

Holsworthy Benefice

June News Sheet

Bridgerule, Hollacombe, Holsworthy, Pyworthy with Pancrasweek

	Bridgerule	Hollacombe	Holsworthy	Pancrasweek	Pyworthy
31st May	10am Benefice Songs of Praise at Pancrasweek				
7th June	11am Sung Eucharist	11am Patronal Eucharist & 3pm Benediction	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Family Service
14th June	11am Morning Prayer	3pm Evensong	11am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Sung Eucharist
21st June	11am Joint Service at Methodist Chapel	9.30am Mass	11am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Sung Eucharist
28th June	11am All Age Eucharist		11am Cafe style Church	9.30am All Age Service	9.30am Morning Prayer
5th July	11am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Mass	9.30am Sung Eucharist 6pm Civic Service		9.30am Family Service
12th July	11am Morning Prayer	3pm Evensong	10.30am Refreshments 11am start. In the Square		9.30am Sung Eucharist
19th July	11am Joint Service at Methodist Chapel	9.30am Mass	11am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Sung Eucharist with Songs of Praise
26th July	11am All Age Eucharist		11am Cafe style Church	9.30am All Age Service	9.30am Morning Prayer

WWW.holsworthybenefice.org.uk

Find us on Facebook at Holsworthy Churches

www.achurchnearyou.com

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Reader – Mary Aicheler – maryaicheler@btinternet.com, 01409 478019

Administrator – Libby Cullimore - holsworthybenefice@icloud.com - 07717 750198

Dear Friends,

During May we completed all of our Annual General Meetings – Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM), to be exact. As ever, I was touched by the generosity of support for our churches, the large number who volunteer for a broad range of work within church and community. I could not name everyone or every job here as they are diverse and many, but I would like to express a big THANK YOU to you all: carers of church buildings and church yards; cleaners & polishers; flower arrangers; sacristans; vergers; organists; bell-ringers; PCC (parochial church council) members; church wardens; local lay visitors; local service leaders; food-bank volunteers; readers and so much more, including the much appreciated support and care you give to me as well. Thank you one and all. Without you we would not have a church. With you we are rich in Christ indeed.

This great richness we have is the presence of Jesus amongst us. Jesus gives us the ability to serve in many ways. St Peter reminded the early church of the importance of serving and also developing healthy characters and relationships. These, I believe, you have in abundance. I leave you with Peter's words and his words of blessing as we take heed of them:

Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and Jesus Christ our Lord. His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1.2-3, 5-8, 10-11

Yours in Christ,
Alison

Announcements & Notices

This month we pray for the ordination of Lizzie Flaherty. Following several years of training after a rigorous selection period, we are delighted that Lizzie has completed all her preparation and is now to be ordained as deacon. Lizzie will take up the office of Assistant Curate in Barnstaple following her ordination. We wish her every blessing from Holsworthy Benefice.

11am on 27th June at Exeter Cathedral.

Due to capacity restraint, supporters are required to book tickets, which are free of charge. To book tickets, please go to the Ticket Source website and search - Exeter Cathedral Ordination of Deacons. All are very welcome to attend.

Saturday 30th May – Local Worship Leader Training

9.30-12noon Pancrasweek Village Hall, led by Rev Mark James

What if worship leading began not with planning... but with noticing?

What does God reveal through nature? How can art unlock reflection, prayer and creativity? Where does imagination fit within worship and discipleship? How might Scripture come alive in fresh and unexpected ways?

Join us for a creative and reflective morning exploring how art, nature, Scripture and imagination can deepen the way we lead worship, create space, and encounter God.

This isn't about being an artist. It's about learning to see.

Through conversation, reflection, creativity and shared ideas, we'll explore practical ways these themes can shape services, prayer, preaching, community engagement and personal devotion.

Saturday 30th May 9:30am – 12:00pm Pancrass Week Village Hall

Refreshments included

Hosted by Rev Mark James

Come curious. Come reflective. Come ready to imagine afresh.

Saturday 30th May – Dedication & Blessing of Carillon

2pm Service led by Bishop Moira Astin, Bishop of Crediton, blessing & dedication of the Carillon, Clock & Bells of Holsworthy Church Tower

Sunday 31st May – Songs of Praise

10am Pancrasweek Church Annual Patronal Service with Songs of Praise, a united benefice service followed by refreshments

Friday 5th June – Pancrasweek Coffee Morning Celebrating Mothers Union 150th Anniversary

10am-11.30am, Come and join us for a coffee and cake in Pancrasweek Church to celebrate Mother's Union 150th Anniversary,

Sunday 7th June – Hollacombe Patronal Service

11am Special Eucharist to celebrate St Petroc's Patronal Service followed by lunch and afternoon service of Benediction. All welcome.

