

Holsworthy Benefice

December News Sheet

Holsworthy Benefice					
	Bridgerule	Hollacombe	Holsworthy	Pancrasweek	Pyworthy
24th Nov	11am Joint All Age Eucharist Service		11am Cafe style Church	9.30am All Age Service	9.30am Morning Prayer
1 st Dec	11am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Mass	9.30am Sung Eucharist		4pm Christingle
8 th Dec	11am Morning Prayer	3pm Christingle	11am Sung Eucharist 6pm Carol Service		9.30am Sung Eucharist
15 th Dec		9.30am Mass	11am Memorial Service		9.30am Sung Eucharist
16 th Dec	6pm Christingle				
22 nd Dec	11am Sung Eucharist with carols		11am Cafe style Church	9.30am Crib Service	3pm Carol Service
24 th Dec	3pm Cribb Service		11pm Chirstmas Eve Midnight mass		11am Crib Service 8pm Midnight Mass
Dec 25th	10am Sung Eucharist	10am Mass			
28 th Dec		2.30pm 9 lessons with Carols			
29 th Dec	10am Benefice Sung Eucharist at Holsworthy				
5 th Jan	11am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Mass	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Family Service

Bridgerule, Hollacombe, Holsworthy and Pyworthy with Pancrasweek
 Revd Alison Hardy - reverendalisonhardy@gmail.com - 07780295752
 Admin: Libbi Cullimore - holsworthybenefice@icloud.com 07717750198

Dear friends,

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

These words were written by the prophet Isaiah to predict the 'one-who-is-to-come.' We know him as Jesus, and we celebrate his birth this month. As you take part in the Christmas festivities consider who Jesus is to you: a wonderful Counsellor to give you the wisdom you need? A Mighty God to whom you can turn in your times of need? An everlasting Father who calls you into his family of love? The Prince of Peace who brings peace to your heart?

Jesus is all this – and more. Invite him to be born into your heart this year.

Merry Christmas, Alison (Rector)

Readings for December

1st Dec – Purple

First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33: 14 -16

Psalms 25: 1-9

1 Thessalonians 3: 9-end

Gospel Luke 21: 25-36

25th Dec – Gold

Christmas Day

Isaiah 52: 7-10

Psalms 98

Hebrews 1: 1-4 (5-12)

Gospel John 1:1-14

8th Dec – Purple

Second Sunday of Advent

Baruch 5

Malachi 3: 1-4

Canticle Luke 1: 68-79 (Benedictus)

Philippians 1:3-11

Gospel Luke 3: 1-6

29th Dec – White

First Sunday of Christmas

1 Samuel 2: 18-20. 26

Psalms 148

Colossians 3: 12-17

Gospel Luke 2: 41-end

15th Dec – Purple

Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3: 14-end

Canticle or Psalm 146 : 4-end

Isaiah 12:2-end

Philippians 4: 4-7

Gospel Luke 3:7-18

Notices

We welcome you to join any of the following services:

Christingle Services

4pm Sunday 1st December, Pyworthy
3pm Sunday 8th December, Hollacombe
6pm Monday 16th, St Bridget's, Bridgerule

Carol Services

6pm Sunday 8th December, Town Carols Service at St Peter & Paul
7.30pm Friday 13th December, Cattle Market Carol Service
3pm Sunday 22nd, Pyworthy
6.30pm Sunday 22nd, Bridgerule Methodist Church
2.30pm Saturday 28th, Hollacombe

Christmas Tree Festival

All day, 12th-15th December, St Peter & Paul

Memorial Service

11am Sunday 15th, remembering loved ones among the Christmas trees, St Peter & Paul

Crib Services

9.30am Sunday 22nd at Pancrasweek
11am Christmas Eve, Pyworthy

Christmas Tree Festival. - The 4th Annual Christmas Tree Festival at St Peter and St Paul's will be taking place this year from Thursday 12th to Sunday 15th December. We would love as many people as possible to get involved and help is need with setting up and stewarding. There are sign up sheets at the back of church if you feel that you can spare some time. The stewarding rota has both 2 and 3 hour slots, so you won't be committed to all day. Please consider helping out and being part of it all. Donations to the raffle and chocolate tombola would as usual be very gratefully received. If you have any questions please contact Helen Flaherty on messenger, whatsapp or 07790 380119, or leave a message on our Facebook page 'Holsworthy Churches – Your Benefice'.

The winners of the St Peter's Monthly Jackpot Draw drawn in November were:

1st Prize, £18.00 – ticket number 005, Bob from Kingdon Way
2nd Prize, £3.60 – ticket number 160, Wendy from Chilsworthy

Bishop Mike will be coming to St. Peter & St. Paul, Holsworthy on 19th January 2025 to take a Confirmation Service. The confirmation candidates are planning a get together afterwards with a meal (venue to be confirmed) and are inviting everyone to join them in their celebrations. There will be a sign up sheet at the back of the church.

