

HAPPY NEW YEAR



HCMC Information sheet – 4th January 2026

Regular services:

- **Morning Prayer** is said daily by our Ministry Team with
- **Night Prayer** at the end of each day
- **Morning Prayer** is said at All Hallows at 9am Monday to Friday
- **Morning Prayer** is said in the Church Rooms Hartland at 8.30am Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri
- **Holy Communion** informal ½ hour service held each Wednesday at 11am

THIS WEEK

Sun 4	9.30am	Holy Communion at Buckland Brewer Woolsery Arising at All Hallows
	11am	Morning Worship at Alwington, Bucks Mills and Hartland Service in Chapel at Parkham
Mon 5	10am	Ministry Team meets (Church Rooms)
Tues 6	10am	St. Nectan's Coffee Shop (Church Rooms) is open with books to borrow. Warm welcome, hot drinks and home-made goodies.
Weds 7	10am	Coffee morning in Woolsery Chapel.
	11am	Holy Communion at Hartland (Church Rooms) . A short, informal service
	12.15pm	Community Lunch (Church Rooms) See over
Fri 9	10am	St. Nectan's Coffee Shop (Church Rooms) is open with books to borrow. Warm welcome, hot drinks and home-made goodies.

Lectionary Readings for Epiphany (White/Gold)			
Isaiah 60: 1-6	Ephesians 3: 1-21	Matthew 2: 1-12	Psalm 72 1-9 & 10-15

Services for next Sunday, January 11th – Baptism of Christ

9.30am	Holy Communion at Welcombe and Woolsery
11am	Holy Communion at Alwington, Clovelly and Hartland
10am	Sunday Breakfast at Parkham
	Morning Worship at Buckland Brewer

Parkham's Christmas Tree Festival is running until January 6th 2026.

The 2026 Plough Service organised by the Devon Branch of the Charity FCN (Farming Community Network) will take place on Sunday 25th January 2026. The location is a barn at Melbury Farm, Parkham, EX39 5PP.

Plough Sunday is thought to be a very ancient festival, abandoned at the Reformation and then revived by the Victorians. Traditionally it was celebrated on the first Sunday after Epiphany, which falls on 6 January, and then ploughing began the next day, Plough Monday. Since Victorian times many farms have owned their own plough, so a representative plough was brought into church for blessing, but in the medieval period, when there was only one plough in each village, the village plough was drawn through the streets to be blessed at the church, and was followed with much food, drinking and revelry.

For medieval farmers it was an important occasion. The village plough was cleaned and decorated, it was then dragged to the church to be blessed and for prayers for a good harvest before the start of the new season's work. During the service the 'plough light' - a candle kept lit in the church throughout the year - was paraded ceremonially. After the blessing, the plough was pulled through the village again, led by a Fool and a boy dressed as a woman called a 'Betsy'. The procession stopped at as many pubs and friendly houses as possible for revellers to demand drinks. Pennies were also collected along route as a contribution towards keeping the plough light going in the church throughout the year - though others say it could have been to boost the kitty for "ale" that evening at the tavern. It would appear that anyone not paying a penny was likely to find a furrow cut across their land by morning! The day ended with a village feast, ale or beer flowed, and the traditional centrepiece was always a large Plough Pudding - a suet pudding stuffed with sausagemeat, bacon, onion, and sage.

Please send Tricia (as an attachment) any posters for your church events for circulation and loading on the website. email: hartlandcoastparishes@gmail.com

 *Afterwards, it would be lovely to see some photos, which I can put up on the website.
<https://www.hartlandcoastparishes.org/photo-gallery>*

As ever, if you are sending me photos, PLEASE send them as .jpg or .png attachments for me to download, as it takes so much time to unravel them otherwise and this format is suitable for loading directly to the website without my having to play with them! Thank you, Tricia

PRAYERLINE

If you, or someone you know, would like to be prayed for in complete confidence,
please contact

Revd. Jane Hayes 07503 731465

Revd. Jane Skinner 01237 431622

OR email HartlandCoastPrayerline@gmail.com

During term-time, when Hartland Primary School kitchen is operating, roast lunches will be available on Wednesdays at 12.15pm in St. Nectan's Church Rooms in the Square, Hartland. If you would enjoy sitting around a table with others to eat a roast meal and dessert, followed by a cuppa, all for the very modest price of £5, please book your lunch with Kay by the previous Monday (at least two days in advance) – 01237 441091.