

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 Under current lockdown rules no services other than funerals are permitted but St Peter's Church will be open **daily from 10.00 - 4.00**.

The funeral of Liz Pulfer will take place on Tuesday 10 November at 11am but the 30 permitted attendees have booked their places. If you are not able to attend or if you wish to be on standby for a place please ring Ron Cave on 263767.

A message from David Elliott, Treasurer. I am humbled to report that your support on Gift Day this year totalled £5,629; an increase of almost 40% on 2019. Gift Aid claimed from HMRC will add a further £800 to the total. This increase goes a long way towards covering the income we will not receive from events which cannot take place this year, including our Christmas Market. Thank you most sincerely on behalf of the Church Committee for your generosity towards the work of St. Peter's in our community of Dorchester.

St Mary's Church

Sadly, we are having to go into another lockdown and therefore there will be no further services at St Mary's until we get Government approval to reopen our churches.

This Sunday is our **GIFT DAY**. Even though you are not able to come to church with your donations, these can be put in the yellow envelopes. Cheques payable to St Mary's Church Council and posted to John Heath, our Treasurer, at Flat 18, Copper Crescent, Brewery Square, Dorchester, DT1 1GL. If you are a UK Taxpayer, please remember to complete the information required on the yellow envelope as this will enable us to claim another 25p for every pound donated.

St George's Church Our private worship for St Georges:
Wednesdays 8.30am-4pm

For the next four weeks we will be sending via Facebook our Sunday messages, as we did before. Thank you to Lucy for doing this for us once again.
Revd Reji Raj-Singh.

St Andrew's Church The church will be open for Private Prayer on Wednesdays 10-4pm. Sadly, the Sunday services are now suspended until further notice.

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

8th November 2020

Third Sunday before Advent

Remembrance Sunday



Collect

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Readings

3rd before Advent – Remembrance Sunday – Deuteronomy 17.14-end;
1 Timothy 2.1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4.13-end; Matthew 25.1-13.

2nd before Advent – Daniel 10.19-end; Revelation 4;
1 Thessalonians 5.1-11; Matthew 25.14-30

Reflection for the Third Sunday before Advent

Geoff Turnock

A wedding and with ten bridesmaids! Impossible; unheard of; unbelievable. Fortunately, in devising the parable recorded in Matthew 25, Jesus didn't have to worry about restrictions on weddings imposed by a pandemic. In first century Palestine ten bridesmaids might have been a routine expectation. Either way, with ten to play with, we are invited to imagine that half of them are thoughtful young women, who have brought more than enough oil for their lamps whatever might happen, whilst the others, more happy-go-lucky, have simply hoped for the best. The latter, in consequence, miss out on the wedding completely. The serious point for us is that our expectation of the kingdom of heaven requires us to be ever-thoughtful and awake, 'for you know neither the day nor the hour'.

This creates a dilemma, because in the exhortations in Matthew 6, Jesus recommends to his followers a trusting happy-go-lucky approach to everyday life: take no thought for tomorrow as to what you shall eat or what you shall drink; consider the lilies of the field, they toil not neither do they spin, and so on. Context, however, is critical. Whilst it is debilitating to spend too much effort in worrying about the practical details of tomorrow, openness to the signs of the kingdom is essential and this does demand focused attention on our part. The happy-go-lucky bridesmaids dishonoured the bride and groom by not taking seriously the part they were to play in the ceremony; they did not understand its profound implications. We must try to avoid the same mistake.

Prayer.

Heavenly Father, grant us the insight to recognise the signs of your kingdom at work around us and free us from the burden of excessive anxiety about the future, through the mediation of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

Among those in special need: Julian Cherryson, Hilary Morley, Pam Wheatley, Alison, Caroline and Neil, Abigail Craddock, Jean Baker, Johanna Benjafield, Christine Peake, 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: Liz Pulfer, Pauline Sefton-Smith, Pam Haines, John Marr, Margaret Riddle, Violet Osborne, Ron Huxley

Appointment of Team Vicar

“Bishop Karen and the Revd Keith Magee, Team Rector designate, are pleased to announce, subject to all the necessary checks, the appointment of Cora Yarrien as the new Team Vicar of Dorchester and the Winterbournes.” This is part of Bishop Karen’s announcement, which will be circulated in full next week.

Please pray for Keith and for Cora and for all who are close to them, as they prepare to begin their ministry among us.

Remembrance Day

There will be a short observance at the war memorial with only representatives of the veterans, British Legion and the Mayor. Others are invited to lay their wreaths later in the day, at spaced intervals. We are all invited to share in the 2 minute silence at 11.00 by standing outside our front doors so that we can be seen to be doing it together.

Do you have an overgrown vegetable plot or other free space in your garden? I have recently sold my house and am living in a flat in Dorchester. I am looking for a space in which to temporarily keep a range of plants, shrubs and bulbs to overwinter, ready for when we secure a new house in 2021. Very happy to pay for the use. Please contact me on: 0776 858 1679, 01305 264 202 or xatylor@aol.com Andrew Tyler

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