

Church Diary

- we are aware that all plans may need to change!

Each week in September:

Monday 9am Morning Prayer - on Zoom

Wednesday 9.30am Morning Prayer in Church

Friday 8pm Evening Prayer in Creationtide - on Zoom

(if you would like to join either of the Zoom services: email Helen for MP or Chris Gardner for EP cjgardner01@icloud.com)

Sun 13th Sept	12:30pm	Baptism, Highnam Church
Mon 14th Sept	7.00pm	Taynton PCC in Taynton Church
Sun 27th Sept	10am	Benefice service at Rudford Church
Mon 19th Oct	7pm	Highnam APCM in Church

Next Sunday, 20th September

10am at Taynton

Holy Communion for the reopening of our churches.

If you are planning to come to this service please email or phone Lynda (as below) by Friday 11am to help us prepare.

Church Opening through September

Highnam:	Visitors are welcome to book a visit if they wish.
Rudford:	Wednesday mornings 11:00-12:00
Tibberton:	Sunday mornings 11:00 - 12:00
Taynton:	Open all day



Contacts

Benefice Administrator: Lynda Haines (Mon, Wed, Fri mornings)
highnam.church@aol.co.uk 01452 525567 (answerphone)

Vicar: Revd Helen Sammon vicar@highnamchurch.org 01452 306433
- in parishes Mon, Wed, Thurs, (Sat) Sun.

For all other contact details please refer to the front page of the monthly Link;
our website: www.highnamchurch.org or Find us on Facebook search for Highnam Church Life or Tibberton Church.



Find us on:
facebook

The United Benefice of
Highnam, Tibberton with
Rudford and Taynton

**Sunday
13th
September**

A very warm welcome to our Pewsheets.

We are delighted to be able to slowly re-open our churches and are looking forward to meeting in person once again.

14th Sunday after Trinity

10:00am Tibberton

A Benefice Communion service of reopening of our churches.

Please note that the new restrictions of '6' do not apply to our worship and we are fine to hold this as planned. Do bring your own folding chair and flask to stay for a chat and coffee afterwards.

Please remember your Face Mask



Readings

Matthew 6.5-8
Psalm 130



Collect

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy
and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Please pray this week for:

- ◆ Evelyn Holland who will be baptised at Highnam on Sunday.
- ◆ David Wood, of the Highnam congregation whose wife Janet sadly died last week.
- ◆ For wisdom for our national leaders as we adjust to the rising infection rate and necessary social restrictions.



Bible readings

Matthew 6:5-8

⁵ 'And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. ⁷ And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Psalm 130

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD;

² Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy.

³ If you, LORD, kept a record of sins,
Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But with you there is forgiveness,
so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,
and in his word I put my hope.

⁶ I wait for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

⁷ Israel, put your hope in the LORD,
for with the LORD is unfailing love
and with him is full redemption.

⁸ He himself will redeem Israel
from all their sins.

Christmas Shoe boxes

We hope this year, as a Benefice, to be able to send shoe boxes of goodies for children in deprived countries. Please look up how to do this at: www.samaritans-purse.org.uk. (Operation Christmas child). You can prepare a box on your own, or with your family or local friends; or you can donate one or two items, e.g a note book, pencils, a suitable toy, and/or £5 towards the delivery costs. Elizabeth Amos (790634) will be coordinating this for us and can tell you more about it. Please note that boxes need to be ready for collection by **9th November**.

News and Events

Val's face masks: We extend our further congratulations and thanks to Val Smith who has continued to make and sell face masks during this time. Val has now raised an extraordinary £500 for Gloucester Foodbank, and £500 for The Children's Society. The next masks will be sold in aid of the Nelson Trust - a Women's Centre in Gloucester.

Highnam PCC needs a new secretary.

We are rather desperate for help! There are 7 meetings a year, and the role basically involves sending our papers beforehand, writing the minutes of the meetings, and dealing with some correspondence at other times. It needs basic computer skills. Please consider if this is a way you might be able to support the church - contact Helen to discuss further.

Autumn / Harvest Photos. As we did earlier in the year we would love to receive any local photos you have - or could take now - that we will include in a Harvest celebration video.



**SEASON OF
CREATION**

Creationtide Reflection

This is the third in a series of reflections in the season of Creation.

In Matthew 18 Jesus tells a parable that highlights the quality of compassion. A king decides to "settle his accounts with his servants." In this story the king shows compassion to one of his servants, but that servant does not do likewise. Jesus's parable makes clear that the king – which is to say our loving God – is enormously compassionate in dealing with us, but he in turn expects us to be compassionate in dealing with one another. If we ourselves hope for compassion, should we not create a society in which compassion permeates all our relationships?

For people to flourish, their society must be marked by the conditions of social life that allow both its individual members and social groups to have relatively thorough and ready access to their own fulfilment. That is what we call 'the common good' in our thinking about our social life.

Our world today is marked by enormous disparities of income, wealth, and the conditions essential to full human development. Corporate interests are devastating our landscapes, our wild places, making it more difficult to find peace and contemplation in nature. Economically deprived cities have to deal with contaminated water. We, each and all, need to be compassionate in our own dealings with others. Moreover, as citizens of a one of the most economically developed nations in the world, it is incumbent upon us - as followers of Christ - to be compassionate toward those who have far less. Our compassion can lead us to work with those who are denied access to their human potential, thus furthering the common good of humanity, including us.

Adapted from material at <https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/>