Wednesday 10th June – Memorial Hall Coffee Morning.

St Peter & St Paul's will be holding a coffee morning in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday, 10th June. Please could we ask for donations of tombola prizes, raffle prizes and cakes, pastries, cheese scones, produce etc. Please can you let Mary O or Helen know if you are able to help on the day either behind a stall, on the door or serving teas & coffees. All donations and offers of help will be gratefully received.

Monday 15th to Thursday 18th June – Clergy Conference

note: all deanery clergy are away for this conference. Messages will be picked up, please allow time for response or contact our benefice administrator, Libby.

Saturday 27th June – Ordination of Lizzie Flaherty

11am Exeter Cathedral

Monday 29th June to Thursday 2nd July – Mothers' Union Retreat

There are spaces available for non MU members, to find out more please contact Rev Alison who is leading the retreat.

National Churches Trust Website

I am really pleased to tell you that St Peter and St Paul's Church page is now published live on the National Churches Trust website.

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/church/holsworthy-st-peter-st-paul>



**ST SWITHIN'S
CHURCH**

Saturday 18th July - 10am - 4pm

and

Sunday 19th July 2pm - 4pm

FLOWER FESTIVAL

Floral displays -a VINTAGE theme

ART EXHIBITION

Paintings by the Art Group

PYWORTHY'S HISTORY

**A display of Photographs and
Memorabilia of all things
PYWORTHY**

**Teas and coffees
Homemade cakes
and savouries**

**DONATIONS
FOR THE
CHURCH**

What's On At HOLSWORTHY LIBRARY June 2026

- **Sew Together**, Monday 1st, 15th & 29th- 3:30pm-4:30pm. Bring your own hand sewing project. An informal and supportive group rather than a class or lesson!
- **Bounce & Rhyme**, Thursday 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th 2:15pm-2:45pm . Songs and stories for children 0-4 years old. Term time only.
- **Devon Family Hub Drop In Advice Session**, Thursday 4 - 2pm-4pm. FREE Family Advice & Guidance to anyone with a child aged 0-19 (up to 25 with SEND). Call 0800 5385458 Mon-Fri 10am-4pm for advice & guidance if you can't make the sessions.
- **Community Plant Swap & Giveaway** - Come along any time during opening hours in the week between 6th-13th June with any excess plants you have bought/grown and then browse the available plants to take away and grow. Not grown anything yourself? Choose your favourite plant and take it home!
- **Gardening Cuppa and Chat**, Wednesday 10 - 2pm-3pm. A monthly meeting to talk all things gardening. Everyone welcome.
- **Lloyds Bank Community Banking**, every other Monday 2-4.
By appointment only - call 02077143681 to book direct with Lloyds.
- **Self Service Baby Weigh**. Every Thursday - 1pm-4pm.
- **Lego and games** for children. Every Saturday - 10am-12pm

Readings for June and July

7th June- Green– First Sunday after Trinity -

Hosea 5:15-6:6 , Psalm 50:7-15, Romans 4:13-end, Matthew 9:9-13. 18-26.

14th June- Green– Second Sunday after Trinity

Exodus 19: 2-8a, Psalm 100, Romans 5: 1-8, Matthew 9:35- 10:8.

21st June- Green– Third Sunday after Trinity-

Jeremiah 20: 7-13, Psalm 69 :8-11, Romans 6: 1b-11, Matthew 10:24-39.

28th June – Green–Fourth Sunday after Trinity -

Jeremiah 28: 5-9, Psalm 89 :1-4 1-18, Romans 6: 12-end, Matthew 10:40-end.

5th July – Green–Fifth Sunday after Trinity -

Zechariah 9: 9-12, Psalm 145 :1-4 1-18, Romans 7: 15-25a, , Matthew 11:16. 23-end.

12th July – Green–Sixth Sunday after Trinity -

Isaiah 55: 10-13, Psalm 65, Romans 8: 1-11, Matthew 13:1-9. 18-23.

19th July – Green–Seventh Sunday after Trinity -

Wisdom of Solomon 12:13. 16-19., Psalm 86 :11-end, Romans 8: 12-25, Matthew 10:40-end.

