

BENEFICE OF ASHWATER BULLETIN

ASHWATER * BEAWORTHY * CLAWTON * HALWILL * TETCOTT

Dear Friends,

As I write, Christmas has not yet happened, although the race to the 25th is well under way. I wonder who will arrive first, will it be the shepherds or the angels, the wise men or the turkey, the tree or the presents. However you spend the 12 days of Christmas, I pray it will be blessed with love and forgiveness.

So we then turn our thoughts to 2014 and reflect what has been in 2013. What were the highlights and low lights for you? For our family it was the wedding of our son and his bride in September, and our holiday seeing family in California. The joy of family with and without its tensions and opposing dynamics - it is still the family which is the most important circle we have and that we are part of it is so very precious. So we then turn the page to 2014, what are we looking forward to?

My prayer will be for every heart in every parish of the Ashwater Benefice to be open to the fruit of the Holy Spirit of which there are nine facets, may we aspire to have some at least or even all of these traits which are: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control. These traits are the code for good living in the family, the community and around the globe. May we be generous to one another, giving hospitality to friends, neighbours and strangers. These are the marks of a community committed to a Christian way of living. The Church is the people, who want to pray, work and worship a living God who gives us more in return than we could possibly wish for. Will you commit to this way of life where you are?

Wherever 2014 takes you I pray that it will be blessed with all goodness and grace.

Rev. Jane

2014

Sunday Services in January

5th January The Epiphany

Ashwater	9.30am	Morning Worship
Beaworthy	6.30pm	Evensong
Clawton	10.30am	Holy Communion
Halwill	11.00am	Morning Worship
Tetcott	5.30pm.	Tea and informal worship

OT *Isaiah 60: 1-6*
NT *Ephesians 3: 1-12*
Gospel *Matthew 2: 1-12*

12th January Baptism of Christ

Ashwater	9.30am	Holy Communion
Beaworthy	11.00am	Morning Worship
Clawton	10.30am	Morning Praise
Halwill	11.00am	Holy Communion

OT *Isaiah 42: 1-9*
NT *Acts 10: 34-43*
Gospel *Matthew 3: 13-34*

19th January Second Sunday of Epiphany

Ashwater	9.30am	Said Holy Communion
	3.00 pm	Plough Sunday service
Beaworthy	6.30 pm	Holy Communion (United Service for Christian Unity)
Clawton	10.30am	Holy Communion
Halwill	11.00am	Morning Worship

OT *Isaiah 49: 1-7*
NT *1 Corinthians 1: 1-9*
Gospel *John 1: 29-42*

26th January Third Sunday of Epiphany

Ashwater	7.00pm	Holy Communion
Beaworthy	11.00am	Morning Worship
Clawton	10.30am	Let's Get Together
Halwill	11.00am	Holy Communion

OT *Isaiah 9:1-4*
NT *1 Corinthians 1: 10-18*
Gospel *Matthew 4: 12-23*

Prayers for the New Year

Pray that 2014 may be a year of peace.

✠ Pray that peace may reign in our homes, our families, our churches and our communities.

✠ Pray that [peace may come to the troubled places of the world - to the places where there is violence or political unrest.

✠ Pray for politicians and diplomats who are charged with difficult negotiations that may lead to peaceful outcomes to disputes.

✠ Pray for our Benefice, our Mission Community, our Diocese, and the whole of the Church of England and Anglican Communion

✠ Pray for all farmers and for the Farming Community Network



Plough Sunday

Ashwater church (representing the whole Benefice) is hosting the Plough Sunday service in aid of the Farming Community Network. Farmers from throughout Devon will be there, and it would be fitting if there was a good turnout of our own parishioners - especially those with an interest in the land.



Christine Stuart

It is with great sadness that we record the death of Christine, early in the morning of 1st January. Members of her family were with her when she died unexpectedly. She will be greatly missed by all her friends in the Benefice, and especially at Clawton Church, where she and Richard (who passed away last year) were worshippers for many years. Please pray for Christine's family especially her son, David, and daughter, Vicky.

For your Diary

- 6 January Clawton Day of Prayer
- 7 January Soup and Sweet Lunch at Halwill Baptist Hall at 12.30. £2.50 a head. Good homemade food with good company.
- 8 January Midweek Holy Communion. 10.00am at Halwill
- 22 January Midweek Holy Communion at Halwill. 10.00am

St Lawrence Clawton

There will be a day of prayer at Clawton Parish Church on Monday 6th January from 7.00 am to 7.00 pm.

All are invited to participate. Whether you pop in for a brief visit, or stay for a longer period of quiet time, you would be very welcome.

Pray is at the centre of what we do as Christians.

