

Gospel

Mark 4:26-34

Parables of the Kingdom

Parable of the Growing Seed

²⁶Jesus also said, "The Kingdom of God is like a farmer who scatters seed on the ground. ²⁷Night and day, while he's asleep or awake, the seed sprouts and grows, but he does not understand how it happens. ²⁸The earth produces the crops on its own. First a leaf blade pushes through, then the heads of wheat are formed, and finally the grain ripens. ²⁹And as soon as the grain is ready, the farmer comes and harvests it with a sickle, for the harvest time has come."

Parable of the Mustard Seed

³⁰Jesus said, "How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What story should I use to illustrate it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed planted in the ground. It is the smallest of all seeds, ³²but it becomes the largest of all garden plants; it grows long branches, and birds can make nests in its shade."



³³Jesus used many similar stories and illustrations to teach the people as much as they could understand. ³⁴In fact, in his public ministry he never taught without using parables; but afterward, when he was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them.

NLT

Mission Community Prayer

Loving God, receive our love, refresh our vision, renew our lives; so that together our Mission Community may witness to the truth of your gospel, build up our fellowship and deepen our commitment to grow in prayer. May our lives of discipleship draw others to follow Jesus Christ. Lead us into creative ways to serve the people of Devon with joy, to the glory of your name. Amen.



Christian Love in Action

17th June 2018

3rd Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to Worship

10.30 am

Holy Communion, All Saints, Bradford

6.30 pm

Café Church, St Mary's, Black Torrington



Readings

Ezekiel 17: 22-24

2 Corinthians 5: 6-10; 14-17

Mark 4: 26-34

Collect

God our saviour,
look on this wounded world
in pity and in power;
hold us fast to your promises of peace
won for us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen

"It's what we trust in but don't yet see that keeps us going. "

2 Corinthians 5: 7 (The Message)

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PLEASE PRAY FOR:



The Mission Community: Revd Jane Lucas and the Ashwater
Benefice: Revd Richard Freeman and Milton Damerel Church

Thornbury Electoral Roll: Wendy Green, Michele Groves, Lindsey
Hutchings, Arthur Sillifant, Joan and Raymond Smith, Paul Taylor

Those who are ill: Iona Barrance, Margaret Grabham, Avis Radford,
Joan Thomas

Highampton Primary School: head teacher Angela Restall and all staff
and children as they prepare to join the Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust
in September

The Financial Viability of our Benefice Churches: that enough money is
forthcoming to enable them to be effective in their mission

Rest in Peace: David Manifold, Joan Bennett

June Diary

Mon 18th	8.00 am	Morning Prayer , St Mary's, Black Torrington
Tues 19th	8.00 am	Prayer Breakfast , The Rectory, Black Torrington
	7.30 pm	Benefice Meeting - Growing the Rural Church , Village Hall, Bradford
Wed 20th	8.00 am	Morning Prayer , St Mary's, Black Torrington
Thurs 21st	8.15 am	Morning Prayer and Silent Prayer;
	9.00 am	Holy Communion , St Peter's, Thornbury
	7.30 pm	Deanery Synod Open Meeting , Market Hall, Holsworthy
Sat 23rd	10.00 am	Benefice Table Top Sale , Village Hall, Black Torrington
	3.00 pm	Gospel Music Workshop , Village Hall, Black Torrington, followed by
	7.00 pm	Evening Concert , St Mary's, Black Torrington
Sun 24th	10.30 am	Holy Communion , St Peter's, Thornbury
	11.00 am	Chapel Anniversary , Black Torrington
	6.30 pm	Patronal Service , St John's, Cookbury

"The Kingdom"

It's a long way off, but inside it
 There are quite different things going on;
 Festivals at which the poor man is king
 And the consumptive is healed;
 Mirrors in which the blind look at themselves
 And love looks at them back;
 And industry is for mending the bent bones
 And the minds fractured by life.
 It's a long way off,
 But to get there takes no time, and admission is free,
 If you will present yourself with your need only,
 And the simple offering of your faith, green as a leaf.



- R S Thomas

Growing the Rural Church Project - The Way Forward?

Tuesday 19th June at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Bradford

There will be a presentation of each of the Design Group's proposed
models and feedback will be sought from the benefice, which can then
be taken forward. Please come along and share in the discussion. Our
representatives are Morag Lobley, Geoff Pitt and Sue Whitehead - you
will find their email addresses in this month's Connected.

Open Deanery Synod Meeting

Thursday 21st June at 7.30 pm in the Market Hall, Holsworthy

Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting, where the Growing
the Rural Church process in our Mission Community will be discussed.
Guest speaker, Paul Reisbach, the Diocesan youth advisor
will also be joining us.

"The Way"

Come along and watch this beautiful film about a father's
pilgrimage to understand his son, killed in a storm whilst following
the "Camino de Santiago". We journey with the American doctor,
played by Martin Sheen, as he begins to learn the difference between
"The life we live and the life we choose."

It will be shown on **26th June at 7.00 pm** and lasts for 2 hours; there
will be a bring and share finger buffet during this time. Location will
depend on uptake so please speak to Cyd Churchill (01409 231188)