

## Upcoming Dates

### Monday 29th April

**11.00 am** Funeral of Yvonne King  
Black Torrington Chapel  
**2.30 pm** Clawton Annual  
Parochial Church Meeting

### Tuesday 30th April

**2.30 pm** Hand Bell Ringing  
Black Torrington Church  
**7.30 pm** Halwill Churches Together  
meeting, Baptist Chapel

### Wednesday 1st May

**10.00 am** Morning Prayer  
Black Torrington Church  
**2.00 pm** Beaworthy PCC Meeting

### Thursday 2nd May

**3.00 pm** Benefice Council Meeting  
Clawton Church

### Friday 3rd May

**4.00 pm** Wedding Rehearsal  
Ashwater Church

### Saturday 4th May

**3.00 pm** Wedding, Ashwater Church  
Sean Barry and Zoe Sheldon

### Sunday 5th May

**9.30 am** Morning Service  
Ashwater Church  
**11.00 am** Morning Service  
Halwill Church  
**11.00 am** Holy Communion  
Black Torrington Church  
**5.30 pm** Tea  
**6.30 pm** Rogation Service  
Tetcott Church

## Please pray for:

**Revd Dr Paul Fitzpatrick** and our Benefice Churches

**All who live** and work in our Mission Community

**Rest in peace** all who have recently died including Yvonne (Vonnie) King, Black Torrington

**All who are mourning** the death of a loved one including the family and friends of Brenda Boulton, David Corthine and Yvonne King

**Those who are ill** or in any kind of need and those who are vulnerable due to underlying health conditions including Phil Beare, Axel (a very sick young child), John, Catherine and Ian

**Our Benefice Schools** all staff, pupils and parents

**Sean Barry and Zoe Sheldon** as they prepare for their wedding



## CONTACTS

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Please note: **RECTOR'S DAY OFF IS FRIDAY**

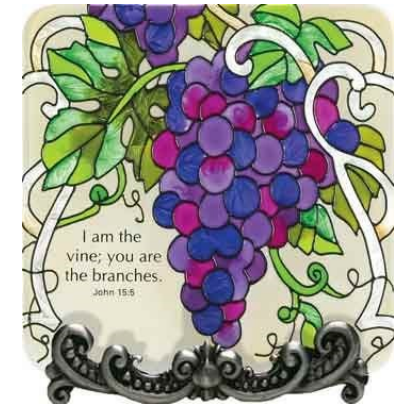
## Ruby Country Benefice

Sunday 28th April 2024

*5th Sunday of Easter*

## GRAPEVINE

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



## Welcome to Worship

**11.00 am** Holy Communion  
Beaworthy

**11.00 am** United Service  
Clawton

**6.30 pm** Evening Service  
Highampton Village Hall

*Ruby people; Worshipping in God's country*

## Commentary

Stephen Cottrell (Archbishop of York) has written a lovely little Prayer journal to be used from for 11 days from Ascension (9<sup>th</sup> May) until Pentecost. This booklet is a reminder and an encouragement on how and why following Jesus makes a difference to us. Each day there is a small reading, a reflection, a prayer and a space for making our own written reflection. Why not include others in this, Lets pray for five friends, colleagues or neighbours whom live their lives without knowing the love offered to them in Christ Jesus? Pentecost is the birthday of the church and marks the explosion of Jesus mission into our world. We have 20 copies of this book, why not use them to help drive our faith forward at this critical celebration?

**Paul.**

**Liturgical colours shifts from White to Green this week.**



## Epistle

### Acts 8: 26-40

#### Philip and an Ethiopian Official

<sup>26</sup> The Lord's angel said to Philip, "Go south along the desert road that leads from Jerusalem to Gaza." <sup>27</sup> So Philip left.

An important Ethiopian official happened to be going along that road in his chariot. He was the chief treasurer for Candace, the Queen of Ethiopia. The official had gone to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup> and was now on his way home. He was sitting in his chariot, reading the book of the prophet Isaiah.

<sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip to catch up with the chariot. <sup>30</sup> Philip ran up close and heard the man reading aloud from the book of Isaiah. Philip asked him, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

<sup>31</sup> The official answered, "How can I understand unless someone helps me?" He then invited Philip to come up and sit beside him.

<sup>32</sup> The man was reading the passage that said, "He was led like a sheep on its way to be killed. He was silent as a lamb whose wool is being cut off, and he did not say a word. <sup>33</sup> He was treated like a nobody and did not receive a fair trial. How can he have children, if his life is snatched away?"

<sup>34</sup> The official said to Philip, "Tell me, was the prophet talking about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup> So Philip began at this place in the Scriptures and explained the good news about Jesus.

<sup>36-37</sup> As they were going along the road, they came to a place where there was some water. The official said, "Look! Here is some water. Why can't I be baptized?" <sup>38</sup> He ordered the chariot to stop. Then they both went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

<sup>39</sup> After they had come out of the water, the Lord's Spirit took Philip away. The official never saw him again, but he was very happy as he went on his way.

<sup>40</sup> Philip later appeared in Azotus. He went from town to town, all the way to Caesarea, telling people about Jesus. (CEV)

## Gospel

### John 15: 1-8

#### Jesus Is the True Vine

15 Jesus said to his disciples:

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts away every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit. But he trims clean every branch that does produce fruit, so that it will produce even more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of what I have said to you.

<sup>4</sup> Stay joined to me, and I will stay joined to you. Just as a branch cannot produce fruit unless it stays joined to the vine, you cannot produce fruit unless you stay joined to me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you stay joined to me, and I stay joined to you, then you will produce lots of fruit. But you cannot do anything without me. <sup>6</sup> If you don't stay joined to me, you will be thrown away. You will be like dry branches that are gathered up and burned in a fire.

<sup>7</sup> Stay joined to me and let my teachings become part of you. Then you can pray for whatever you want, and your prayer will be answered. <sup>8</sup> When you become fruitful disciples of mine, my Father will be honored. (CEV)

