



# THE HOLYFORD HERALD

*News from the Holyford Mission Community*

*Serving the Parishes of St Lawrence, Southleigh, St Winifred, Branscombe, St Giles, Northleigh,  
St Michael, Musbury and St Andrew, Colyton with St Michael, Colyford.*

Website: [www.holyford.org](http://www.holyford.org) Facebook: @holyfordmission

Issue 28: Christ the King, Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

## *The Rector's Ramblings...*

I hope that you are keeping well and safe. Some of our online service this week was filmed at St Winifred's, Branscombe. It was nice to enjoy a slight break in the weather during my time recording there this week as it also gave me an opportunity to feed my bees, who are still busy storing up their food for winter. Although the village was very quiet, I still bumped into people popping into the church to rest and pray, which is wonderful. Distancing and sanitizers are in place and working well in all our churches, and it is lovely to receive the gratitude of people who deeply appreciate our churches being open. I pass this gratitude on to you: renewed thanks to all those who contribute in so many different ways, providing resources and time, especially those who unlock, clean, unlock and generally keep our churches looking bright and welcoming.

The work on the lighting and heating at St Andrew's is coming on apace, so we look forward to seeing (and feeling!) the finished effect. The one benefit of lockdown is that the work has been able to carry on with so little disruption to services and is enabling the workmen to carry on with this vital work.

I am so pleased that we managed to go ahead with the Patronal Festival Evensong there on St Winifred's Day, just before the current lockdown. It was a lovely occasion, and it was good to see so many in the congregation. The Dean of Exeter, The Very Reverend Jonathan Greener preached and members of In Ecclesia (a choir from Taunton) came to sing the service for us. Hopefully next year we shall be able to have refreshments after services once again, especially to mark such special occasions.

At the last APCM in Branscombe Norman Brimson, Churchwarden of Branscombe, stepped down after many years of faithful service. We are hugely grateful to Norman for all he and Jean have contributed to the life of the church in Branscombe and I very much hope that we shall be able to thank him properly back in church before long. Jean and Norman will remain on the PCC and I am pleased to report that Jill Johnson relented and has become our new Churchwarden! Jill joins fellow Warden, Ross Willmington, who leads our prayers today for our online service.

This week's online service can be found here: <https://vimeo.com/481837549> My thanks to Charles Hill for his sermon and Sue McCoulough for reading the Gospel for us.

Next Sunday is Advent Sunday, marking the beginning of a new year for the Church. During these challenging times, I am asking everyone to make next Sunday a **Day of Prayer in the Holyford Mission Community**. I am hoping that every person across our six churches and communities will take part in some way—even if it is to pray for a few moments during the 12-hour period. There are a number of ways you can get involved, even if it is just to take a few moments to light a candle and say our special prayer (text below) at 6pm that day. Our worship and spiritual life as a community has continued through lockdown and will continue beyond it—I hope that our Day of Prayer will help strengthen our sense of togetherness and community. Here is a video 'trailer' video for the day <https://vimeo.com/480707934>. Further resources are being prepared for next Sunday.

Do let people outside our church communities know about the day. If you know of anyone who may appreciate a prayer, they (or you) can submit a prayer request, or ask for prayer ministry over the telephone (see details below). As always, all are welcome to join us.

With every good wish and blessing,

Fr Steven.

## *The Holyford Day of Prayer: Advent Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November*

The purpose of the day is to pray for our current situation by offering a period of constant prayer between 8am and 8pm on Advent Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> November. The idea is that everyone in our Mission Community—our congregations and those beyond—is encouraged to say a prayer or offer a period of time in prayer.

Advent Sunday is the first Sunday in the Church's year, when we begin the wait for the light of Christ to come at the great feast of Christmas. Beginning this new year with a time of prayer, where we commit ourselves and all those whom we pray for, to God's mercy and protection. This day of prayer will offer us an opportunity that, whilst we are unable to join together as a congregation in a building at a certain time, we can do something powerful by joining together, wherever we are, and praying as one.

People will be invited to take part in a number of ways. You can simply pray at home at any time, or sign up to cover a timeslot during the 12 hours. You could use the whole day as a day of retreat, or dip in and out as you are able; you can simply commit to pray for five minutes or five hours—the day is all about everyone across our six Churches focusing on being together spiritually and creating a huge wave of prayer.

This day of prayer is not only for us as committed church members to get involved with. All those in our communities are welcome and encouraged to join us, so please spread the news however you can—even if it is simply to ask a neighbour if there is anything they would like us to pray for.

