
Upcoming dates

Tuesday 14 April

2.00pm Handbells

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

Wednesday 15 April

Deadline for benefice bulletin

10.00am Morning prayer

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

Saturday 18 April

8.00am Big breakfast

St. Leonards, Clawton

Sunday 19 April

9.30am Holy communion

St. Peter ad Vincula, Ashwater

11.00am Holy communion

St. Peter & St. James, Halwill

11.00am Morning prayer

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

Commentary

The Corinthian reading this morning is difficult. The Corinthians, surrounded by one of the worst cities on earth at the time, were so taken with their salvation and the wonderful, sacred, action of baptism that they sort to share it with their dead ancestors, Paul gently corrects them. Far from being totally negative this shows how much baptism meant to them, how it was a vital, pulsating and a fundamental part of their existence. I wonder if we always live our lives with the same passion of the risen Christ? Paul.

Please pray for:

All who have died recently, including Carole Moon and Michael Brown, both from Ashwater, and their friends and relatives.

Those who are ill, including Ian, Helen, Steve, Cathy, Peter, Brian, Ian, Sandra, Andrew, Catherine and Joan Trengove.

Our Benefice schools.

All those who give generously to the Foodbank on a regular basis and those who receive food.

All who are living under conditions of conflict, including those in Ukraine, Russia, Palestine, Israel, Sudan, Yemen, Iran, Congo and Syria and the whole of the Middle East.

Mission prayer

You go nowhere by accident. Wherever you go, God is sending you. Wherever you are, God has put you there. He has a purpose in your being there. Christ, who indwells you, has something He wants to do through you where you are. Believe this and go in His grace and love and power

Revd. Dr Paul Fitzpatrick. Rector:

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Ruby Country Benefice

Sunday 12 April 2026

2nd Sunday of Easter

GRAPEVINE

**The parishes of Ashwater, Beaworthy,
Black Torrington with Highampton,
Clawton, Halwill and Tetcott**

Welcome to Worship

Sunday 12 April

11.00am Holy communion

St. Leonard's, Clawton

11.00am Café church

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

6.30pm Evensong

St. Alban, Beaworthy

Ruby people: Worshipping in God's country

Epistle

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

“Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

“Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. David said about him: “‘I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.’” “Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. (NIV)

Gospel

John 20:19-end

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.” A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (NIV)

