

BENEFICE OF ASHWATER BULLETIN



ASHWATER * BEAWORTHY * CLAWTON * HALWILL * TETCOTT

Dear Friends,

October 2014

Shortening days and longer nights remind us that the year is in its fourth quarter. Quarter days were very important in years past, as that was the time for rent payments and the days when farmers took or left tenancies or took possession of farms. So 25th March, Lady day or the Annunciation of our Lord was the first quarter; Mid summer, 22nd June is Lammas day; 29th September (St Michael and all Angels), and Christmas day 25th December the 4th quarter day. Saints days and major festivals no longer punctuate our year which is sad, for we all need holy days (holidays) to have down time with family and friends.

The end of October marks 2 festivals, one of which has been hijacked by the commercial traders but have their roots in a deep Christian tradition, that of celebrating All Hallows or Halloween on the night of the 31st October; and All Saints on the first of November. All Hallows Eve has its origins in marking the end of the Harvest and of saying prayers for the dead and the lighting of candles. There were customs that grew up in this festival of eating nuts, apples and spices, and making bonfires, games and storytelling around the fire, dressing up as Mummers going from house to house. . . . and Tesco thought they invented it!

All Saints day is a reminder to us all that all the baptized Christians belong to God, living or dead and so we remember all those who are no longer in this world but in the realms of glory with all the saints i.e. all who have faith in God. Maybe we too can come together to share in our belief, our faith in our Churches around the benefice to remember, to reflect and to share the joy of knowing Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. I rejoice that Clawton Church has four more confirmed Christians, may they know the blessings and prayers said for them. All who are baptized belong to God, whether you believe it or not. I challenge you to face where you are in your relationship with our Creator. Will you join the saints in glory?



Let them share the joys and blessings of the life to come

Blessings, Jane. (jane@lakeheadmeats.com)



Sunday Services in September

5th October

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Ashwater 11.00 Harvest Festival.
Followed by BY IUNCH
Beaworthy Joint with Halwill
Clawton 10.30 Holy Communion
Halwill 11.00 Morning Worship
Tetcott 7.00pm Joint Harvest Service
and Supper in Arscott Hall

OT Isaiah 5: 1-7
NT Philippians 3: 4b-14
Gospel Matthew 21: 33-46

12th October

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Ashwater 9.30 Holy Communion
Beaworthy 6.30: Harvest Service and Buffet
Clawton 10.30 Morning Worship
Halwill 11.00 Holy Communion

OT Isaiah 25: 1-9
NT Philippians 4: 1-9
Gospel Matthew 22: 1-14

19th October

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Ashwater 9.30 Said Holy Communion
Beaworthy 6.30pm Holy Communion
Clawton 10.30 Holy Communion
Halwill 11.00 Morning Worship
2.00pm Baptism

OT Isaiah 45: 1-7
NT 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10
Gospel Matthew 22: 15-22

26th October

Bible Sunday after Trinity

Ashwater 11.00 **A Taste of Uganda**, with
Lunch afterwards in the
Village Hall.
Beaworthy Joint with Ashwater
Clawton 10.30 Let's Get Together
Halwill Joint with Ashwater

OT Nehemiah 8: 1-12
NT Colossians 3: 12-17
Gospel Matthew 24: 30-35

Prayer for October

The Ministry of Care

Self-giving God, calling us to tread the path of suffering,
Yet standing by us in every place of sacrifice,
We praise you for the courage and faithfulness
Of unknown, unrecognised, unexceptional people
Who exercise a ministry of extraordinary care.

Hear our prayers for . . .

Single mothers struggling to make ends meet on low wages or inadequate benefits, with no time or money for themselves, stretched to breaking point by trying to fulfil two roles;

Unmarried sons and daughters, who have lost their youth and middle years in looking after demanding parents, whose own chance of retirement may be darkened by the shadow of senility;

Parents exhausted and grown old before their time from the daily strain of caring for a child with special emotional or physical needs;

The families of people who suffer from bi-polar disorder, schizophrenia, or other mental illness, whose own happiness is defined by dramatic mood swings or rationed by unpredictable behaviour.

