

*Welcome To Our Benefice*2nd January 2022
Second Sunday of Christmas (The Epiphany)

Today's Collect - Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Sunday
Readings**Jeremiah 31:
7-14****Ephesians 1:
3-14****John 1:
[1-9] 10-18****Church Services Until Sunday 9th January 2022**

Sunday 2nd	9.30am	Morning Worship	Moreton
	10.00am	Informal Service	North Bovey
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Lustleigh
Sunday 9th	11.00am	Holy Communion	Manaton
	9.30am	Holy communion	Moreton
	11.00am	All Age Service	Manaton
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Lustleigh

North Bovey and Lustleigh churches will be open for private prayer from 10am - 4pm every day. **Moretonhampstead and Manaton churches** will be open from 10am until 3pm. Online services still available from Chagford Church Online and Exeter Cathedral. The benefice web page is at moreton-benefice.uk. Wearing masks has again been made mandatory in all places of worship but singing is still allowed.

SAFEGUARDING (Moreton) – The Church of England wants all members to acknowledge their responsibility to help create a safe environment for everyone involved with the church. This is especially true with respect to children, young people and vulnerable adults. The national policy is entitled “Promoting a Safer Church” and can be accessed on the Diocese of Exeter website. When Covid restrictions allow we hope to organise a training session here in Moreton for church members. Meanwhile if you have any concerns or questions, please contact Peter Warwick, Parish Safeguarding Representative. Further details are in the Church Porch.

Prayers for the Week

God our Father, in love you sent your Son that the world may have life: lead us to seek him among the outcast and to find him in those in need, for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen**

All praise to you, almighty God and heavenly king, who sent your Son into the world to take our nature upon him and to be born of a pure virgin: grant that, as we are born again in him, so he may continually dwell in us and reign on earth as he reigns in heaven, now and for ever. **Amen**

A New Year Prayer. On the Threshold of this New Year, knock on the door of our lives, loving God, for we are ready to open for you, to walk with you the way of self-giving love, all the days that are to come, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading for the Second week of Christmas (The Epiphany)

Jeremiah 31: 7-14

For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.'

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labour, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.' For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord

Epistle Reading for the Second week of Christmas (The Epiphany)

Ephesians 1: 3-14

From this month, CONTACT EXTRA will be produced alongside the normal contact sheet, to promote any diary dates, local news items or information you feel needs to be shared, anything that you would have previously sent to the monthly magazine. So you are invited to send such items to Heather for inclusion, by email to beneficecontact@gmail.com. Or if you don't e-mail then please phone on 440797.

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Gospel Reading for the Second week of Christmas (The Epiphany)

John 1: [1-9] 10-18

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. (John testified to him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ') From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.