



Welcome To Our Benefice

13th Sept. 2020—14th Sunday After Trinity

Today's Collect - Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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. **Amen**

Readings for
14th
Sunday of
Trinity

Old Testament Reading from *Genesis 50: 15-21* New Testament Reading from *Matthew 18: 21-35*

Church Services for Sunday 20th September 2020

St Andrews, Moretonhampstead
9.30am Celtic Morning Prayer

St Johns, North Bovey
9.30am Holy Communion

St Winifreds, Manaton
11.00am Holy Communion

St Johns, Lustleigh
6.00pm Evensong

NOTICES for week commencing 13th September 2020.

- **Manaton PCC** meeting at St Winifred's on Tuesday 15th Sept at 7.30 pm
- **In Touch**— now available in print—contact Lionel on 440113 for any queries
- **Shoebox Packing Day** will be on Saturday 7th November, from 10am-1pm in Parish Hall. Start collecting please!!
- **Lustleigh Harvest Festival** is on Sunday 20th September, at 6 pm

Churches are open at following times, for private prayer:-

St Andrews is open on Sundays following the 9.30am morning service until 4pm and on Wednesdays from 10am to 4pm (will soon be open every day)

North Bovey, Lustleigh and Manaton will be open daily every day 10.00 am-4.00 pm.

Please follow any directions that are given on notices, with reference to COVID 19 instructions. If you are anxious about the prospect of returning to church for live worship, Worship Online is still available. Chagford Church Online is continuing and Exeter Cathedral has a number of service options – see the relevant websites or try our own web page at moretonbenefice.uk **DON'T FOR GET YOUR MASK IN CHURCH PLEASE.**

If you need to contact someone about church matters, please contact one of the Churchwardens, Readers, or Administrator, Julia Vittle, on 07985 688023 or moretonbenefice@gmail.com
Any information for this CONTACT sheet goes each week to Heather by Thursday morning at beneficecontact@gmail.com

A Prayer for us all (a popular prayer and hymn to reflect upon)—Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **Amen.**

RIDE AND STRIDE - -- Christine would like to say a big thank you to all who donated to Ride and Stride this year. To date she has collected over £800, which is fantastic!

Staying Connected – 25 for 10th September, 2020

Zoom Reflections from Malcolm Guite

Some days I am diverted by a call:
The soft computer chime that summons all
To show a face to faces that we meet
Mirages, empty mirrors on the wall.
Alas that all the friends we ever knew
Whose lives were fragrant and whose touch
was true
Can only meet us on some little screen
Then zoom away with scarcely an adieu.
We share with them the little that we know
These galleries of ghosts set in a row
They flicker on the screen of life awhile
But some have left the meeting long ago.
We used to stroll together on the green
Who now divide the squares upon the screen,
The faces of our friends, so far apart
Tease us with tenderness that might have
been.
Some day we'll break the bread, we'll pour the
wine
And meet and kiss and feast beneath the vine,
Till then we'll sweeten solitude with verse
And yearn through pain, and watch each day
decline.



On not picking blackberries

Each year they
are a tangle of
thorns that prick
and catch,
Snagging clothes
and fingers, draw-
ing blood at times.
Beside busy

roads they will be coated with the residue
Of travel, hidden layers of pollution to be avoid-
ed.

But here in the garden as their octopus arms
reach out once again
To the apple trees, they sing a song that can-
not be refused.
Blackberries offer and withhold themselves at
the same time.
There is a generosity if you will but take the
trouble
To reach in and under and around the stabbing
needles.
They remind me of other gifts that perhaps I
deny or despise,
Pass by as if they are of no account, too hum-
ble to notice.
They do not shout, are no celebrities to strut

the stage.
But as I fill the bowl and emerge with purple
fingers,
I wonder how many other fruit I have failed to
honour.
Journeymen of the hedgerow, they call me to
be grateful.

Jesus in the every day - Brian Woodcock

Jesus, are you the one? It is hardly surprising
that people missed your coming when even
John the Baptist wasn't sure.
They were expecting such a different kind of
messiah. The unmistakable kind, chauffeur-
driven, on a ViP throne with a gold chain.
How could anyone be expected to know who
you were when you came in the back, looking
ordinary?
There were plenty who did recognise you, of
course: the blind man who cried, 'Son of David,
have pity!', the disturbed one who screamed
'Stay away!', the woman who touched the hem
of your coat, the folk who knew you from the
soup run.
But are you the one, Jesus? We still have to
ask. In a world of paths and promises, how can
we be sure? Your reply is your work amongst
the sick and oppressed. 'Decide for your-
selves!' you say – as if it isn't the doctrines, or
even the miracles, but the company you keep
and the priorities you hold, and the kingdom of
possibilities and joy you unpack amid our ordi-
narity.
So help us to be on the look out for your com-
ing, as people and events crowd in.
Open our eyes to see you in the guise of friend
and stranger. Whatever the path, wherever the
place, however you come to us, may there be
recognition and joyous welcoming.

Morning on Mardon

