

Plympton Team Ministry
The Parishes of Plympton St. Mary and Plympton St. Maurice

Sunday 30th August 2026 - The Thirtieth Sunday after Trinity

Inspiration from Strange Places

A brief series of notes for the churches during August 2026, that looks into the past to find clues that might help us to grow spiritually.

1. The washer-up (Brother Lawrence)
2. The anchoress (Cecilia Moys)
3. The anchoress (Julian of Norwich)
4. Into the unknown (The Cloud of Unknowing)
- 5. The Soul's Journey into God (Bonaventure)**

*"Lead me Lord, in your path, and I will enter into your truth.
Let my heart rejoice that it may fear your name."*

How do we locate this God?

Because it is **absolute Being** that look for in God, *"it is both utterly simple and the most encompassing: it is, therefore, totally within all things and totally outside them, and thus is an **intelligible sphere whose centre is everywhere and whose circumference is nowhere.**"*

Like Jesus, Bonaventure, embraces this world of paradox – of the **co-incidence of opposites**. He takes us on a journey into and beyond through six stages of contemplation – a contemplative ascent from the evidence of our intellect. He uses the metaphor of the six wings of the cherubim who stand beside God's Mercy-Seat in the Temple (and now in heaven).

And the final stage of this journey?

*"This was also shown to blessed Francis when in ecstatic contemplation on the height of the mountain (Mount Verna) ...**there appeared to him a six-winged Seraph fastened to a cross....and then he passed over into ecstatic contemplation and became an example of perfect contemplation as he had previously been of action.**"*

There, at the foot of the cross, we might find that *"new absolute and unchangeable mysteries of theology are hidden in the superluminous darkness of a silence....."* the silence of true contemplation – **of be-ing**. *"If it is to be perfect, all intellectual activities must be left behind and the height of our affection must be totally transferred and transformed into God."*

Bonaventure's, *The Soul's Journey into God*.

(Bonaventure was the Franciscan regent master in Paris. When papal legates sought him out to invest him with his cardinal's hat, they found him humbly doing the washing-up. "That's very kind of you. Could you put it over there, please, on that bush.") *Fr David*

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Church Diary

Sunday 30th August

9.30 am Parish Eucharist St Mary's church
11.00 am Parish Eucharist St Maurice church

Wednesday 2nd September

10.00 am Eucharist St Maurice church
2.00 pm Open church St Mary's church

Sunday 6th September

11.00 am Team Eucharist St Maurice church

Notices

E-newsletter – this e-newsletter is available on the church websites under news and notices. It is no longer sent by email.

Rev Lizzi is unavailable until 2nd September. For urgent matters, please contact one of the churchwardens or the City Dean.

Wasp nests – there are wasp nests in St Mary's churchyard. Please take extra care in this area.

St Mary's church – restricted access - Areas of the church have been cordoned off for safety reasons. Please only sit in the marked areas, and avoid the restricted sections.

Quiet Spaces – Friday 28th August 10.30 am in St Mary's church. All welcome.

Table Top sale – 5th September, 10.00 am to 1.00 pm. St Mary's church hall

The next combined service will be on Sunday 6th September at 11.00 am in St Maurice church

Plympton St Maurice Mothers' Union and Friends - next meeting will be on Tuesday 8th September.

Mothers' Union Plymouth Cluster Meeting - Thursday 10th September 2.00 pm, St Mary's Church Hall, MU Worldwide Wave of Prayer. All welcome

Christmas Tree Festival

Would you like to be involved with this year's Christmas Tree Festival? Help is needed with stewarding, talking to visitors, helping with refreshments, lifting and shifting, helping at the Christmas Fayre, publicity etc.

There will be a planning meeting in Plympton St Maurice Church Hall on Thursday 10th September at 6.00pm. Please come along if you can help.

We would welcome anyone from St Mary's if you would like to be involved.

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Rosary Group will be meeting on the 10th September and then on every 2nd Thursday of each month at 6.15pm in St Maurice church. During the winter months the venue might change. Please ask in church for more details.

Cream Tea – Saturday 12th September 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm in St Mary's church hall. Tickets £5.00 **in advance only** and by 1st September, from church or the office.

Meeting of St Mary's Parishioners – Sunday 13th September after the 9.30 am service

Quiz night and Fish & Chip supper – Saturday 3rd October in St Mary's church hall from 5.30 pm. Tickets in advance by 28th September from church or the office.

Open Church at St Mary's Wednesdays 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm until 16th September

Knit and Natter Thursdays 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm St Maurice church hall

Bible Study and St Maurice Minors will return after the summer break

Meditation group will resume on 15th October

Readings are available in church. Please ask a sidesperson for a copy.

