

TEAM & COMMUNITY NEWS

Main clergy contacts are listed on page 2; other contact information, including for churchwardens and other officers, is available in the Benefice Magazine and on the Team website www.dorchesteranglican.info where you will find links to church Facebook pages and the **online version of the Benefice Magazine**. October magazine is now available in churches. Parish Office: dorchesterpcc@gmail.com

St Peter's Church will continue to be open for personal prayer from **10.00am - 4.00pm** each day this week. The **9am service will be Holy Communion (BCP) and at 10.30am Holy Communion (Order 1)**. The **Benefice Prayer group** will meet in the Hardye Chapel at St. Peter's Church on **Fridays at 10.30am**.

Your generosity to St. Peter's through donations made on **Gift Day** and the tax enhancement received from Government through the Gift Aid Scheme are an important part of our annual income. Lockdown has had a big impact on collections, event income and donations from visitors. Expenditure has been carefully controlled and where possible, contracts renegotiated. We expect to record a deficit on our running costs in 2020. **Gift Day this year will be Sunday 18th October**. Please give what you can in the knowledge that it will be used carefully. Please place it in an envelope marked "Gift Day" and give to the Churchwardens. If you cannot come to St. Peter's, please post it to our Treasurer, David Elliott, 4 Fairfield, 5 Dray Horse Yard, Dorchester DT1 1GT. Cheques should be made payable to St. Peter's Church. If you are a taxpayer and would like us to claim Gift Aid on your donation, please use one of the Yellow envelopes you will find in church or write this on a note with your cheque. Thank you.

Apples and Pears There are still a few apples (both cookers and eating apples) and cooking pears available to collect after the services on Sunday. Minna St Aubyn has kindly brought them and the Community Kitchen were very grateful for the bags that we gave to them.

St Mary's Church There will be a **Eucharist at 8am and also at 9.45am**. Please could you book **EACH** week with Trudy trtabone@gmail.com if you wish to attend either of the services. There is a Eucharist each week at 9.30am on Wednesdays, no need to be booked, and the **Contemplative prayer group** meet at **5pm on Wednesdays**. The church will be locked except for service times. **We now have a QR code for you to check-in with the NHS Covid-19 app. It is on display as you enter the church.**

St George's Church Our private worship for St Georges: **Wednesdays 8.30am-4pm. BCP 8am on 1st & 3rd Sunday of month**. To comply with social distancing rules we will limit the number to 12 persons and will use the chancel area for the service. **Our mid morning CW communion service has now reverted to a 09:45 start. Harvest Festival, 18th October, tins & packet foods only, no fresh produce please. Many thanks.**

St Andrew's Church Sunday services will continue at 11.15am.

St Simon and St Jude, Winterbourne Monkton

Holy Communion service on the first Sunday of the month at 11.15am

A Virtual service from the Winterbournes at 10am using ZOOM
email jean.saddington@hotmail.co.uk if you want to join.

Pews News

11th October 2020
18th Sunday after Trinity



The Parable of the Wedding Feast

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever, Amen.

Readings

18th after Trinity – Isaiah 25.1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4.1-9;
Matthew 22.1-14.

19th after Trinity – Isaiah 45.1-7; Psalm 96.1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1.1-10;
Matthew 22.15-22

A Reflection for 18th Sunday after Trinity

Canon Richard Franklin

The great late nineteenth century atheist philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche in one of his books castigated Christian morality as 'slave morality'. It was a subtle criticism and not to be written off as atheist propaganda. What Nietzsche pointed to and warned us to guard against was the danger of turning to revenge as a response to oppression. Psalm 137 is an example. Beginning with the beautiful words of the Israelites in exile: 'By the Rivers of Babylon, there we sat down and wept, when we remembered Zion', it concludes with 'happy shall be he who takes your children and smashes their heads against the rock.' And there are numerous examples from history where the oppressed become the oppressors and sometimes in the name of religion.

