

Upcoming dates

Tuesday 30 June

2.00pm Handbells

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

Wednesday 1 July

10.00am Morning prayer

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

Saturday 4 July

10.30am Interment of ashes

Elsie Pearce and Margaret Harding

St. Leonard's, Clawton

1.00pm Village fun day

Black Torrington

Sunday 5 July

9.30am Morning service

St. Peter ad Vincula, Ashwater

11.00am Holy communion

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

11.00am Morning service

St. Peter & St. James, Halwill

5.30pm Luffincott service

Walk to Tetcott for refreshments

Revd. Dr Paul Fitzpatrick. Rector:
vicar-rubycountrybenefice@outlook.com

Commentary

‘Welcome those in Christ as Christ sends’, wonderful words from the gospel this morning and how fitting! We welcome Revd Juie to our Benefice as a great gift from God (Sunday evening at St Mary – please do be there!). More than this though, there is the requirement to meet our brothers and sisters in the grace of God, with joy, acceptance and a recognition that we are all different but all equal. We are five parishes spread over 50 square miles, different locations, traditions and communities; but we are one people in Christ; that is why he died, that is why he rose, for all of us. Paul.

Please pray for:

All who have died recently, including June Yendall, Kevin Eaton and Mary Dayman and their friends and relatives.

Those who are ill, including Ian, Helen, Steve, Cathy, Peter, Brian, Ian, Sandra, Andrew, Judy, Richard, Emma, Sandra and Catherine.

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

Ruby Country Benefice

Sunday 28 June 2026

4th Sunday after Trinity

GRAPEVINE

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

Sunday 28 June

11.00am Holy communion

St. Alban, Beaworthy

11.00am United service café church

St. Leonard, Clawton

6.00pm Welcome service for Revd.

Julie Howell

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

Ruby people: Worshipping in God's country

First reading

Jeremiah 28: 5-9

Then the prophet Jeremiah replied to the prophet Hananiah before the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord. He said, "Amen! May the Lord do so! May the Lord fulfil the words you have prophesied by bringing the articles of the Lord's house and all the exiles back to this place from Babylon. Nevertheless, listen to what I have to say in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people: From early times the prophets who preceded you and me have prophesied war, disaster and plague against many countries and great kingdoms. But the prophet who prophesies peace will be recognized as one truly sent by the Lord only if his prediction comes true." (NIV)



Second reading

Romans 6: 12-end

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace. What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! But now that you have been set free from

sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (NIV)

Gospel

Matthew 10: 40-end

Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward." (NIV)