Candle ends are being collected to be used to assist war-affected people in Ukraine. There is a box in each church for your donations. Thank you

Loop System - St Mary's church is fitted with a loop for those who wear hearing aids; please sit in the centre aisles and adjust your hearing aid as required.

Wills and Legacies - Please speak to Rev Lizzi or one of the churchwardens about leaving a gift to the church in your will.

The Team Office will be closed on Mondays in September.

St Mary's churchyard project – you may see one or two bug houses in St Mary's churchyard. Please do not disturb them, they are part of a biodiversity project. They have been created with recycled, reclaimed, and naturally sourced material, and at zero cost to the parish.



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Prayer Requests

Those who are sick and those who have asked for the prayers of the church:

Ann, Lisa, Emma, Frank, Jan, Ray, Brian, Haydn, Kate, Phil, Geoff, Judy, Eric, Gill, Fred, Rose, Paul, Luke, Jenny, Jill, Christina, David, Margaret, Betty, Angela, Dave, Jean, Paul, Noelyn, Linda

The recently departed

Those whose anniversary of death falls in the week commencing 30th August:

Sunday 30th Bessie Perry, Marie Lugg, Delia Bennett, Kathleen Ireland, Albert (Bill) Hemming, Lee McCaffrey

Monday 31st Edith Lambert, Alice Sibbald, James Harper, Arthur Blight, Dolores Loxley, John Reed, Donald Hutton, Herbert (Harry) Thompson

Tuesday 1st Reginald Burke, Edna Buckley, Callum Dorrall, James Smith, Dilys Mules

Wednesday 2nd Sister Elsie SC, Sister Mary SC, Frederick Luck, Brian Lee, Raymond Willis, David Millar, William White

Thursday 3rd Henry Hole (Pr), Elsie Sleep, Harry Jane, Alan Elliot, Gladys Lucena, Daisy Grimes

Friday 4th Sister Norah SC, John White (Pr), Oswald Green, Reuben Stoneman, John Martin, Bertha Williams, Hugh Manning, Winifred Walker, Susan Higgins, Martin Kitteridge

Saturday 5th Arthur Gidney, Mabel Hockaday, Florence Bagnall, Betty Poyntz, Gary Murray

Links and Information



Email: info@plympton.foodbank.org.uk

Tel: 07922 808086

Open: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10.00 am to 1.00 pm

St Mary's Church Hall, Market Road, PL7 1QW

Donations can also be left in St Maurice church porch

The latest Prayer Diary can be found at: [Prayer Diary - Diocese of Exeter](#)

Live streaming [Click here](#) to access a service of Sung Eucharist from Exeter Cathedral at 10.00 am every Sunday

Easy Fundraising St Mary's and St Maurice churches are registered with Easy Fundraising which donates at no extra cost to you when shopping online. Please [click here](#) and select your good cause.

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St Mary's Church, Plympton
Charity number: 1128769

Cream Tea

Saturday 12th September

St Mary's Church Hall
Market Road, Plympton
2.30 pm to 4.30 pm

Tickets £5.00 in advance and by 1st September
Proceeds and raffle in aid of church funds



Tickets available from church or the team office. Please advise of any special dietary requirements when purchasing your ticket

St Mary's Church, Plympton
Charity number: 1128769



Quiz Night and
Fish & Chip Supper

Saturday 3rd October

St Mary's Church Hall
Market Road, Plympton
5.30 pm start

Tickets in advance only, by 28th September
Proceeds and raffle in aid of church funds

Tickets available from church or the team office.
Price depends on meal chosen.



St Mary's
Church
Plympton

OPEN CHURCH

Come in to look around, sit quietly, pray, or
talk to one of our volunteers.

Wednesdays 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm
6th May to 16th September 2026

Market Road, Plympton
PL7 1QW

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Contacts

Team Vicar

Revd Lizzi Green (rest day – Monday)

☎ 01752 348525

Team Office

Sarah Duckworth (administrator)

☎ 01752 348525

✉ plymptonteamministry@gmail.com

Office hours – Tuesday to Thursday 9.00 am to 1.00 pm

Items for the weekly notices should be emailed to the Team Office by 10.00 am on Wednesday

Websites

St Mary's Church Plympton

🌐 [Plympton St Mary Church - A Church Near You](#)

Plympton St Maurice Parish Church

🌐 [Plympton St Maurice Church - A Church Near You](#)

The PCCs of Plympton St Mary and Plympton St Maurice (Plympton Team Ministry) are not responsible for the content of external websites.

Safeguarding Officer

St Maurice parish ptmsafeguarding@gmail.com

St Mary's parish ptmsafeguarding2@gmail.com

[Click here](#) for the Diocese of Exeter Safeguarding Information

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