Contacts

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Pyworthy Safeguarding Lead

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Holsworthy Foodbank

Samaritans

Age UK -

Domestic Abuse – Womens Aid

Domestic Abuse – Mens Advice Line

Childline

01271 377077

116 123

0808 055 6112

0808 2000 247

0808 8010 327

0800 111

If you wish to advertise in upcoming news sheet please contact the benefice administrator by 20th Dec.

Sunday

1 December 2024

First Sunday of Advent

COLLECT

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works
of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his
glorious majesty to judge the
living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns
with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

PSALM Psalm 25:1-9

R Remember, Lord, your compassion and love.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies triumph over me.
Let none who look to you be put to shame,
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated. **R**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you have I hoped all the day long.
Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting. **R**

Remember not the sins of my youth
or my transgressions,
but think on me in your goodness,
O Lord,
according to your steadfast love.
Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way. **R**

He will guide the humble in doing right
and teach his way to the lowly.
All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-end

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

GOSPEL Luke 21:25-36

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon,

and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

POST COMMUNION

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son
our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



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Sunday

8 December 2024

Second Sunday of Advent

COLLECT

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Either **Baruch 5**

A reading from the book of the prophet Baruch.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Or **Malachi 3:1-4**

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

Thus says the LORD God: See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says

the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

CANTICLE Luke 1:68-79 (Benedictus)

R *Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel.*

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, who has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David. **R**

Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant. **R**

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life. **R**

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins. **R**

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. **R**

SECOND READING Philippians 1:3-11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

My brothers and sisters, I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your

sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

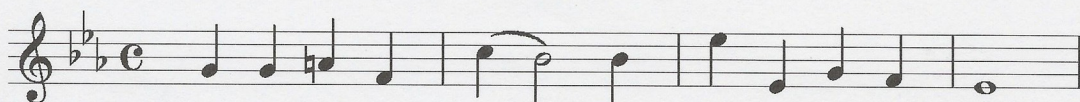
GOSPEL Luke 3:1-6

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

POST COMMUNION

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him in the
humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Bles-sed be the Lord - the God of Is - ra - el.

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Sunday

15 December 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your
messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards
of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make
ready your way
by turning the hearts of the
disobedient to the wisdom of
the just,
that at your second coming to judge
the world
we may be found an acceptable
people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the
Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Zephaniah 3:14-end

A reading from the book of the prophet Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

CANTICLE OR PSALM

Either **Psalm 146:4-end**

R *The Lord shall reign for ever.*

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
Who made heaven and earth,
the sea and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise for ever;
Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong
and bread to those who hunger. **R**

The Lord looses those that are bound;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous; **R**

The Lord watches over the stranger in the land;
he upholds the orphan and widow;
but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.

The Lord shall reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Alleluia. **R**

Or **Isaiah 12:2-end**

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL Luke 3:7-18

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptised by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy

of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax-collectors came to be baptised, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptise you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

POST COMMUNION

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.



The Lord shall reign for ev - er.

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Sunday

22 December 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

COLLECT

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin
Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his
coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our
judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Micah 5:2-5a

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

The LORD says to his people: But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

CANTICLE OR PSALM

Either **Luke 1:46b-55 (Magnificat)**

Or **Psalm 80:1-8**

R Turn us again, O God; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you that led Joseph like a flock;
Shine forth, you that are
enthroned upon the cherubim,
before Ephraim, Benjamin and
Manasseh.

Stir up your mighty strength
and come to our salvation. **R**

O Lord God of hosts,
how long will you be angry at your
people's prayer?

You feed them with the bread of
tears;
you give them abundance of tears
to drink.

You have made us the derision of
our neighbours
and our enemies laugh us to
scorn. **R**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book, it is written of me)." When Christ said, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

GOSPEL Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

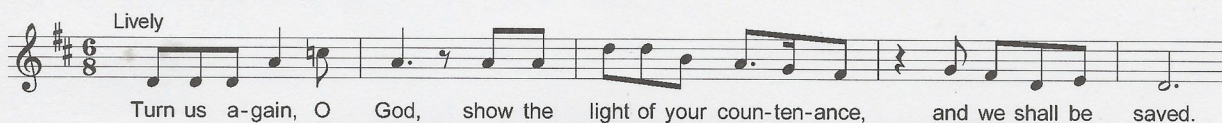
Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed

with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." [And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever."]

POST COMMUNION

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised
saviour:

fill us your servants with your
grace,
that in all things we may embrace
your holy will
and with her rejoice in your
salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



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COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have given us your only-begotten
Son
to take our nature upon him
and as at this time to be born of a pure
virgin:
grant that we, who have been born
again
and made your children by adoption
and grace,
may daily be renewed by your Holy
Spirit;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Isaiah 52:7-10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who
announces peace, who brings good
news, who announces salvation, who
says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen!
Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy; for in plain
sight they see the return of the LORD
to Zion. Break forth together into
singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the
LORD has comforted his people, he has
redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has
bared his holy arm before the eyes of
all the nations; and all the ends of the
earth shall see the salvation of our God.

