

## Upcoming dates

**Tuesday 9 June**

**2.00pm** Handbells

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

**Wednesday 10 June**

**10.00am** Morning prayer

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

**10.00am** Ashwater PCC meeting

St. Peter ad Vincula, Ashwater

**Thursday 11 June**

**7.00pm** preview evening PJR – all are invited

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

**Friday 12 June**

PJR art exhibition 12-15 June)

St. Mary's, Black Torrington

Kevin Eaton's funeral

**Saturday 13 June**

**7.00pm** Call my bluff

St. Peter & St. James, Halwill

**Sunday 7 June**

**11.00am** Holy Communion

St. Leonard, Clawton

**6.00pm** Evensong

St. Alban's, Beaworthy

## Commentary

*Jesus actions in Matthew this morning are extremely moving. Jesus not only engages with a Tax collector (filthy ejected and hated), he eats with him. He then gets up and heals a sick child; there cannot be, I think a more radical aspect to Christian ministry than these two examples of how we are to live. We exist in modern, indulgent and selfish age; this reading points us to something greater, more important and essential. Paul.*

### Please pray for:

**All who have died recently**, including Martin Peter Redwood, June Yendall, Zyg Gregorek and Kevin Eaton, and their friends and relatives.

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

Rev. Dr Paul Fitzpatrick. Rector:

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## Ruby Country Benefice

**Sunday 7 June 2026**

**Trinity 1 Sunday**

**GRAPEVINE**

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

## Welcome to Worship

**Sunday 7 June**

**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** Tea and the blessing of the toilet,

Holy Cross, Tetcott

*Ruby people: Worshipping in God's country*

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## Old Testament

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### Genesis 12: 1-9

The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,

and you will be a blessing.

I will bless those who bless you,

and whoever curses you I will curse;

and all peoples on earth

will be blessed through you.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

Abram travelled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. The Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord.

Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.(NIV)

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## Epistle

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### Romans 4: 13-25

It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not. Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. (NIV)

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## Gospel

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### Matthew 9: 9-13, 18-26

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector’s booth. “Follow me,” he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, “My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live.” Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples. Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. She said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed.” Jesus turned and saw her. “Take heart, daughter,” he said, “your faith has healed you.” And the woman was healed at that moment. When Jesus entered the synagogue leader’s house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, he said, “Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep.” But they laughed at him. After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up. News of this spread through all that region. (NIV)

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