

# Holsworthy Benefice ~ News Sheet No 9

Bridgerule, Hollacombe, Holsworthy and Pyworthy with Pancrasweek

29th May 2020 ~ SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Priest in Charge: Mother Elizabeth Burke

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## **Sunday Service at 10.30am** **Online or by Phone**

**The link to join the service on line is;**

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

Please just follow the instructions on the screen  
It's best if you accept the app

**By any phone**

0203 051 2874 or 0203 481 5237

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



Holsworthy Benefice  
Wednesday 27th 2-4pm

## **The Wednesday Home Group**

This week we join the Devon wide 24/7 novena of prayer for Thy Kingdom Come 2-4pm.

The link to join the prayer Zoom;

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2472410247>

Password: HisKingdom (capital H and K)

By any phone

0203 051 2874      0203 481 5237

0203 481 5240      0131 460 1196

Meeting ID: 2472410247 Password: 478872

*All welcome to dip in and out  
between 2-4pm*

**Our church buildings are still closed** but planning is underway to prepare them to be gradually re-opened for weddings, funerals and private prayer. Bishop Robert has written an Ad Clerum (newsletter) this week with more details. You can [read it here](#).

## **Prayer Intentions**

7th Sunday of Easter ~

For people of other faiths, for our organists Barbara, John, Lynne and Margaret, and all who live at Derriton Road, Pyworthy

Monday 25th May (Bede) ~

The homeless

Tuesday 26th May (Augustine) ~

For fairer distribution of wealth

Wed 27th May ~

Vocations to the Priesthood and religious life

Thursday 28th May (Lanfranc) ~

The government

Friday 29th May ~

Our neighbours

Saturday 30th May (Joan of Arc) ~

For integrity



## **Rest and Recuperation**

Mother Elizabeth  
will be on leave  
Thurs 28th -  
Saturday 30th May



Sunday 24 May 2020  
John 17:1-11  
7th Sunday of Easter

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

## IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

**J**esus prays to his Father in heaven. Everything Jesus has done on earth has been to show us how much God the Father loves us. Now he has to leave them, Jesus prays for all his friends.

# PRAY!

Jesus promises his friends that he will always be with them, even when he goes to heaven.

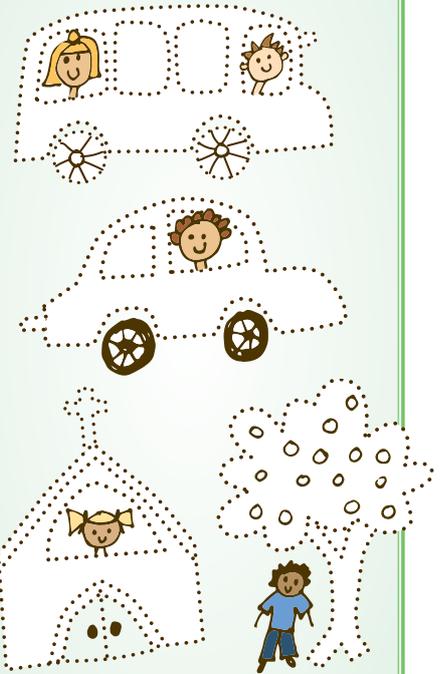
How can we keep in touch with Jesus?

Cross out all the letters B, X, Z to find out!

BIX ZCBA XNZ  
PBRXAZY BTXOZ  
BJXEZSBXUZS

## Pray everywhere!

These children are all praying.



Join the dots to see where they are.

## Praying without words

Use a finger labyrinth to pray. Be still and slowly trace the labyrinth path with your finger. When you get to the middle, keep your finger still and think about what is important to you. Then slowly trace the path backwards.



## Wordsearch

Find these words connected to praying in the grid:

JESUS DANCE  
FRIEND WORDS  
SING THANKS  
CHAT QUIET

When we pray we spend time with Jesus our friend.

T	E	I	U	Q	J
C	D	A	N	C	E
H	W	O	R	D	S
A	G	N	I	S	U
T	H	A	N	K	S
F	R	I	E	N	D

## A PRAYER TO SAY

**D**ear Jesus, today I would like to pray for \_\_\_\_\_  
I am talking to you about this because \_\_\_\_\_  
Amen

Answers: I can pray to Jesus.

### 30<sup>th</sup> May. Josephine Butler, social reformer for women.



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The Christian Institute

Josephine Butler is the 'saint' for anyone who believes in social justice. This remarkable 19<sup>th</sup> century clergyman's wife became a renowned campaigner for women's rights and for putting a halt to human trafficking.