PSALM Psalm 98

R *Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.*

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
His own right hand and his holy arm
have won for him the victory.
The Lord has made known his salvation;
his deliverance has he openly shown in
the sight of the nations. **R**

He has remembered his mercy and
faithfulness towards the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth
break into singing and make music. **R**

Make the music to the Lord with the
lyre,
with the lyre and the voice of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
sound praises before the Lord, the
King. **R**

Let the sea thunder and all that fills it,
the world and all that dwell upon it.
Let the rivers clap their hands
and let the hills ring out together before
the Lord, for he comes to
judge the earth.
In righteousness shall he judge the world,
and the peoples with equity. **R**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors
in many and various ways by the
prophets, but in these last days he
has spoken to us by a Son, whom he
appointed heir of all things, through
whom he also created the worlds. He
is the reflection of God's glory and the
exact imprint of God's very being, and
he sustains all things by his powerful
word. When he had made purification
for sins, he sat down at the right hand
of the Majesty on high, having become
as much superior to angels as the name
he has inherited is more excellent than
theirs. [For to which of the angels did
God ever say, "You are my Son; today
I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will
be his Father, and he will be my Son"?
And again, when he brings the firstborn
into the world, he says, "Let all God's
angels worship him." Of the angels he
says, "He makes his angels winds, and
his servants flames of fire." But of the
Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is
for ever and ever, and the righteous
sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom.
You have loved righteousness and
hated wickedness; therefore God, your
God, has anointed you with the oil of
gladness beyond your companions."
And, "In the beginning, Lord, you

founded the earth, and the heavens are
the work of your hands; they will perish,
but you remain; they will all wear out
like clothing; like a cloak you will roll
them up, and like clothing they will be
changed. But you are the same, and
your years will never end."]

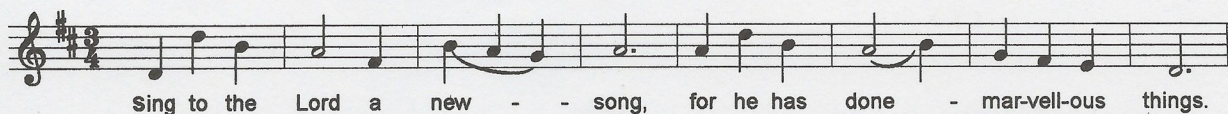
GOSPEL John 1:1-14

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

In the beginning was the Word, and
the Word was with God, and the Word
was God. He was in the beginning
with God. All things came into being
through him, and without him not one
thing came into being. What has come
into being in him was life, and the life
was the light of all people. The light
shines in the darkness, and the darkness
did not overcome it. There was a man
sent from God, whose name was John.
He came as a witness to testify to the
light, so that all might believe through
him. He himself was not the light, but
he came to testify to the light. The true
light, which enlightens everyone, was
coming into the world. He was in the
world, and the world came into being
through him; yet the world did not know
him. He came to what was his own, and
his own people did not accept him. But
to all who received him, who believed
in his name, he gave power to become
children of God, who were born, not of
blood or of the will of the flesh or of the
will of man but of God. And the Word
became flesh and lived among us, and
we have seen his glory, the glory as of a
father's only son, full of grace and truth.

POST COMMUNION

God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord.



Sunday

29 December 2024

First Sunday of Christmas

COLLECT

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your
own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our
humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 2:18-20. 26

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD"; and then they would return to their home. Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the LORD and with the people.

PSALM Psalm 148

R Praise, O praise the name of the Lord.

Alleluia.

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights.
Praise him, all you his angels;
praise him, all his host. **R**

Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you stars of light.
Praise him, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens. **R**

Let them praise the name of the Lord;
for he commanded and they were
created.

He made them fast for ever and ever;
he gave them a law which shall not
pass away. **R**

Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
Fire and hail, snow and mist,
tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word;
Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
Wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and birds on the
wing; **R**

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
Young men and women,
old and young together;
let them praise the name of the Lord. **R**

For his name only is exalted,
his splendour above earth and
heaven.

He has raised up the horn of his
people
and praise for all his faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who
are near him.
Alleluia. **R**

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:12-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

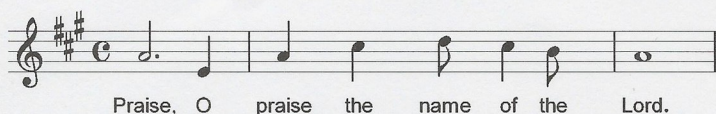
GOSPEL Luke 2:41-end

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

POST COMMUNION

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at
Nazareth the life of an earthly
home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and bring us all at last to our home in
heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



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Christmas Tree Festival

*St Peter & St Paul's Church
Holsworthy*

THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER
12.00 NOON - 7.00 PM

FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER
12.00 NOON - 7.00 PM

SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER
10.00 AM - 6.00 PM

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER
12.00 NOON - 6.00 PM

Free Entry

Refreshments, Raffle,
Chocolate Tombola,
Craft Table,
Vote for your Favourite Tree



Come and celebrate Christmas with us

at Holsworthy Livestock Market
on Friday 13th December at 7:30 pm



designed by  freepik

Carols followed by Refreshments

Hosted by **KIVELLS**
and the Market Chaplaincy Team