How you can get involved:

- **Share the news** of this prayer day with anyone who may be interested in taking part.
- **Prayer requests.** If you, or someone you know would appreciate a prayer, submit a prayer request and a member of the Ministry Team will pray with that intention during the day. The requests do not need to relate to covid, but can be for any reason, place, situation, person, issue, concern or matter for thanksgiving.
- **Prayer ministry.** If you or someone you know would like one of the Ministry Team to pray with them over the telephone, tell us and give us the number to ring and the prayer intention and we shall telephone at some time during the day to pray with them.
- **Join in with worship**, either the online service, telephone service, Compline via Zoom or all three!
- **Light a candle and pray at 6pm** as we join our time of prayer with the prayers of the nation. Our special prayer can be found below. Everyone is encouraged to say the prayer and light a candle together at 6pm.
- **Commit to pray for a certain period between 8am and 8pm**, to help us keep an unbroken 12-hour period of prayer. Sign up for a 15, 30 or 60 minute period of prayer by contacting Emma Laughton (01297 551400, or by email: [office@holyford.org](mailto:office@holyford.org))
- **Pray** at home or in your church, as you wish. Our Churches will be open as usual for you to go in and pray if you wish (see opening times below).

*Here is the schedule for the Holyford Mission Community Day of Prayer on Advent Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> November:*

8am (or whenever you wish)	Watch the short introductory film available online.
Sometime during the day	Watch our special Online Service
2.30pm	Telephone Service
6.00pm	Light a candle and pray at home
8.00pm	Compline viz Zoom which will be an act of worship which draws the day to a close.

To join us for **Compline over Zoom**, simply click on this link just before 8pm:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89844825108?pwd=SUVoYXA1V24yWlNaeWlMbU5RbXZJdz09>

If you are asked for a Meeting ID this is the number: 898 4482 5108. The passcode: 1297553180. Joining services over Zoom is really very straightforward. Do contact Charles Hill if you have any questions—Charles is our Zoom Guru!

This prayer has been written for our Mission Community Day of Prayer. Please pray this prayer on Advent Sunday and share it with others.

**A**lmighty God  
Who has cared and protected your people in every generation  
We offer our prayer to you today  
for this country and our leaders  
for everyone who has to make difficult decisions  
about the health and well-being of this nation.  
We pray for everyone affected by Covid-19;  
for all those who are sick and those who care for them;  
for all those in hospital;  
for medical staff, carers, researchers, for our emergency services.  
We pray for our local community,  
for all those who protect us and keep us safe.  
We give thanks for all those who support,  
serve and feed us in these difficult times.

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Loving Lord, you taught us to love our neighbour,  
and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you.  
In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful,  
to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love,  
for your name's sake. **Amen.**

### *Harvest Collection: Thank You!*

Our Harvest Collection for the Melanesian Mission UK emergency appeal raised a fantastic **£574.52**. Our Harvest Services were severely reduced in scope and attendance this year (compared with 'normal' times) so this is an amazing amount.

The international Appeal has now raised over £28,000. Your donations will be used to support the Anglican Church of Melanesia recover from Cyclone Harold and also to run hygiene awareness sessions and support communities impacted by import restrictions and the economic downturn all caused by COVID.

### *Advent and Christmas*

As I write, we are busy working out how best to prepare for Advent and Christmas and what services might be possible. At the moment, **we plan to have services in church as usual in addition to other activities**, including outdoor 'pop-up' Carol Services in Musbury and Branscombe. On Christmas Eve we shall also be having an outdoor Crib service in Colyton... the crib itself is currently under construction and the Holy Family are having new lightbulbs fitted and their wiring checked!

Charles Hill is organizing a Carol Service over Zoom on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 5pm—please contact him if you would like to attend (details below).

In Colyton and Musbury there are plans afoot for Advent Calendars around the town, with people using their front windows to create a Christmas scene, one being lit every day of Advent as part of a calendar across the streets. Kay Short is organizing things in Musbury ([shortatbeacon@lineone.net](mailto:shortatbeacon@lineone.net). Tel 01297 552711). Linda Joy is organizing the Colyton Advent Calendar (contact details below).

Linda is also organizing a Christmas Angels project, encouraging people to make angels which can be placed in a window or kept at home and brought (or sent) to church for Christmas. Do contact her for more information.

## **Join us for Evening Prayer via Zoom: Tuesdays to Fridays**

Join us for Evening Prayer each **Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday** via Zoom.

The services are taken from *The Book of Common Prayer*. If you need a copy of the order of service, I can email you one ([rector@hollyford.org](mailto:rector@hollyford.org)). The readings we shall be using will be published in the *Hollyford Herald* each week (see below: list of services).

If you wish to join us, have ready your *Book of Common Prayer* or order of service, and click on this link just before 5pm. If you have ever used Zoom before, fear not! It is very straightforward. Simply click on this link and it should take you there:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71247569366?pwd=ZWNoNWowWwFzUzIbZdaVWVWSmZvZz09>

If you are asked for a password, it is: 1662. Contact me if you have problems with logging in.

