

John 6: 56-69

⁵⁶ Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ I live because of the living Father who sent me; in the same way, anyone who feeds on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ I am the true bread that came down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will not die as your ancestors did (even though they ate the manna) but will live forever.”

⁵⁹ He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Many Disciples Desert Jesus

⁶⁰ Many of his disciples said, “This is very hard to understand. How can anyone accept it?”

⁶¹ Jesus was aware that his disciples were complaining, so he said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶² Then what will you think if you see the Son of Man ascend to heaven again? ⁶³ The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴ But some of you do not believe me.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning which ones didn’t believe, and he knew who would betray him.) ⁶⁵ Then he said, “That is why I said that people can’t come to me unless the Father gives them to me.”

⁶⁶ At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him. ⁶⁷ Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, “Are you also going to leave?”

⁶⁸ Simon Peter replied, “Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. ⁶⁹ We believe, and we know you are the Holy One of God.”

NIV



St Mary’s Church, Black Torrington
Invite you to a **“PUDDRING”**

Thursday 26th August 6pm until 8pm

A wonderful selections of puddings and desserts
will be on offer,

have your evening meal at home then join us for pudding!
The Willis Family from Okehampton will bring their hand bells
so we can all have a go at ringing.

Raising funds for the restoration of St Mary’s Hand bells for the community to ring



BENEFICE SERVICE

Sunday 29th August at Highampton Church

An informal Evening Service on the theme of **HOLIDAYS**.
Please bring holiday souvenirs and stories from this
or previous years, or hopes for the future.

Bring your own picnic and a chair. 5.30 pm Picnic, 6.30 pm Service

*The United Benefice of Ashwater, Beaworthy, Black Torrington,
Clawton, Halwill, Highampton and Tetcott*
Sunday 22nd August

12th Sunday after Trinity

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

9.30 am Morning Service, Ashwater

11.00 am Communion by Extension, Beaworthy

11.00 am Holy Communion, Clawton

6.30 pm Holy Communion, Black Torrington



Readings

Joshua 24: 1a-2a, 14-18

Ephesians 6: 10-20

John 6: 56-69

Collect

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
Remind us of your goodness,
Increase your grace within us,
That our thankfulness may grow,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Interim Priest-in-Charge (part time)

Revd Stephen Skinner

sjmskinners@btinternet.com

07554 142264

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The Mission Community: for all who live and work in our Mission Community

The Community of Keyham, Plymouth, to give hope to the community in the of aftermath of the recent shooting tragedy

All who are mourning the death of a loved one including the family of Jan Luckhurst (*Highampton*), Les Friend (*Beaworthy*), John Plummer (*Black Torrington*), Rachel Gilbert (*Black Torrington*) and the families of those who died in Keyham, Plymouth

Rest in peace all who have recently died including Les Friend, John Plummer and Rachel Gilbert

Those who are ill or in any kind of need and those who are vulnerable due to underlying health conditions, including Trevor May, Bryan Hancock, Grace Spelman, Mavis Watson, Peter and Maureen Ellis, Malcolm and Judith Lusted, Jenny Hyslop, Brian Colebrook-Clark, Tim Kirk

For peace in the world, praying especially for the people of Afghanistan.

For the family of Meave Harvey, as they prepare for her Baptism

The NHS and all those supporting our healthcare service, that God would protect and sustain them



Dates for your diary

Wednesday 25th August 3.00 pm Funeral, John Plummer
Black Torrington Church

Thursday 26th August 6.00 pm Pudd-ring, Black
Torrington Church

Please note that Compline will not be taking place this week

Saturday 28th August 11.00 am Baptism, Meave Harvey,
Highampton Church

Sunday 29th August 9.30 am Holy Communion
Ashwater Church
11.00 am Holy Communion
Halwill Church
6.30 pm Benefice Festival Service
Highampton Church

**Thought for Sunday 22nd August 2021
12th Sunday after Trinity**

Dear Friends, by way of a change I thought we would look at our Old Testament reading this week which is taken from the book of Joshua, who as we will all remember has a claim to fame for fighting the ‘Battle of Jericho’!

Joshua is one of the ‘Super Heroes’ of the Bible. He is also along with other so called ‘J-shaped’ people i.e. Joel, Jacob, Joseph, Jonah, Job, Jeremiah, and Jesus himself of course, part of God’s wonderful plan for humankind. ‘J- shaped’ people are the people used by God to help that plan come to fruition.

In the passage we read how absolutely resolute Joshua is about wanting to serve his Lord. He’s not concerned if others want to serve various other gods but he and his house will serve the Lord, he says determinedly.

What Joshua does do is to challenge the people to make up their minds which god they are going to serve.

When faced with this question and no doubt influenced by Joshua’s own strong faith and determination they decided it was right to serve the Lord who, among other things, had brought them out of Egypt, out of slavery and had protected them on their journey.

I wonder if you have been influenced, in matters of faith that is, by any particular people that you can remember.

Sometimes it can be a ‘Pillar of Faith’ we have met along our journey of life. Or perhaps it may have been through a kind act that we have seen or experienced being carried out, especially if we know that person to have been a Christian.

Above all when faced with any type of dilemma in our faith, may we always choose the right path and guided and strengthened in our decisions by those we know and trust to have followed the right path themselves.

There are J- shaped people around still today, but of course their names don’t all start with a ‘J’. Can you think of one?

We should all look out for them for they can always help us follow the correct path.

Many Blessings
Jim

