

1st Jan 2023 -Naming and Circumcision of Christ Holsworthy Benefice

Bridgerule, Hollacombe, Holsworthy and Pyworthy with Pancrasweek Administrator: Libbi York - Holsworthybenefice@icloud.com



07717750198 Rev'd Paul Fitzpatrick - winterbirder@outlook.com

Services in Holsworthy Benefice - All Welcome					
	Bridgerule	Hollacombe	Holsworthy	Pancrasweek	Pyworthy
1st Jan	10am Benefice All Age Eucharist with Carols - Pancrasweek Church				
8th Jan	11am Sung Eucharist		11am All Age Eucharist		9.30am Sung Eucharist
15th Jan	11am Joint Service at the Methodist Chapel	9.30am BCP Holy Communion	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Morning Prayer
15th Jan	3PM - CREATIVE CHURCH				
22nd Jan	Joint Sung Eucharist		9.30am Morning Prayer		9/30am Sung Eucharist
29th Jan	10am Plough Benefice Eucharist - Pancrasweek Church				
5th Feb	11am Morning Prayer	3pm BCP Evensong	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Morning Prayer
12th Feb	11am Sung Eucharist		11am Morning Prayer		9.30am Sung Eucharist

Christmas reflection from Revd Dr Paul Fitzpatrick.

Advent is my favourite time of the year. I have previous memories of steaming coffeeshops reflected in the darkness outside. My university Carol Service packing out the Cathedral with the glowing happy faces on long held friends, Mince pies and Christmas fairs. This year we walk, bounded by hedgerows in the crisp cold air, home from Church with Sarah, under an icy night sky, lit up with planets and stars; a Barn Owl ghosting over the hedgerows and our local Vixen barking a warning. Fresh memories made now with new friends and in beautiful churches. Different times but the same magic; the 'not yet' time of anticipating, the wonder of the arrival of the Christ-child on earth.

This year has seen changes. Elizabeth has left us for a wonderful new post in the Scilly Isles, having seen us all through the Pandemic and reorganisation; she is sadly missed. Our quest for a new Minister is in full swing. We have seen a positive ecological review of all our Churchyards with significant community tree planting in two of them and surveys/work run out in others. Mission planning (across the Deanery) is happening apace, with exciting children and family engagement in progress, and the significant 'Anna' Community Chaplaincy project a major development taking us into the new year. But above all the selfless and endless humour, planning, work, and discipleship of our extended church family, remains my brightest memory of this year – Thank you.

As Advent is accomplished, the stillness of churches which have stood centuries, quietly serving, filled with prayer, the light of candles bouncing off the walls, the voices of carols and children, the scent of Christingle oranges; mark this time as different, special, hallowed, and Christ-filled; may I wish you all a happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas and the very best of new years.

Webpage: www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk Facebook Page: Holsworthy Benefice

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was circumcised

in obedience to the law for our sake

and given the Name that is above every name:

give us grace faithfully to bear his Name,

to worship him in the freedom of the Spirit,

and to proclaim him as the Saviour of the world; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Numbers 6:22-end

A reading from the book of Numbers.

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them, The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.' So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

PSALM Psalm 8

R O Lord our governor, how glorious is your name in all the world!

Your majesty above the heavens is praised out of the mouths of babes at the breast.

You have founded a stronghold against your foes, that you

might still the enemy and the avenger. R

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have ordained,

What is man, that you should be mindful of him;

the son of man, that you should seek him out? R

You have made him little lower than the angels and crown him with glory and honour.

You have given him dominion over the works of your hands and put all things under his feet, R

All sheep and oxen, even the wild beasts of the field, The birds of the air, the fish of the sea and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea. R

SECOND READING

Galatians 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

GOSPEL Luke 2:15-21

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel.

POST COMMUNION

Eternal God.

whose incarnate Son was given the Name of Saviour:

grant that we who have shared in this sacrament of our salvation

may live out our years in the power of the Name above all other names.

Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday. The Revised Common Lectionary is copyright © the Consultation on Common Texts, 1992. The Christian Year: Calendar, Lectionary and Collects, 1997, which includes The Common Worship Lectionary (the Church of England's adaptations of the Revised Common Lectionary, published as the Principal Service Lectionary) and the compilation of Collects and Post Communion Prayers, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council, and material from it is reproduced with permission. Bible readings from NRSV published by Mowbray and used by permission. All rights reviewed. Copyright © Redemptorist Publications Wolf's Lane Chawton Hampshire GU34 3HQ. A Registered Charity limited by guarantee. Registered in England 03261721. www.rpbooks.co.uk

