

Gospel

Mark 12:28-34

The Most Important Commandment

²⁸ One of the teachers of religious law was standing there listening to the debate. He realized that Jesus had answered well, so he asked, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

²⁹ Jesus replied, “The most important commandment is this: ‘Listen, O Israel! The LORD our God is the one and only LORD. ³⁰ And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.’ ³¹ The second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ No other commandment is greater than these.”

³² The teacher of religious law replied, “Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth by saying that there is only one God and no other.

³³ And I know it is important to love him with all my heart and all my understanding and all my strength, and to love my neighbour as myself. This is more important than to offer all of the burnt offerings and sacrifices required in the law.”

³⁴ Realizing how much the man understood, Jesus said to him, “You are not far from the Kingdom of God.” And after that, no one dared to ask him any more questions. 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

4th November 2018

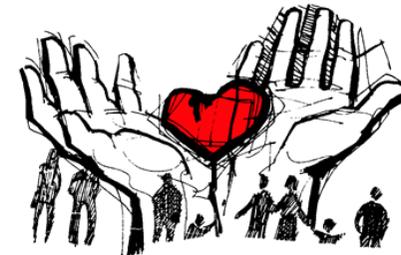
4th Sunday before Advent

Proper 26

Welcome to Worship

10.30 am **Holy Communion, All Saint's, Bradford**

6.30 pm **Service of Remembering, St Mary's, Black Torrington**



Readings

Deuteronomy 6: 1-9

Hebrews 9: 11-14

Mark 12:28-34

Collect

God of glory,
touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit,
that we with all creation
may rejoice to sing your praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Jesus said, “Love the Lord God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy. And...love others as well as you love yourself.”

Mark 12: 30-31—The Message

Rector: Revd Preb Kathy Roberts

Tel: 01409 231279 Mob: 07717 575554

email: rectory@black-torrington-benefice.org.uk

Reader: Mark Neave

Tel: 01409 231556

Email: mark.neave@live.co.uk

www.black-torrington-benefice.org.uk

e-mail: enquiries@black-torrington-benefice.org.uk

PLEASE PRAY FOR:



The Mission Community: Revd Richard Freeman and the Bradworthy Benefice, Revd Jane Lucas and Beaworthy Church

Bradford Electoral Roll: David Arney, Ann and Stanley Bird, Gwendoline Darnborough, Gina Finch

Those who are ill: Iona Barrance, Margaret Grabham, Joan Thomas and those who care for them

Highampton Primary School: head teacher, Angela Restall and all pupils and staff

Burdon Grange: the residents and their families and everyone who works there

All who are mourning the loss of loved one, whether recently or in the past

Rest in Peace: Gordon Thomasson

November Diary

Mon 5th	8.00 am	Morning Prayer , St Mary's, Black Torrington
	10.00 am	Highampton PCC Meeting , Croft End, Highampton
Tues 6th	8.00 am	Prayer Breakfast , The Rectory, Black Torrington
Wed 7th	8.00 am	Morning Prayer , St Mary's, Black Torrington
Thur 8th	8.15 am	Morning & Silent Prayer , followed by
	9.00 am	Iona Holy Communion , All Saints', Bradford
	1.00 pm	Lunch Club , Village Hall, Black Torrington
	7.00 pm	Bradford PCC Meeting , Brandis Corner
Sat 10th	10.00 am	Benefice Saturday Church followed by
	11.15 am	Iona Holy Communion , Village Hall, Bradford
	7.00 pm	Compline , St Peter's, Thornbury
Sun 11th	8.30 am	Holy Communion (said), St Mary's, Black Torrington
		Remembrance Day Services
	10.50 am	Black Torrington War Memorial - then St Mary's
	10.50 am	St John's, Cookbury
	10.50 am	St Peter's, Thornbury

Introduction to the Readings

Deuteronomy 6:1-9. This passage states in as few words as possible the essence of the Jewish orthodox faith. It was so for Jesus too and formed the first of his two great commandments.

Hebrews 9:11-14. This reading declares the supreme efficacy of Christ's sacrifice on the cross in contrast to the repeated sprinkling of the blood of animal sacrifices on the temple altar customary in the Hebrew tradition.

Mark 12:38-34. In one sentence Jesus offers us the key to entering God's kingdom. No one has ever devised a better way to live in the real world. As someone had rightly said, it isn't that we don't know how, it is rather a matter of doing it faithfully all the time in all our relationships.

John Shearman

Poppies at Remembrance

The Royal British Legion, who produce **Red Poppies** says that red poppies are to remember only British armed forces and those who fought alongside them. It is fitting in this centenary year since the end of the First World War that we wear red poppies to remember those who fought and fell in that terrible war. There are, however, other options available to us:

White Poppies which recall all victims of all wars, including victims of wars that are still being fought. This includes people of all nationalities, as well as civilians and members of armed forces.

Purple Poppies pay tribute to animals that have been killed in wars around the world.

Black Poppies remember at least 10,000 black Britons, of African and West Indian heritage, who served in the British Army during World War I, making a vital contribution, both on the front and at home.

We are free to choose how to remember and how best to symbolise that for ourselves.

In our Mission community we need to pray for the right people to emerge, to lead us - for a Families and Children's Worker to encourage our outreach to families and children and for the funding that will be necessary for that post; also for the clergy to succeed Kathy and Jane, and Richard, in due course.