Watch with them when they get no sleep.
Calm them when their patience snaps
And they lash out with hand or tongue.
Strengthen them when they feel that they can't carry on.
Empower them to claim the resources and respect they deserve.

Self-giving God, calling us to tread the path of suffering,
Yet standing by us in every place of sacrifice,
By these prayers and the actions which flow from them
May we begin to share the cost of their caring
And celebrate their selfless offering of love.

Jean Mortimer

Harvest Services and Suppers

Sunday 28th at Clawton 10-30am followed by lunch in the Parish Hall. Please telephone Irene Ellis if you intend to come 271371 tickets £10

Thursday 2nd October Clawton Primary School 2-30pm in Clawton Church for their Harvest Concert, gifts to go to Holsworthy Food Bank.



Sunday 5th October at Ashwater, 11am Service followed by hot lunch in the Parish Hall, please book now to Jan Madge 211104 Tickets £10, Primary schoolchildren £5

also Tetcott Community Harvest service & Supper in the Arscott Hall 7pm

Monday 6th October Ashwater Pre-School in Ashwater Church 9-45am

Sunday 12th October Beaworthy Harvest Service 6-30pm and Buffet supper

Sunday 19th October, your Rector is speaking at the Launceston Central Methodist Hall, Community Singing is at 6pm followed by the service at 6-30pm.

Other Dates for your Diary

Saturday 4th October **Tea a la Ritz**, at Halwill Parish Hall 3pm -5-30pm.

Saturday 11th October **Tetcott Breakfast**, Arscott Hall 8-30am -11-30am for Tetcott Church

Tuesday 7th October **Soup & Sweet** Halwill Baptist Hall 12noon £2-50

Wednesday 15th October **Holswothy Deanery Mission Community Celebration** with Bishop Nick 7-30pm at St. Peter & St. Paul's Holswothy.

Thursday 16th October **Good Companions** at Halwill Baptist Hall 2-30pm -4-30pm

Thursday 23rd October **Deanery Synod, 'Treasurers'** open meeting with Neil Williams at Holswothy Skills Centre 7-30pm

Saturday 25th October **Big Breakfast** Clawton Parish Hall 9-30am -11-30am

Monday 27th October **Messy Church** at Halwill Baptist hall 10-30am to 12noon, craft, mess and food!

A TASTE OF UGANDA



SUNDAY 26 OCTOBER
11.00 AM
SERVICE IN
ASHWATER
PARISH CHURCH
FOLLOWED BY LUNCH
IN VILLAGE HALL
ALL WELCOME!

ADULTS £10. PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN £5 *



*** TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM JAN MADGE TEL: 211104**

NEXT WEEK INSTEAD

I almost went to church last night, but could not find the time;
So much to do about the house; To leave it would be a crime;
So I cleaned and sewed and polished, and went wearily to bed.
But I made a resolution, to go *next week* instead.

I almost went to church last night, but then some old friends came;
To have closed the door on them, would have been a shame;
We talked and chattered and gossiped, until our goodbyes were said.
But I made a resolution, to go *next week* instead.

I almost went to church last night, but something made me late;
And the lack of punctuality is a sin I really hate;
So I did not go but stayed at home, and to my conscience said:
I'll make a resolution, to go *next week* instead.

I almost went to church last night, but the air was chill and cold;
To venture out on such a night would be foolish, I had been told.
So I sat beside the fire; took up a book and read;
But I made a resolution, to go *next week* instead.

I almost went to church last night, but a certain preacher was there!
For that type of preaching, I really had no care;
Rather than go to church and come back with an aching head,
I made a resolution, to go *next week* instead.

I almost went to church last night, but a favourite programme was on;
And by the time it ended, the time for church had gone;
So I stayed before the "telly" until the set was dead;
But I made a resolution, to go *next week* instead.

I *actually* went to church last night; My going was too late!
The church was locked and silent; "For Sale" was on the gate;
Oh, the remorse experienced then! A struggling cause was dead
It was I... I had killed it; By going *next week* instead.
By Rev Mike Shephard.