

---

## Upcoming dates

### Monday 16 March

**7.00pm** Holywell APCM  
St. Peter & St. James, Halwill

### Tuesday 17 March

**10.00am** Ashwater APCM  
St. Peter ad Vincula, Ashwater  
**2.00pm** Handbells  
St. Mary's, Black Torrington  
**7.30pm** Beaworthy APCM  
St. Alban, Beaworthy

### Wednesday 18 March

**10.00am** Morning prayer  
St. Mary's, Black Torrington  
**7.00pm** Tetcott APCM  
Holy Cross, Tetcott

### Sunday 22 March

**11.00am** Holy communion  
St. Alban, Beaworthy

**11.00am** United service and café church  
St. Leonard, Clawton

**6.00pm** Informal bible study  
St. Mary's, Black Torrington

---

## Commentary

*I had a sometimes fractious relationship with my mother. Dad wasn't always around and mum did most of the parenting. I remember one rainy, sad day when I was particularly fed up with her, I saw her slippers under the stairs, old worn and battered. She had worn them when she nursed me through hepatitis six years earlier and was still wearing them. My sense of shame was enormous.*

*It is not a great leap to see God in this way, endlessly patient, fed up with us sometimes, but whose love does not waiver, does not fade, and is very, very, real. Paul.*

### Please pray for:

**All who have died recently**, and their friends and relatives.

**Those who are ill**, including Ian, Helen, Steve, Cathy, Peter, Helen, Abigail, Rene, Brian, Ian, Sandra, Catherine and Kathy.

### 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.

---

## Ruby Country Benefice

**Sunday 15 March 2026**  
**4th Sunday of Lent**

## GRAPEVINE

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

## Welcome to Worship

**Sunday 15 March**  
**Mother's Day**

**9.30am** Holy communion  
St. Peter ad Vincula, Ashwater

**11.00am** Holy communion plus  
APCM  
St. Peter & St. James, Halwill

**11.00am** Morning prayer  
St. Mary's, Black Torrington

*Ruby people: Worshipping in God's country*

---

---

## Old Testament

---

### Exodus 2: 1-10

#### The Birth of Moses

Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.

Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the riverbank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave to get it. She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said. Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?" "Yes, go," she answered. So the girl went and got the baby's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him. When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water." (NIV)

Revd. Dr Paul Fitzpatrick. Rector:  
[vicar-rubycountrybenefice@outlook.com](mailto:vicar-rubycountrybenefice@outlook.com)

---

---

## Epistle

---

### 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7

#### Praise to the God of All Comfort

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort. (NIV)



---

## Gospel

---

### Luke 2: 33-35

The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." (NIV)