26th July – Green–Eighth Sunday after Trinity -

1 Kings 3:5-12, Psalm 119: 129-136, Romans 8: 26-end, Matthew 13: 24-30. 36-43.

Contacts

Bridgerule Church Wardens

Trevor Bowden – 01288 381247

Peter Harris – 01288 381 149

Bridgerule Safeguarding Lead

Val Harris -01409 259192

Holsworthy Church Warden

Helen Flaherty – 07790 380119

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Pyworthy Church Wardens

Liffy Lowes - 01409 254423

Janet Grant - 01409 259356

Pyworthy Safeguarding Lead

Alison Davies – 01409 251281

Pancrasweek Church Wardens

Adam Rivett – 07941 940524

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Pancrasweek Safeguarding Lead

Libby Cullimore – 07717750198

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Holsworthy Foodbank

01271 377077

Samaritans

116 123

Age UK -

0808 055 6112

Domesic Abuse – Womens Aid

0808 2000 247

Domesic Abuse – Mens Advice Line

0808 8010 327

Sunday 7 June 2026 First Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

O God,
the strength of all those who put their
trust in you,
mercifully accept our prayers
and, because through the weakness of our
mortal nature
we can do no good thing without you,
grant us the help of your grace,
that in the keeping of your
commandments
we may please you both in will and deed;
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 Hosea 5:15 – 6:6

A reading from the book of the prophet Hosea.

I will return again to my place until they
acknowledge their guilt and seek my face.
In their distress they will beg my favour:
Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is he
who has torn, and he will heal us; he has
struck down, and he will bind us up. After
two days he will revive us; on the third day
he will raise us up, that we may live before
him. Let us know, let us press on to know
the Lord; his appearing is as sure as the
dawn; he will come to us like the showers,
like the spring rains that water the earth.
What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your
love is like a morning cloud, like the dew
that goes away early. Therefore I have
hewn them by the prophets, I have killed
them by the words of my mouth, and my
judgement goes forth as the light. For I
desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt-
offerings.

Or **Genesis 12:1-9**

PSALM Psalm 50:7-15

R Offer to God a sacrifice of
thanksgiving.

Hear, O my people, and I will speak: "I will
testify against you, O Israel; for I am
God, your God.

"I will not reprove you for your sacrifices,
for your burnt offerings are always before
me. **R**

"I will take no bull out of your house,
nor he-goat out of your folds,

"For all the beasts of the forest are mine,
the cattle upon a thousand hills.
"I know every bird of the mountains
and the insect of the field is mine. **R**

"If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
for the whole world is mine and all that
fills it.

"Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls,
or drink the blood of goats? **R**

"Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving
and fulfil your vows to God Most High.
"Call upon me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you and you shall honour
me." **R**

SECOND READING Romans 4:13-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

The promise that Abraham would inherit
the world did not come to Abraham or
to his descendants through the law but
through the righteousness of faith. If it is
the adherents of the law who are to be the
heirs, faith is null and the promise is void.
For the law brings wrath; but where there
is no law, neither is there violation. For
this reason it depends on faith, in order
that the promise may rest on grace and
be guaranteed to all his descendants, not
only to the adherents of the law but also
to those who share the faith of Abraham
(for he is the father of all of us, as it is
written, "I have made you the father of
many nations") – Abraham believed in
the presence of the God who gives life
to the dead and calls into existence the
things that do not exist. Hoping against
hope, he believed that he would become
"the father of many nations," according
to what was said, "So numerous shall your
descendants be." He did not weaken in
faith when he considered his own body,
which was already as good as dead (for
he was about a hundred years old), or
when he considered the barrenness of
Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver
concerning the promise of God, but he
grew strong in his faith as he gave glory
to God, being fully convinced that God
was able to do what he had promised.
Therefore his faith "was reckoned to
him as righteousness." Now the words,
"it was reckoned to him," were written
not for his sake alone, but for ours also.
It will be reckoned to us who believe in

God who raised Jesus our Lord from the
dead, who was handed over to death
for our trespasses and was raised for our
justification.

GOSPEL Matthew 9:9-13. 18-26

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

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man
called Matthew sitting at the tax booth;
and he said to him, "Follow me." And he
got up and followed him. And as he sat at
dinner in the house, many tax-collectors
and sinners came and were sitting with
him and his disciples. When the Pharisees
saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why
does your teacher eat with tax-collectors
and sinners?" But when he heard this, he
said, "Those who are well have no need
of a physician, but those who are sick. Go
and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy,
not sacrifice.'" While he was
saying these things to them, suddenly
a leader of the synagogue came in and
knelt before him, saying, "My daughter
has just died; but come and lay your hand
on her, and she will live." And Jesus got
up and followed him, with his disciples.
Then suddenly a woman who had been
suffering from haemorrhages for twelve
years came up behind him and touched the
fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself,
"If I only touch his cloak, I will be made
well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he
said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has
made you well." And instantly the woman
was made well. When Jesus came to the
leader's house and saw the flute-players
and the crowd making a commotion, he
said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but
sleeping." And they laughed at him. But
when the crowd had been put outside, he
went in and took her by the hand, and the
girl got up. And the report of this spread
throughout that district.

