

Gospel

Luke 24:36-48

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

³⁶ And just as they were telling about it, Jesus himself was suddenly standing there among them. "Peace be with you," he said. ³⁷ But the whole group was startled and frightened, thinking they were seeing a ghost!

³⁸ "Why are you frightened?" he asked. "Why are your hearts filled with doubt?" ³⁹ Look at my hands. Look at my feet. You can see that it's really me. Touch me and make sure that I am not a ghost, because ghosts don't have bodies, as you see that I do." ⁴⁰ As he spoke, he showed them his hands and his feet.

⁴¹ Still they stood there in disbelief, filled with joy and wonder. Then he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he ate it as they watched.



⁴⁴ Then he said, "When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ And he said, "Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. ⁴⁷ It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: 'There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.' ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of all these things.

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

15th April 2018

Third Sunday of Easter

Welcome to Worship

- 9.30am **Holy Communion** with Annual Parochial Church Meeting
All Saints' Bradford
- 11.00am **Holy Communion** with Annual Parochial Church Meeting
St Mary's, Black Torrington



Readings

Acts 3 12-19

1 John 3: 1-7

Luke 24: 36b-48

Collect

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen

"He will take great delight in you;
He will...rejoice over you with singing."

Zephaniah 3:17b

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PLEASE PRAY FOR:



The Mission Community: Revd Elizabeth Burke and the Holsworthy Benefice, Revd Richard Freeman and Abbotts Bickington Church

Black Torrington Electoral Roll: Ronda Mogridge, Katharine Matthews, Revd Gerry Matthews, Mark and Rose Neave, Jackie Nutt

All the Benefice Primary Schools as they enjoy their Easter break

Kate Lock and Jamie Sluggett who will be married at St Mary's on Saturday.

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

Rest In Peace Michael Jessop

April Diary

Mon 16th	8.00 am	Morning Prayer , St Mary's, Black Torrington
Tues 17th	8.00 am	Prayer Breakfast , The Rectory, Black Torrington
Wed 18th	8.00 am	Morning Prayer , St Mary's, Black Torrington
Thurs 19th	8.15 am 9.00 am	Morning Prayer and Silent Prayer , Iona Holy Communion , St Mary's, Black Torrington
Sat 21st	11.00 am 7.00 pm	Wedding , St Mary's, Black Torrington Compline, All Saints' , Bradford
Sun 22nd	9.30 am 11.00 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion , St Peter's, Thornbury Holy Communion , Holy Cross, Highampton Café Church Evening Service , St Mary's, Black Torrington

A Date for your Diary

Thursday 26th April, at 7.00 pm - Open meeting at Black Torrington Village Hall to discuss the future of our Benefice, in the light of the ongoing '**Growing the Rural Church**' project for the Holsworthy Mission Community. If you want to know how this may affect our benefice and make your views known, then here is your opportunity. It is very important so if you can't be there, please pray about it. All are welcome, and cheese and wine will be provided.

Introduction to the Readings

Acts 3:12-19. All the sermons recorded in Acts are recollections of what the apostles preached rather than verbatim reports of what Peter may have said. Some, like this one, may reflect a somewhat earlier and more basic tradition than others. This passage interprets Jesus as fulfilling a prophecy of a suffering Messiah. Though his own people rejected him, this sermon declares, the resurrection of Jesus is the proof that he is the promised Messiah. Through repentance and faith in him all sins are forgiven.

1 John 3:1-7. The real benefits of faith in Jesus Christ are clearly stated in this passage. Believers are regarded as the children of God who at Christ's second coming will be like him. Those who do not believe do no life with Christ are totally incompatible.

Luke 24:36-48. The post-resurrection appearances of Jesus recorded in the four gospels have a common purpose: to prepare the faithful for life in the world as witnesses to the resurrection. Luke's closing narrative tells how Jesus revealed himself to his disciples to prove to them that he really was alive. Luke also wished to show that Jesus himself had initiated that the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah had now been fulfilled. The church could now proclaim that repentance and forgiveness of sins were now available through faith in the risen Christ.

John Shearman

Apprentice Yourself to Jesus

Jesus offers himself as God's doorway into the life that is truly life. Confidence in him leads us today, as in other times, to become His apprentices in eternal living. "Those who come through me will be safe," he said. "They will go in and out and find all they need. I have come into their world that they may have life, and life to the limit."



From *The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering Our Hidden Life in God* by Dallas Willard.

N.B. *The Holy Cross, Highampton APCM scheduled for Monday 16th April has had to be postponed until Monday 30th April.*