

Welcome To Our Benefice

**12th March 2023
Third Sunday of Lent**



Today's Collect - Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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
Sunday**

**Exodus 17:
1-7**

**Colossians 3:
12-17**

**John 4:
5-42**

Church Services and other Activities until Thursday 30th March 2023

Tuesday 14th	9.30am	Prayer Meeting	Lustleigh
	10.00am	Tuesday Trippers (Brixham)	Moreton
Wednesday 15th	10.30am	Lent Course, Community Club	Moreton
	7.30pm	History Society Meeting	Moreton
Friday 17th	7.30pm	Film Club, Greenhill	Moreton
Sunday 19th - MOTHERING SUNDAY			
	9.30am	Family Service	Moreton
	9.30am	Family Communion	North Bovey
	11.00am	Family Communion	Manaton
	11.00am	Family Service	Lustleigh
Tuesday 21st	10.00am	Tuesday Trippers The Box, Plymouth	Moreton
Sunday 26th	9.30am	Holy Communion	Moreton
	6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)	Lustleigh
	6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)	Manaton
Tuesday 28th	10.00am	Tuesday Trippers (Museum, Exeter)	Moreton
Wednesday 29th	7.15pm	Lustleigh Society Meeting	Lustleigh
Thursday 30th	2.00pm	Memory Cafe, Community Club	Moreton

Churches in the benefice will be open for private prayer from 10am. St Andrews will close at 3pm. All other benefice churches will close at 4pm.

Online services are available on the Exeter Cathedral website.

Prayer for the Week - During this season of Lent, please continue to pray for the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria. May they not be forgotten and receive all the help and support they need to survive in this trying time. May we also continue to pray for Ukraine, that a peaceful resolution is not far away Lord, and that the suffering inflicted on many, may cease. Through Christ our Lord, **Amen**

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Old Testament Reading for Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17: 1-7

Epistle Reading for Third Sunday of Lent

Colossians 3: 12-17

Gospel Reading for Third Sunday of Lent

John 4: 5-42

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me,

the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

This year's **LENT COURSE** is entitled **Women of Holy Week**, It is five sessions, you can attend any or all of them, on Wednesdays in March, 10.30-12.00, in the Community Club, Court Street, Moreton – preceded by tea/coffee.