



*Welcome*

**17th September 2023  
Fifteenth Sunday of Trinity**

**Today's Collect** - God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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**

<b>Readings Sunday</b>	<b>Exodus 14: 19-end</b>	<b>Romans 14: 1-12</b>	<b>Matthew 18: 21-35</b>
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**Church Services and other Activities  
until Sunday 8th October 2023**

Sunday 17th	6.00pm	<b>HARVEST FESTIVAL</b> Followed by Supper at 7.00pm	Lustleigh
Tuesday 19th	10.00am	Produce Market, Village Hall	Manaton
Wednesday 20th	7.30pm	History Society Meeting, The Union	Moreton
Friday 22nd	10.00am	Friendly Friday, White Hart	Moreton
Sunday 24th	11.00am	<b>HARVEST FESTIVAL</b> Followed by pasty lunch in the sentry	Moreton
	11.00am	Celtic Morning Prayer	Lustleigh
	6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)	Manaton
Friday 29th	10.00am	Friendly Friday, White Hart	Moreton
Sunday 1st October	9.30am	Morning Worship	Moreton
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Manaton
	6.00pm	<b>HARVEST FESTIVAL</b> Followed by soup supper at Ring of Bells	North Bovey
	11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Lustleigh
Sunday 8th	9.30am	Holy Communion	Moreton
	11.00am	Pet Service	Manaton
	11.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Lustleigh

All Churches in the group (Moreton, Manaton, Lustleigh and North Bovey) will be open for private prayer from 10am until 4.00pm.

Online services are available on the Exeter Cathedral website.

**PLEASE TAKE YOUR COPY OF THE CONTACT SHEET HOME**

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES** will be starting in the Autumn, with the confirmation itself taking place in December. If you, or someone you know are interested in getting confirmed, or would like further details, please contact Sue the rector. Her e-mail address is [moretonrector@gmail.com](mailto:moretonrector@gmail.com).

**Prayers for the Week** - Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Old Testament Reading for the Fifteenth Sunday of Trinity**

**Exodus 14: 19-end**

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

**Epistle Reading for the Thirteenth Sunday of Trinity**

**Romans 14: 1-12**

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**Gospel Reading for the Thirteenth Sunday of Trinity**

**Matthew 18: 21-35**

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant  
'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

**Harvest Festivals** — at St John's, Lustleigh is on Sunday 17th September: 6 pm for service and 7 pm for the supper. Tickets for the Supper (£10 from The Dairy or at the door)

**Harvest Festival**—at St Andrew's, Moreton is on Sunday 24th September, with a service in church at 11 am followed by a pasty and cider lunch – on The Sentry if fine, or in church if wet. Tickets from Christine Walton

**Harvest Festival** - at St Johns, North Bovey is on Sunday 1st October, service at 6.00pm followed by Soup and Bread at the Ring of Bells at 7.00pm. £5 per person, queries and details from Jean Gist 07793 555572