



Four Ways Mission Community

**St Michael East Buckland, St Paul Landkey, St James Swimbridge
with the Church of the Holy Name Gunn, St Peter West Buckland**

Sunday 16th August 2026



I'm sure many of you have found this week's solar eclipse, an awesome experience. Steve and I drove into Landkey and sat outside St Paul's church to watch it through special 'eclipse viewers'. We found it such an exciting and humbling reminder of how our incredible planet is so dependent on the solar system.

We have just returned from a very relaxing, family holiday which included walking around two Spanish ports in the rain. It was a relief to see and feel refreshing rain, following watching the news of extensive wildfires on the news during the previous week. We also enjoyed some wonderfully sunny days.

Travelling home from Southampton, it was shocking to see the drought that is still so extensive and affecting farming communities so badly alongside the awful blue tongue virus spread by midges, that is a disaster for so many in North Devon and the South West.

While so many are enjoying holidaying in this very summer warm weather, we also know that our planet needs the 'sweet, refreshing rain'. How good it would be if it could rain through the night with holidays and events still enjoying some beautiful daily sunshine !

Here's a prayer from Methodist UK which I've found helpful this week. A PRAYER FOR RAIN

As drought is declared across our region and much of England, we invite you to join us in prayer.

Our land is dry, our water sources are under pressure, and many farmers, growers, communities and wildlife are feeling the effects. At this time, let us turn to God together and ask for His mercy, provision and refreshing rain. *"He gives rain on the earth and sends water on the fields."* — Job 5:10

Lord, send rain upon our land. Restore our rivers and reservoirs, strengthen those whose livelihoods depend upon the land, and help us to care wisely for the precious resources You have entrusted to us. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

with thanks and prayers for you all. *Cathy*

Revd Preb Cathy Scoffield - Rector Four Ways Mission Community.
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This coming Saturday afternoon and evening, St Michael's East Buckland are once again hosting the Devon Association Bell Ringing Competition.

Thank you to our Tower Captain Peter and the great home team with local volunteers who are working to make this happen. Car Parking is kindly being made available near the junction to East Buckland church. Please only drop off or park near the church for mobility reasons.



NEXT SUNDAY: do come along to the Pet Blessing and Teddy Bears Picnic at Landkey Church Meadow Garden!

SATURDAY 15th August

St Michael's Church, East Buckland
ANNUAL BELL-RINGING COMPETITION,
2.30pm onwards. Refreshments & Raffle.
Contact: Peter Crook 01598 760347

Sunday 16th August – Trinity 11

9.30am Holy Communion, Swimbridge
10.30am Holy Communion, Landkey
including VJ Day commemoration
11.15am Holy Communion, West Buckland

LECTIONARY READINGS

Isaiah 56, 1, 6-8; Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32;
Matthew 15: 21-28

Collect for 11th Sunday after Trinity.

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Friday 21st August

Friday Family Church at St Peter's
West Buckland

5-6pm – Play and praise
Activities with food

6-7pm – Contemporary worship
Everyone welcome, musically led by Nigel.
An opportunity to hear and sing some new songs.

Sunday 23rd August – Trinity 12

9.30am Holy Communion, Swimbridge
10.30am Family Service with Baptism,
Landkey Baptism readings
LECTIONARY READINGS

Isaiah 51: 1-6; Romans 12: 1-8; Matt 16: 13-20

3pm - PET BLESSING & TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

St Paul's Church Meadow Garden
Everyone welcome, with or without pets !
Please see accompanying flyer.

Sunday 30th August – Trinity 13

9.30am Holy Communion, Swimbridge
5th Sunday Benefice Service