



Sunday, 18 October 2026 – 20th after Trinity

Services for This Sunday

Date: Sunday, 18 October 2026 – *Harvest Sunday* - 20th after Trinity

- **09:30 AM – Parish Communion**
 - **Led by:** David James
 - **Preacher:** Suki Coe
- **06:00 PM – Evening Prayer**
 - **Led by:** Charlotte Townsend

Midweek Services

- **Tuesday, 20 October (9:00 - 9:30 AM) – Zoom Morning Prayer**
 - **Join Link:** [Click Here to Join Zoom Meeting](#)
 - **Meeting Link:** [Meeting Chat Link](#)
- **Meeting ID:** 790 0320 7508 | **Passcode:** 2fcHsc
 - *Please note: We use the Church of England Daily Prayer app. Follow this link to download the app.*
- **Thursday, 22 October at 10:30 AM – Holy Communion**
 - **Led by:** Sarah Cumming

Looking Ahead: Next Sunday's Services

Date: Sunday, 25 October 2026 – Last after Trinity

- **09:30 AM – Parish Communion**
 - **Led by:** Sarah Cumming
 - **Preacher:** Pam Stanley with Street Pastors
- **06:00 PM – Evening Prayer**
 - **Led by:** Suki Coe

Last Week's Sermon Link

- **Missed it?** [Follow here for last week's sermon](#) or scroll to the very end of this newsletter to read the text.

Messages and Notices from Clergy and the Churchwardens

Christmas Shoeboxes

- Members of St David's are filling shoeboxes with little gifts that will be transported to Moldova and Ukraine in time for Christmas. Many of you have done this before, but if anyone would like the information sheet about how it works, please ask Gina. As mid-November is the time that the boxes must be ready for their journey it is time to begin gathering suitable things for wrapping!

Join Our Team of Concert & Event Stewards!

We need reliable volunteers to help our community events run smoothly.

- **The Role:** Open/unlock the church, welcome attendees, answer building questions, and lock up safely afterward. (*Hospitality and safety only—no handling money or making refreshments!*)
- **Our Support:** We provide full training and cover out-of-pocket expenses. We are looking for regular, ongoing volunteers.

Our busy autumn schedule starts soon, including a **Fever Candlelight Concert on Saturday, 24 October**.

Interested? Please [email Doree](#) to find out more or register.

Choice of Hymns at St David's – *Last Call!*

- We have recently formed a small group to discuss the use of music in our Sunday services at St David's. Music is an important part of our worship. We are keen to hear your views and are therefore seeking suggestions for hymns that mean something to you. These might include a favourite, one you had at a special occasion, a reflective or an uplifting one, whatever you like it to be.
- **What we are asking you to do:**
 - Write down your suggestions on a form at the back of the church. You can suggest as many as you like!
 - Include the hymn book number if possible (don't worry if not).
 - Post your form into the hymn suggestion box at the back of the church.
 - *The box will be available until Sunday 25 October. Thank you.*

New Leaves (October)

- **Our parish magazine** is now available! A huge thank you to the editorial team for a wonderful edition that brings us together in fellowship as the nights draw in. Enjoy reflections on harvest, community news, and inspiring faith on every page. [Read online](#) or pick up a hard copy in church.
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St David's Events (Save the Date!)

Keep track of these upcoming special events, seasonal services, and church socials further down the line:

- **Thursday, 22 October (7:00 PM): University Students' Group** – in church with food! Talk to one of the clergy if you would like to know more.
- **Saturday, 24 October (7:00 PM): Fever Candlelight Concert – Hans Zimmer's Best Works** [Click here](#) to buy tickets. Follow this [link](#) to see details of all other candlelight concerts coming to St David's over the next few months.
- **Thursday, 29 October (12:00 PM): Church Parish Lunch** – at the Farmer's Union. *We need to pre-order menu choices, so there will be a sign up sheet at the back of church, please can people make their menu choices by **Sunday, 25 October**.* A group will be walking across from the church, leaving at 11:45 AM.
- **Saturday, 31 October (09:00 AM), Tea on the Green, 2 Cathedral Close: Women's Breakfast** – you are very welcome to come and join us.
- **Sunday, 1 November - All Soul's Service (6:00 PM)** – we will be having a special service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance for those who have died, whether recently or longer ago. All will be welcome.
- **Saturday, 7 November (09:00 AM): Men's Breakfast** – meeting at the Tea on the Green, Cathedral Close. If you would like a reminder, please [email Alan Baker](#).
- **Saturday, 14 November (7:00 PM) – Exeter Bach Choir and Orchestra – Out of the Deep.** Musical director Matthew Jeffrey. Music of remembrance, consolation and hope by J.S. Bach. [Click here for more information and to buy tickets](#).

Green Matters

Explore the Magic of Mushrooms at RAMM

From now until **21 February 2027**, you can celebrate the world of fungi at Exeter's [Royal Albert Memorial Museum](#). Don't miss their unique art exhibition, ***Living Labyrinths: Art and Fungi***, which blends culture and scientific inquiry. There are activities for all ages, including special half-term family fun: a nature craft workshop on **Tuesday 27 October** and an interactive theatre performance of *The Mushroom Show* on **Wednesday 28 October**. Follow [this link to the RAMM Exhibition](#) for full details and to book tickets.