POST COMMUNION

Eternal Father,
we thank you for nourishing us
with these heavenly gifts:
may our communion strengthen us in faith,
build us up in hope,
and make us grow in love;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday

14 June 2026 Second Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

Lord, you have taught us
that all our doings without love are
nothing worth:
send your Holy Spirit
and pour into our hearts that most
excellent gift of love,
the true bond of peace and of all virtues,
without which whoever lives is counted
dead before you.
Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's
sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Exodus 19:2-8a

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Israelites had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites." So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. The people all answered as one: "Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do."

Or **Genesis 18:1-5 [21:1-7]**

PSALM Psalm 100

R *The Lord is gracious; his steadfast love is everlasting.*

O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth;
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a
song.
Know that the Lord is God;
it is he that has made us and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his
pasture. **R**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and bless his name.
For the Lord is gracious; his steadfast love
is everlasting,
and his faithfulness endures from
generation to generation. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 5:1-8

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

GOSPEL

(Short or long reading)

Matthew 9:35 – 10:8 [9-23]

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

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed

him. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. [Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgement than for that town. See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."]

POST COMMUNION

Loving Father,
we thank you for feeding us at the supper
of your Son:
sustain us with your Spirit,
that we may serve you here on earth
until our joy is complete in heaven,
and we share in the eternal banquet
with Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday 21 June 2026 Third Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into
our hearts whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to
your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of
God;
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 Jeremiah 20:7-13

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Jeremiah cried out: O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughing-stock all day long; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him." But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonour will never be forgotten. O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

Or **Genesis 21:8-21**

PSALM Psalm 69:8-11. (12-17). 18-20 (or 69:14-20)

R Hide not your face from your servant, O Lord.

For your sake have I suffered reproach;
shame has covered my face.
I have become a stranger to my kindred,
an alien to my mother's children. **R**

Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen
upon me.

I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach. **R**

I put on sack cloth also
and became a byword among them.
Those who sit at the gate murmur against
me,
and the drunkards make songs about me. **R**

But as for me, I make my prayer to you,
O Lord;
at an acceptable time, O God.
Answer me, O God, in the abundance of
your mercy
and with your sure salvation. **R**

Draw me out of the mire, that I sink not;
let me be rescued from those who hate me
and out of the deep waters.
Let not the water flood drown me,
neither the deep swallow me up;
let not the Pit shut its mouth upon me. **R**

Answer me, Lord, for your loving-kindness
is good;
turn to me in the multitude of your mercies.
Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift to answer me, for I am in trouble.
Draw near to my soul and redeem me;
deliver me because of my enemies. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 6:1b-11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL Matthew 10:24-39

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

Jesus summoned the twelve and sent them out with the following instruction: "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

POST COMMUNION

O God, whose beauty is beyond our
imagining
and whose power we cannot comprehend:
show us your glory as far as we can grasp
it,
and shield us from knowing more than we
can bear
until we may look upon you without fear;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.



Hide not your face - from your servant, O Lord.

COLLECT

O God, the protector of all who trust in you,
 without whom nothing is strong,
 nothing is holy:
 increase and multiply upon us your mercy;
 that with you as our ruler and guide
 we may so pass through things temporal
 that we lose not our hold on things eternal;
 grant this, heavenly Father,
 for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 28:5-9

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfil the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

Or **Genesis 22:1-14**

PSALM

Psalm 89:1-4. 15-18 [or 89:8-18]

R Truly the Lord is our shield.

My song shall be always of the loving-kindness of the Lord:
 with my mouth will I proclaim
 your faithfulness throughout all generations.



Tru - ly the Lord is our shield.

I will declare that your love is established for ever;

you have set your faithfulness as firm as the heavens. **R**

For you said: "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

"Your seed will I establish for ever and build up your throne for all generations." **R**

Happy are the people who know the shout of triumph:

they walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance.

In your name they rejoice all the day long and are exalted in your righteousness. **R**

For you are the glory of their strength, and in your favour you lift up our heads.

Truly the Lord is our shield,
 the Holy One of Israel is our king. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 6:12-12

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which

you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 10:40-40

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

Jesus said to the twelve: "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple – truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

POST COMMUNION

Eternal God,
 comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,
 you have fed us at the table of life and hope:
 teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,
 that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.