As with Morning Prayer, if you cannot join us on Zoom, you can always pray Evening Prayer at 5pm at home—the readings for each day are below.

## **Bible Study Group: Thursdays via Zoom**

The next meeting will take place on Thursday at 7.30pm via Zoom. Over the remaining weeks of lockdown we shall be looking at the Gospel readings set for the Eucharist. All are welcome to these relaxed hour-long sessions, where we meet, study, pray and chat. We are not following a particular course, so anyone is welcome to dip in and out over the weeks.

Here is the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3981232457?pwd=SU1zZ0NHSENYMThqbDczMXUzL3FrUT09>. Here is the

Meeting ID: 3981232457, **New Passcode: 1297553180**. This Thursday we shall be looking at Mark 13.24–37 (*Waiting for the Lord*).

## **Hollyford Telephone Service: Sundays at 2.30pm**

These continue at 2.30pm. A service lasting 20–25 minutes, these have proven very popular. All are welcome to join, whether or not you feel more confident with the internet.

The way to join in is to dial 0333 011 0616 and then enter this code when asked to do so: 887 5540 # (don't forget to press that last hash key...) then say your name when asked to do so, and then press the hash key # again. (The voice you hear will call it "the pound key" which means hash key.) Please check our website or contact Charles Hill if you need an order of service and hymn sheet.

## **Daily Morning Prayer at home**

From Monday to Friday each week, Morning Prayer is said at St Andrew's Colyton at 8.30am. As this cannot take place in church, those who normally gather each day have agreed to say Morning Prayer at home at 8.30am. If you would like to 'join us' at this time by saying Morning Prayer at home, the order of service we use is the together with the readings set for the service can be found here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>. Or if you find using the internet cumbersome, you could use your Prayer Books at home—the Biblical readings and Psalms set for each day (the Lectionary) are detailed in our list of services below.

## Advent reading

The seasons of Lent and Advent provide us with fresh opportunities to make a spiritual pilgrimage through study and prayer as we approach the major festivals of Christmas and Easter. If you are looking for a way of preparing for Christmas, there are a number of useful resources available. Some include books which will guide you through daily readings, or focus on the wider theme of the coming of Christ. Here are some book suggestions:

- **The Radiant Dawn: 25 Daily Bible Readings, Luke 1–2 for Advent** by Tom Parsons (10 Publishing, ISBN:9781912373918). Price: c. £4 Daily 2–page reflections which take you through the first two chapters of Luke’s Gospel, with a short prayer for each day.
- **The One True Light: Daily Readings for Advent from the Gospel of John** by Tim Chester (The Good Book Company, ISBN: 9781910307991) Price: c. £5. Daily, chapter–length reflections on verses from the first chapter from the Gospel of John. Each day has a reflection, a guided meditation and prayer.
- **A Good Advent** is another resource, which is the first published work by our previous Bishop of Crediton, now Bishop of London, The Rt Revd Dame Sarah Mullally. A small booklet provides an inspiring and thought–provoking introduction to the Advent season. The booklet (available as a single booklet, in packs of five or as an eBook) also includes details of how to download the accompanying free app which will provide a daily devotion throughout Advent. Some of the reflections are written by Jane Williams. <https://spckpublishing.co.uk/a-good-advent>.

## Churches Open in the Holyford Mission Community

Although public worship in our churches has been suspended by order of the Government, our churches remain open for people to go in to be still, pray or reflect. My thanks to those who have committed to unlock and lock the churches during this period, and clean them. Here are the details of the opening times (as always, the precise opening times will vary according to people’s availability):

St Andrew’s, Colyton	Open every day from 8.30am to dusk
St Michael’s, Colyford	Open Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays from 9am to 5pm
St Winifred’s, Branscombe	Open every day during daylight hours
St Michael’s, Musbury	Open every day during daylight hours
St Giles’s, Northleigh	Open on Sundays, 9am to 4pm
St Lawrence’s, Southleigh	Open on Sundays during daylight hours

## Readings and Prayers for Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

**Collect:** Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**Ezekiel 34.11–16, 20–24** For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured,

and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

**Psalms 95.1-7** O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!

**Ephesians 1.15-end** I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**Matthew 25.31-end** 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

**Post Communion** Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Some Music**

As it is the Feast of Christ the King, here is a royal-themed piece, one of Handel's Coronation Anthems, *The King Shall Rejoice*. A fine performance filmed by the appropriately named choir, Seraphic Fire, in Trinity Church, Wall Street, New York.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDU8jE1Xum4&list=RDcDU8jE1Xum4&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDU8jE1Xum4&list=RDcDU8jE1Xum4&start_radio=1)