Nevertheless I believe that in one sense we should be glad to embrace the idea that Christianity is a religion of slaves. It certainly was in the Roman Empire. Many slaves and working class people embraced the religion and it gave them a faith to live by and way of giving their wretched lives meaning. Even though as time went on the Church forgot about its origins among the poor and oppressed and even accepted slavery, our foundation documents point in a different direction. Galatians 3:27-29, for example, states 'there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.' Although the institution of slavery existed as a fact of life in the Roman Empire of the first century, within the Church there was no difference of standing or status among Christians.

The Church of today needs to reach out to the poor and oppressed, the slaves (for there are many) of our own age with its message of faith, hope and love. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries our forebears in the faith realised that slavery was incompatible with Christianity. We today need to recognise that our faith is not just for the strong, the rich and the confident, it is also, as Jesus taught, for the powerless, for the poor, for the meek.



THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY CHRISTMAS CARDS

Unfortunately the Dorchester Committee have not been able to hold any fundraising events since the lockdown and do not foresee starting again until restrictions are eased. The one opportunity to raise funds that we are taking is selling the Society Christmas Cards and Advent Candles, Cards and Calendars. Display boards will be in the three town Churches during October with order forms. There are also samples packs which I am very happy to deliver to anyone who is interested in possibly purchasing some. No money is required until the goods are delivered and no delivery charges. It is also possible to view the entire range online: <https://www.charitycardshop.com/thechildrenssociety>.

You may of course order online but that will incur postage charges. I am able to order anything you see on the website. Rita Kennett, telephone:

265432, email: avk@henryling.co.uk. *Thank you.*

PLEASE SUPPORT THE SOCIETY IN THIS WAY

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

Among those in special need: Liz Pulfer John Marr, Alison & Caroline, Abigail Craddock, Jean Baker, Johanna Benjafield, Christine Peake, Pam Wheatley, Emma Foxwell, David Dunford, Linda Blundell, Brenda Knight, Tom Goss, Marion Tait, Hugo Lord, Brianna & Braxton.

(To add or remove names in this list, please contact Canon John Wood 01305 268749)

Remember also all who are cared for by Dorset County Hospital, in our community hospitals and hospice and all who are caring for them and working to address their needs; especially pray for all who are suffering from or are affected by COVID-19, and those working to develop identification, treatment and cure.

Among those who have recently died: Sian Toffoletti, Rev'd Canon Hugh Mumford, Martyn Fowgies, Betty Bascombe..

Remember those whose Year's Mind falls this week:

Margaret & Bill Kirk, Pat McCausland, Jo Elleston, Pat Legg, Eddie Howard.

Rev'd Canon Hugh Mumford – Private funeral in Cerne Abbas church, 2pm 12th October. Procession through to Godmanston afterwards for interment. The funeral and internment are limited to family, but please feel free to socially distance gather outside the church for 2.30pm to say farewell.

Dorset Poverty Action has been there all through Coronavirus supporting local people in DT1 and DT2 making grants of up to £200 to local people who have hit a financial crisis, at the request of a professional worker or agency who knows their circumstances

There are many local people who live on a low income but manage their finances very efficiently so do not normally need help but this year, even the most careful, have been very badly hit. DPA has helped 46 families so far since April, totalling £7,701 for things like basic white goods for people being rehoused from abusive situations, school uniform for children returning to school after months at home, washing machines that are beyond repair, beds for growing youngsters.

With no fund-raising events, Dorchester Poverty Action is depending on the generosity of local people who perhaps realise that they have not spent as much this year as they usually do. Please consider if you are one of these good people and make a donation by visiting our website

www.dorchesterpovertyaction.org.uk

You can give online or by BACS or send a cheque to

Dorchester Poverty Action, c/o United Church Dorchester, 49-51 Charles Street, Dorchester DT1 1EE.

Team Clergy Contacts:

St George, Fordington: Revd Reji Raj-Singh 07983 430050 and reji4@btinternet.com

St Mary, Edward Road & Winterbourne Monkton: Revd Rosemary Bassett 01305 262615 and rosemary.bassett42@gmail.com

St Peter, High West Street: & St Andrew West Stafford Canon John Wood 01305268749 and johnsamwood@me.com

For the Winterbourne Churches: Revd Jean Saddington 01305 889992 and jean.saddington@hotmail.co.uk