

# BENEFICE OF ASHWATER BULLETIN



ASHWATER \* BEAWORTHY \* CLAWTON \* HALWILL \* TETCOTT

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Dear friends,  
2015

February

Christmas is passed, the Epiphany season is almost over and Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and Lent are happening in a fortnight. Where does it all go? Time seems to run faster as I grow older, or I just get slower!

I love walking in our beautiful Devon countryside, but there is one thing I really detest when doing so - it is the act of throwing rubbish out onto our hedges and verges, be it empty cans, sandwich and crisp packets, plastic bottles, or packaging of any kind. This should be in rubbish bags and not decorating our hedgerows. Please respect the country lanes and take your rubbish home with you. We are all stewards of this planet which we share and leave for the next generation.

Leaving this earth when we die is not talked about in today's society. But die we will, that is certain. How will we be remembered, and what will be our legacy; will we be spoken of with love and respect or indifference? As farmers we were told that we should farm as if we were to farm forever and live as if we were to die tomorrow. My Christian faith has taught me to try to treat everyone with respect and equality; in as far as I am able, I treat no-one with more or less favour. Jesus is my example and I am his follower. God will be my judge when the day comes.

Together with the worship, singing, reading the bible and prayers at our Sunday services, there is the offering of our wrong doings to God and asking for forgiveness, to wipe our sin away and make the slate clean. All of us make mistakes, take wrong turns, and do things that we regret. The place where those things can be overturned, be absolved, be redeemed and bought back into a relationship with God, is in our service, in Church with our Church family. No-one is excluded. The Church is open to everyone, for we are accepted only by the grace of God. It is by grace alone we are made acceptable, not by rules, culture or society.

With blessings

*Jane.*





## Services in February

1st February

Presentation of Christ

Ashwater 9.30 Morning Worship  
Beaworthy 6.30pm Evensong  
Clawton 10.30 Holy Communion  
Halwill 11.00 Morning Worship  
Tetcott 5.30 Tea and informal worship

OT Malachi 3: 1-5  
NT Hebrews 2: 14-end  
Gospel Luke 2: 22-40

8th February

Ashwater 9.30 Holy Communion (by extension)  
Beaworthy 11.00 Morning Worship  
Clawton 10.30 Morning Worship  
Halwill 11.00 Holy Communion (by extension)

OT Proverbs 8: 22-31  
NT Colossians 1: 15-20  
Gospel John 1: 1-14

15th February

Ashwater 9.30 Holy Communion (said)  
Beaworthy 6.30 Holy Communion  
Clawton 10.30 Holy Communion  
Halwill 11.00 Morning Worship

OT 2 Kings 2: 1-12  
NT 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6  
Gospel Mark 9: 2-9

18th February

Ash Wednesday

Halwill 10.30 Benefice Holy Communion

OT Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17  
NT 2 Corinthians 5: 20b - 6:10  
Gospel Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

22 February

First Sunday of Lent

Ashwater 9.30 Holy Communion  
Beaworthy 11.00 Morning Worship  
Clawton 10.30 Let's Get Together  
Halwill 11.00 Holy Communion

OT Genesis 9: 8-17  
NT 1 Peter 3: 18-22  
Gospel Mark 1: 9-15

## Prayers for Lent

*We thank you Father, for those days in the desert when, through prayer and fasting, Jesus discovered your will for his life and overcame the temptations of the Evil One. Help us, during these days of Lent, to come close to you and to listen to your voice. Give us strength to overcome the temptation to please ourselves and live life without you. Teach us your way. For Jesus' sake*

*May God give us grace to grow in holiness, to deny ourselves, and to take up our cross and follow him.*

*Alternative Service Book, 1980 (adapted).*

*Almighty and everlasting God,  
You hate nothing that you have made,  
and forgive the sins of all those who  
are penitent.*

*Create and make in us new and  
contrite hearts*

*That, lamenting our sins, and  
acknowledging our wretchedness,  
We may receive from you, the God  
of all mercy,*

*Perfect forgiveness and peace,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen*

*Thomas Cranmer, Collect for Lent.*



**A great day for Bradworthy:** The Bishop of Exeter, with clergy and readers from the Holsworthy Mission Community at the collation of Revd Richard Freeman as new rector of the Bradworthy Benefice. The well attended service was on 27 January.

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## Dates for the diary

14th February Valentine Supper, Clawton Parish Hall, booking essential (271371 )

Ashwater Lent Group to meet at Trevor May's home (Yeo Farm) 7-30pm Wednesday's beginning the 25th February for 5 weeks. All welcome, We start by sitting down to a hot meal, so it would help if you let Trevor know if you plan to come (211523)

Halwill United Churches Lent Group: Monday 16th February at 7-30pm and the following 6 Mondays at the Baptist Hall. Repeat sessions on the following Monday at 2pm from the 23rd February for 6 Mondays. Same place, Halwill Baptist Hall. All welcome

Messy Church at Halwill on Tuesday 17th February 10-30am 'till 12noon

Thursday 26th February Deanery Synod at Holsworthy Skills Centre 7-30pm

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