

Together, serving the communities of Teignmouth, Bishopsteignton, Ideford, Luton, Ashcombe, Shaldon and Ringmore

Praying and Growing in Christian discipleship and **Serving** the people of Devon with joy

Welcome to our churches Sunday 23rd March 2025 Third Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 55. 1-9

An Invitation to Abundant Life

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Corinthians 10. 1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Luke 13. 1 - 9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

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**

Post Communion Collect

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

Requests to Guide Your Prayers

(Please contact clergy for inclusion)

- Our Annual Parochial Church Meetings.
- Preparations for our ministry in schools and with young people in Lent and for Easter

Residential home: Croft Lodge

The healing and wholeness of:

David Wright (St Michael's), Rebecca Davis, Sheila Chadwick and Di Caine. Elizabeth student at Imprezza, Kenya.

Circle of Care: Andy Dyson, Maggie Halford, Janet Paget, Max Guy, Marion Delaney, John Wibberley, Cynthia Mosely, Chris Newton, Nicholas Brixton, Len Parkyn, Andy Harding, Nobby Bray and Verity Langley.

The recently departed and their family and friends: Geoff McAllister, Margaret Baxter, Anthony Butt, Mike Hurst, Giles Taylor, Robert Simmonds, John Hall and Elaine Buckley.

Upcoming Funerals:

Elaine Buckley – 25th March, 11.30am - St James Giles Taylor – 27th March, 12.30pm - St Michael's Mike Hurst – 31st March, 11.30am - St John's John Hall – 1st April, 11am – St Nicholas Malcolm Henshaw – 3rd April, 2pm – St Michael's

Services During the week

Tues 25th 9.30am - St Michael's: Holy Communion Thurs 27th 9.30am - St Peter's: Morning Prayer

Services Next Sunday 30th March Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday

9.30am – St John's: Family Service 9.30am - St Michael: Holy Communion 10.00am - St Nicholas: Family Service 11.00am – St James: Holy Communion

Future events open to everyone across the Mission Community

Annual Church Meetings (APCM)

- St James 6th April after the service
- St Peters 11.45 SATURDAY 12th April
- St John's Bishop 27th April after service.

New Electoral Rolls are being prepared, please ensure you have completed your form. See information in your church. Please support your churches by attending the meetings.

The next Sunday lunch will take place at St Michael's on the 6th April 12.45pm. Menu: Greek shepherd's pie with veg, Chocolate muffin with ice cream or cream. Vegetarian option: Greek Parcels. Please sign the sheet in St Michael & St James before Thurs 3rd April. Suggested donation: £10 adult, £5 child.

Children's Mothering Sunday Workshop at St Michael's. Saturday 29th March, 10am – 12pm. Come and make cards, posies, and presents and learn about why we celebrate Mothering Sunday. Free to attend, refreshments available. Suitable from children Toddler to 14.

Craft Fair taking place at St Michael's.
Saturday 5th April, 10am – 3pm. Help required to set up, serve refreshments, make cakes and clear away. Please sign the list in the Lower Narthex if you are able to help. If you're not able to help, please do attend and enjoy the large array of crafts and fantastic refreshments.

Pewsheet submissions by 10am please on Thurs to office office@haldonteam.org.uk or call 07494 222848

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