Josephine was born in Northumberland in 1828, the daughter of a wealthy family of liberal politics and committed Christian faith. They had already been deeply involved in the abolition of slavery and the extension of the franchise. Such notions of equality instilled into Josephine a passionate desire to combat social injustice.

In 1852 Josephine married George Butler, the son of the Headmaster of Harrow, who shared her views. George was ordained in 1854 and they moved first to Oxford and then to Cheltenham. In 1863 tragedy struck when their daughter Eva fell to her death.

Josephine's grief found expression a few years later, when in 1865 George had become Headmaster of Liverpool College, and the couple were settling in Liverpool. Josephine was horrified at the lives of destitute women in Liverpool, and so she founded a 'home' to care for them, as well as a hostel to train them for suitable work. In 1869 she agreed to head a campaign against the Contagious Diseases Act of 1866, and by 1871 she had addressed a Royal Commission, explaining how this Act brutalised these women, already trapped in the slavery of prostitution. She got the Act rescinded.

By 1882, when George had become a Residentiary Canon of Winchester Cathedral, Josephine had not only founded a refuge for recovering prostitutes in Winchester, but she had also begun to fight sex trafficking across the world. This included freeing British girls from Belgian brothels. By 1885 Josephine had exposed the white slave trade in London, and had got Parliament to increase the age of consent for girls from 13 to 16, and to penalise those engaged in the transport of women for profit.

In 1890 George died, but Josephine continued her work until retirement to Northumberland, where she died in 1906.

All in all, Josephine Butler's deep Christian compassion transformed the lives of many tens of thousands of suffering women. She has been described as one of the most important early members of the feminist movement.

### 31<sup>st</sup> May - Day of Pentecost: Whit Sunday

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was seven weeks after Easter, or 50 days including Easter.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told His disciples that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for His disciples, but He knew they could not do the work themselves. They would need His help.

And so, they waited in Jerusalem, praying together with His other followers, for many days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues, to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the disciples and followers of Jesus. The Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning, proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course, Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, He could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of His Holy Spirit.



**COLLECT**

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus  
Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in  
heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour  
Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and 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 1:6-14**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

When the apostles had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Or **Ezekiel 36:24-28**

**PSALM**

**Psalm 68:1-10. 32-end (or 68:1-10)**

**R** *Sing to God, sing praises to his name.*

Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;  
let those that hate him flee before him.  
As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away;

as wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God. **R**

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;  
let them make merry with gladness.  
Sing to God, sing praises to his name;  
exalt him who rides on the clouds.  
The Lord is his name; rejoice before him. **R**

Father of the fatherless, defender of widows,  
God in his holy habitation!  
God gives the solitary a home  
and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome,  
but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert. **R**

O God, when you went forth before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,  
The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain, at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai,  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel. **R**

You sent down a gracious rain, O God;  
you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.  
Your people came to dwell there;  
in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor. **R**

Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth;  
make music in praise of the Lord;  
He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens  
and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice. **R**

Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel,  
whose power is above the clouds.  
How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary,  
the God of Israel, who gives power and strength to his people!  
Blessed be God. **R**

**SECOND READING**

(Alternative readings)

**Either 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

*A reading from the first letter of Peter.*

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion

your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Or **Acts 1:6-14** (as above)

**GOSPEL John 17:1-11**

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

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

**POST COMMUNION**

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all  
the world

to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we  
proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



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**Light a virtual candle  
and leave a message on the new  
Exeter Cathedral Prayer Wall**

This is a special virtual space designed to bring everyone together as a community in prayer and hope. Each message will appear on our wall as a prayer card, complete with flickering virtual prayer candle.

[VISIT OUR PRAYER WALL >](#)



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**



Faith in Later Life **CONNECTIONS**

# PRAYER & CARE

## Care for those you are praying for, pray for those you are caring for

During these difficult and trying times, we believe that now more than ever, presents an incredible opportunity for the Church worldwide, to unite in prayer so that our family, friends and neighbours will come to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ for themselves. One of our Key themes for Thy Kingdom Come is prayer and care. As we are praying for those we love to come to know the hope and love of Christ we also are encouraging all to see how they can show God's love towards them. By caring for them. Here are 5 ideas on how we can care and love those we know, even when we are socially distanced:

1. Keep up contact. Make a phone call, send an email, letter or card saying that you are praying for them at this time.
2. Keep an eye out for the anniversaries of life events. Make that phone call to let people know you care.
3. Send a small gift or book purchased on line, maybe insert life words etc.
4. Serve where you can in delivering groceries or medications.
5. Make sure the people you pray for know how much you value them by whatever means you can find.