# Services and Events this week

*The Eucharist will continue to be celebrated quietly by the Rector at 9.30am on Sundays and 10am on Wednesdays in one of our Mission Community Churches or at the Vicarage. Sadly, we are not allowed to have congregations attending the Eucharists in church at these times.*

<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b> Christ the King	N/A 2.30pm	Online service Telephone Service
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b> St Clement		Morning Prayer (Psalm 96, Isaiah 40.1–11, Revelation 14.1–13) Evening Prayer (Psalm 80, Isaiah 14.3–20, Matthew 9.18–34)
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b> St Andrew Dung-Lac	5.00pm	Morning Prayer (Psalm 97, Isaiah 40.12–26, Rev. 14.14–end of 15) Evening Prayer via Zoom (Ps. 101, Isaiah 17, Mat. 9.35–10.15)
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b> St Catherine	5.00pm	Morning Prayer (Psalm 112, Isaiah 40.27–41.7, Rev 16.1–11) Evening Prayer via Zoom (Psalm 122, Isaiah 19, Matthew 10.16–33)
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November</b>	5.00pm 2.00pm 7.30pm	Morning Prayer (Psalm 125, Isaiah 41.8–20, Revelation 16.12–end) Evening Prayer via Zoom (Ps. 133, Isaiah 21.1–12, Mat. 10.34–11.1) Funeral of Dorothy Bagnall at Overmass and Chapple, Seaton Bible Study via Zoom
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November</b>	5.00pm	Morning Prayer (Psalm 139, Isaiah 41.21–42.9, Revelation 17) Evening Prayer via Zoom (Ps. 146, Isaiah 22.1–14, Mat. 11.2–19)
<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b>		Morning Prayer (Psalm 145, Isaiah 42.10–17, Rev 18) Evening Prayer (Psalm 150, Isaiah 24, Matthew 11.20–end)

## Prayers this week are asked for

Sunday:	For our government and members of parliament
Monday:	For victims of gender-based violence
Tuesday:	For those suffering from anxiety
Wednesday:	For all suffering from hunger or malnutrition
Thursday:	For the people of the US celebrating Thanksgiving Day
Friday:	For those who find prayer difficult
Saturday:	For children in our local schools, their parents and teachers

*Please continue to pray for all those who are struggling at this time, especially those ill at home or in hospital. Prayer requests can be sent to us via the [office@holyford.org](mailto:office@holyford.org) or to Fr Steven.*

*We remember those who have died recently, among them:  
Marion Lilly, Jean Casel, Dorothy Bagnall, Audrey Dean and  
The Rev. Alistair Sutherland.*

*Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

## A prayer

Almighty Father, King of Heaven, give us grace each day to seek, above all other things, Your Kingdom; to seek it by patience and perseverance, by labour and love, by sacrifice and, if need be, by suffering; to seek it in peace and in turmoil, in sickness and in health, in temptations and in persecutions, in times of calm and times of tribulation, in times of danger and in times of safety; to seek it in the world, in the Church and in ourselves, for the sake of Him the King of Love, even Christ our Lord. Amen.

(From Healing Prayer by William Portsmouth. Submitted by Mary Gay Bremridge)

## Mission Community Contacts

Rector	Fr Steven Martin	01297 553180 <a href="mailto:rector@hollyford.org">rector@hollyford.org</a>
MC Administrator	Mrs Emma Laughton	01297 551400 <a href="mailto:office@hollyford.org">office@hollyford.org</a>
Associate Priest	The Reverend Prebendary John Lees	01297 551351 <a href="mailto:j.lees298@btinternet.com">j.lees298@btinternet.com</a>
Assistant Curate	The Reverend Victoria Chester	07849 882824 <a href="mailto:hollyfordcurate@gmail.com">hollyfordcurate@gmail.com</a>
Families Worker	Ms Linda Joy	07796 063208 <a href="mailto:lindajoychildrensworker@gmail.com">lindajoychildrensworker@gmail.com</a>
Hon. Assistant Priests	The Reverend Canon Colin Preece The Reverend Nigel Freathy	01297 552154 01297 22303
Readers	Mrs Jan Lees Dr Charles Hill  Mrs Sue McCullough	01297 551351 01297 552141 <a href="mailto:Charles.hill465@btinternet.com">Charles.hill465@btinternet.com</a> 01297 552446
<b>Churchwardens:</b>		
Northleigh:	Pam Mayall 01404 871397	John Platt 01297 552416
Southleigh:	Robin Hartnell 01297 552433	Catherine Rosier 01404 871413
Colyford:	Vicky Mills 01297 553666	
Branscombe:	Ross Wilmington 01297 680264	Jill Johnson 01297 680133
Colyton:	Christine Sansom 01297 552065	David Fouracre 01297 552915
Musbury:	Sue Irving 01297 552440	Michael Pritchard 01297 552297