Safeguarding at St David's

Ensuring a safe environment for everyone: St David's Church, Exeter, takes its safeguarding responsibilities very seriously. We are committed to the safety, care, and protection of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults in our community.

If you have a concern about the safety of someone or the actions of someone working with children or vulnerable adults, please speak to someone:

- **Alice Francis**, Safeguarding Representative – email: St Davids Church Safeguarding
 - **Contact:** 07487 774590
 - **Or the Exeter Diocesan Safeguarding Team** (01392 294969 / safeguarding@exeter.anglican.org)
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What's On This Week (Midweek Groups & Notices)

- **Mondays (07:00- 09:00 PM):** [Iron Door Collective](#) – Historic Fencing and Swordfighting. The first Monday of each month is for newcomers.
 - **Tuesdays (10:30 AM):** Tuesday Friendship Café every week. The next '[Try It Out Tuesday](#)' is **1 December** (please note: 3 November Try It Out has been cancelled). This event is run in partnership with Exeter College Community and Partnerships. All are welcome - to book your place [click here](#).
 - **Wednesday evenings (07:30 PM):** Bell ringing practice.
 - **Fridays (7:00 PM):** Choir with Instrumental group every third Friday.
 - **Volunteers Needed (Sunday Coffee Rota):** Can you spare just six Sundays a year to help serve coffee and tea after the service? It's a great way to meet people. Full training is provided! If you'd like to join the team, please [email Jenny Baker](#).
 - **Volunteers Needed (Welcome Team):** We are still looking for another couple of people to join the Welcome team. This is a vital part of our ministry, and an important role, so please do think about it. If you might be interested, please see Sue Wilson or the Churchwardens.
 - **Health Notice (Covid/colds and flu):** If you're feeling under the weather, please prioritise your rest and join us from home to keep our community healthy!
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Pastoral Care

- **Visiting and Home Communion:** If you would like to be visited or phoned by someone from the church community, please let Mike Clark know on 07889 570159 or by email. For Communion at home, either for yourself or someone you know, please contact Ian Cartwright on 07813 795616.
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News from the Diocese: Roots, Shoots & Fruits

This Week's Highlight:

Bishop of Exeter Speaks of 'Siren Call' of AI

The Bishop of Exeter has spoken about the 'siren call' of AI in his recent Presidential Address to the Exeter Diocesan Synod.

Bishop Mike drew comparisons between the lure of artificial intelligence and the sirens of Greek mythology depicted in the recent film version of The Odyssey, based on Homer's epic poem.

Bishop Mike said the recent College of Bishops' meeting he attended discussed how AI's "alluring, siren calls of efficiency, speed and ease masked deeper more problematic questions of control by elites, manipulation of truth and apocalyptic possibilities,"

He concluded: "If we regard AI as music, how is it that instead of being utilised by the sirens in ways which entrap, imprison and corrode humanity, a more beautiful song is played which serves, equips and enables?"

The Diocese of Exeter is working to produce some simple AI principles and guidance to help navigate the new world of AI from a practical, ethical and theological viewpoint. The aim is to publish these by Christmas.

Read the [AI Guidelines for Christian Ministry](#) which have been published by the AI Christian Partnership.

[Click here](#) to read Bishop Mike's full Presidential Address on AI.

Prayer Requests

Parish Cycle of Prayer

- **This week we pray for:** Local doctors, district nurses and mental health support counsellors. Age UK services in the Parish.

Rest in Peace (Those Who Have Died): Owen Wellbelove

- **Please remember in your prayers:** We pray for the families and friends of those who have recently died.
- *"May they rest in peace and rise in glory."*

Continued Prayer Support

- **Those who are suffering including:** Caroline Speed-Andrews; Ann Barnet; Libby Clapham; Andrew Francis; Hazel Gowland; Eileen Jarman; Anne Smith; Beth; Charlotte, Paul and Grace; Will; Dave; John Sampson; Michael Gray; David Loram, Rosemary Allan-Willcox and Maddy Hearn.
 - **Our Church & World:** Our church; our country and its leaders, both political and religious; our world, for wisdom for its leaders and a wish for peace not war.
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Contact & Giving

- **Office Address:** St David's Church, Queen's Terrace, Exeter, EX4 4HR
- **For notices/content/prayer requests or amendments:** email [Mike](#).
- **All readings** can be found via [Bible Gateway](#) in the New Revised Standard Version (anglicized edition).

Support Our Ministry: To give financially to the work of the church, [follow this link](#).



Service Sheet & Readings – Sunday 18 October 2026

Collect:

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading - 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written,

‘He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;
his righteousness endures for ever.’

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Gospel Reading – Luke 12: 16-30

Then he told them a parable: ‘The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, “What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?” Then he said, “I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will

store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.’

Do Not Worry

He said to his disciples, ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

Post Communion:

Lord of the harvest,
with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation
and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom:
by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us
and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen



Families & Children

- **Play Area:** We love having families join us! A dedicated play area with toys and books is available at the front of church in the south (right hand side) transept throughout the Sunday services for parents and young children to use.



Last Week's Sermon Text – not available this week

Readings: Philippians 4.1-9 | Matthew 22.1-14 ~ Trinity 19