

## Matthew 5:38-48

### Eye for Eye

<sup>38</sup> “You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’  
<sup>39</sup> But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. <sup>40</sup> And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. <sup>41</sup> If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. <sup>42</sup> Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

### Love for Enemies

<sup>43</sup> “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ <sup>44</sup> But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup> If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? <sup>48</sup> Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. NIV

## SMILE LINES

### Rooms

When the vicar moved his family into the large Victorian vicarage, a member of the congregation asked the young son how he liked his new home. “It’s great,” the little boy replied. “At last I have my own room, Mike has his own room, Jemma has her own room, and Bobby has his own room. But poor Mum is still in with Dad.”



### Fire in church

The town's fire prevention officer was conducting a health and safety course at the local church. The officer said to the minister: “Now imagine this: it is a Sunday morning and you have a number of people, spread socially distanced, throughout your church building. Some are in the choir stalls, some are in the kitchen, and some are in the nave. Suddenly, a big fire breaks out. What are the first steps you would take?”

The minister thought carefully for a moment. “Really big ones,” he said.

## Ruby Country Benefice

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

**Sunday 13th November 2022  
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

### Welcome to Worship

**10.45 Act of Remembrance**

*Ashwater Memorial/Church*

*Beaworthy Church*

*Black Torrington Memorial/Church*

*Halwill Junction War Memorial/Village Hall*

*Tetcott War Memorial*

**2.30 pm Act of Remembrance**

*Clawton War Memorial/Church*



### Readings

Micah 4: 1-8

Psalm 9: 9-20

Revelation 21: 1-6

Matthew 5: 38-48

### Collect

God of glory,  
touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit,  
that we with all creation  
may rejoice to sing your praises;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Interim Vicar (part time)

Revd Stephen Skinner

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**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

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

**Rest in peace** all who have recently died

**All who are mourning** the death of a loved one including the family and friends of Grace Spelman and Mavis Watson

**Those who are ill** or in any kind of need and those who are vulnerable due to underlying health conditions, including Jenny Hyslop, Stephen Bowness, Doug Genini and his wife Sue

**Solomon Brown** baptized at Tetcott and Beatrix Potter at Ashwater

**On Remembrance Sunday,** we pray Ever-living God: we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence, may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all people and establish harmony among all nations. May we pray for peacemakers and peacekeepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free

**Foodbank,** for all those who give so generously on a regular basis

**Dates for your diary**

<b>Monday 14th November</b>	10.00 am	Ashwater PCC Meeting
<b>Tuesday 15th November</b>	11.00 am 4.00 pm	ZOOM Bible Study Handbell Ringing Black Torrington Church
<b>Wednesday 16th November</b>	12.30 pm	<b>NO</b> Morning Prayer <b>Lightening the Load</b> with bring and share lunch Black Torrington Chapel
<b>Thursday 17th November</b>	8.00 pm	ZOOM Compline
<b>Sunday 20th November</b>	9.30 am 11.00 am 11.00 am	Morning Service/Baptism Ashwater Church Holy Communion Black Torrington Church Morning Service Halwill Church



**ZOOM MEETING**  
**Meeting ID:317 183 8102**  
**Passcode: 848984**

**Thought for Sunday 13th November 2022**

**“WAR – WHAT IS IT GOOD FOR?”**

There is an infamous Rock song sung by Edwin Starr which has my heading as its title:

“WAR - what is it good for? Absolutely nothing, War, I despise  
'Cause it means destruction of innocent lives  
War means tears to thousands of mother's eyes  
When their sons go off to fight and lose their lives  
I said, war, What is it good for? Absolutely nothing.  
It ain't nothing but a heart-breaker - friend only to the Undertaker  
Oh, war it's an enemy to all mankind  
The thought of war blows my mind.”

There is much that I agree with in regard to the sentiments of this gritty Song. I expect that many of us would agree, in regard to the horrific war in Ukraine that has blighted this year. We've seen unbearably many people who've had their lives destroyed through senseless violence. It seems that the Kremlin are hell-bent upon the destruction of this whole nation to pursue their imperialist aims of resurrecting the Soviet Empire. But the hatred of millions of people towards Russia by eastern Europeans will not be forgotten for generations, whatever the outcome. Many in Russia don't want this war either, and many of their brightest people are leaving their country in droves.

So, this is a tough year to be commemorating at Remembrance Sunday the lives of those who have died in War. Let's include all those who've died in this War of 2022 in our prayers.

But it's vital to remember that Warfare is always justified by the perpetrators – many in Russia and Belarus approve of the War against Ukraine. The same argument holds through all the Wars of the twentieth century – “The ‘Just’ War argument” as it's called. Our Allies believed their Wars against Germany and their Allies were justified to overcome very evil regimes – and I agree. But we need to carefully weigh up the principles – where is the greater ‘good’ to be found, in pacifism or confronting evil? People can come to differing conclusions and when thought through prayerfully we should respect the differing points of view. Yet we can be united in praying for peaceful resolution to any conflicts, and for the maximum protection, welfare and healing of those caught in innocence.

Edwin's Song ends very well:  
Peace, love and understanding, tell me  
Is there no place for them today?  
They say we must fight to keep our freedom  
But Lord knows there's got to be a better way,

**Stephen**