | Malk Withal | 07814 617821 |
| | Osbourne Mobile repairs | 7939558493 |
| | Advance Tyres | 01409 254446 |
| Computer Repairs Supplies | Holsworthy Computers ltd | 01409 478040 |
| Health and Help | Holsworthy Health Centre | 01409 253692 |
| | Holsworthy Hospital | 01409 253424 |
| | Town Clerk | 01409 253312 |
| | Age UK - Lines are open 8am-7pm | 0800 678 1602. |
| | Citizen's Advice Bureau (Weekdays 9.30 am – 4.00 pm) | 02444 111 444 |
| | Samaritans | 116 123 |

EMERGENCY NUMBER FOR SUPPORT

07340 633055

A prayer to say together

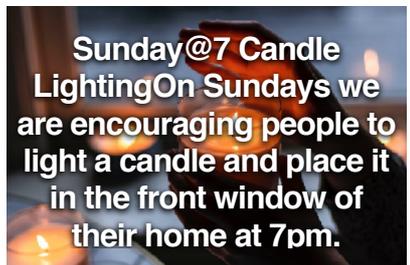
Dear God,

Thank you for the story of the Good Shepherd, that reminds us of how much you love us. Thank you that you feed and protect us and that your son Jesus came to die for us.

Thank you that we are not alone but are part of a flock, we pray today for all those in our church family, that you would protect them and provide for them.

We pray for all those who don't know you yet, that they would hear your voice and come to know you as their shepherd.

Amen



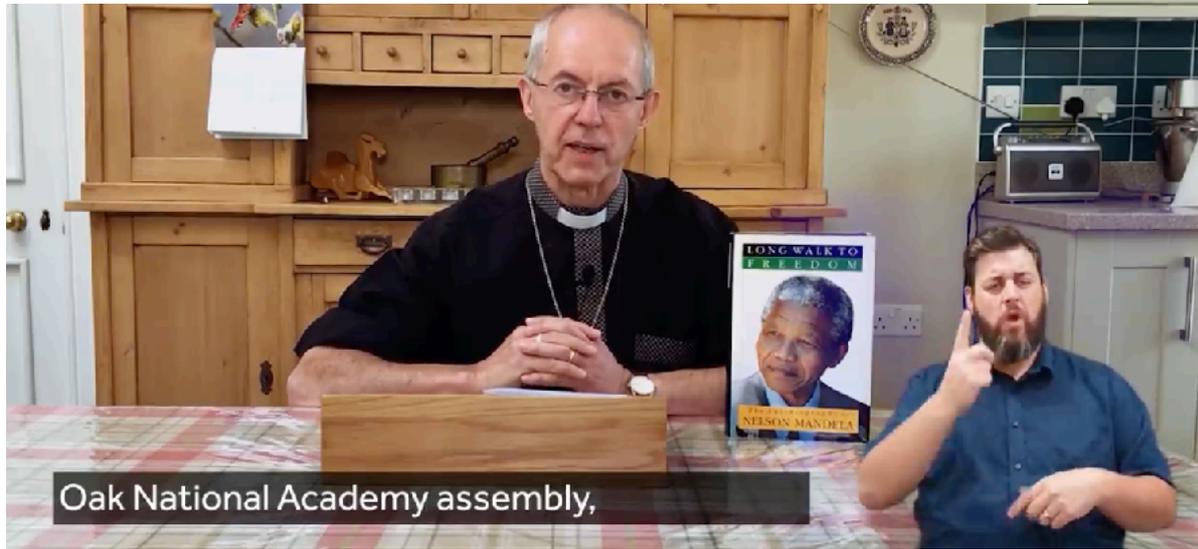
Sunday@7 Candle Lighting
On Sundays we are encouraging people to light a candle and place it in the front window of their home at 7pm.

Pause and Pray

Each day at 11am, there will be a short video reflection entitled 'Pause and Pray' posted on the diocesan Facebook and You Tube channels, make yourself a cuppa and take a couple of minutes out of your day to join us.



The twins had been doing Messy Church at home.



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chosen
crops
everyone
countries
leader
luggage
palace
rejecting

meeting
animals
Israel
cheered
servant
daughters
Samuel
home

donkeys
sons
king
hiding
found
land
Saul
other



Join in the 'Big Picnic for Hope' on Friday 8 May by having a picnic at home to honour heroes past and present and help support the nation's foodbanks.

Many of us would have been commemorating the 75th anniversary of VE Day on 8 May. Families and friends would have been gathering for street parties and celebrations around the UK, which unfortunately is no longer possible. Cathedrals around the country would have been hosting major events to mark this anniversary too. Instead, they are joining forces to ask people around the UK to picnic at home and at the same time support people struggling to put food on the table due to COVID-19.

The Big Picnic For Hope aims to raise £5000 for the Trussell Trust, a charity which supports a nationwide network of food banks and provides emergency food and support to people locked in poverty. With a rise in the number of people who are using foodbanks nationally, and the future uncertain as to how many people will have to adjust to more difficult living conditions around the country, the Big Picnic for Hope aims to ask those who can to donate towards providing another individual or family having food in their house today.

The Big Picnic for Hope also celebrates the heroes of our new 'homefront': those risking their lives, the NHS, carers, delivery personnel, workers across food stores and public transport, and the remarkable collective effort of the nation to stay home and play our own individual part in helping to see this through.

Thank you for supporting the vital work of the Trussell Trust – help us spread the word by sharing your picnic on social media with the hashtags #bigpicnicforhope and #feed5000