

**The Benefice of the Piddle Valley,  
Hilton and Ansty,  
Cheselbourne and Melcombe Horsey**



**Pew Sheets – Please take home**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October**

**21st after Trinity/Proper 24**

***Altar Colour – Green***

**Collect:** God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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**

**Psalm: 91: 9-end**

**Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 53: 4-end**

**Hebrews 5:1-10 (ESV)**

***Jesus the Great High Priest***

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. And no one takes this honour for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

**Comment:** The passage defines the role of the ideal priest expressed as the representative of others. Accordingly, he offers the appropriate sacrifice on the Jewish feast of Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. Some of the priests were not good examples of the Aaronic Priesthood, such as Annas and Caiaphas who played a role in the crucifixion of Jesus. Perhaps that explains why the author of this letter refers specifically to Aaron, the original high priest according to the priestly tradition of the Pentateuch (Exodus 28-29) and Chronicles (1 Chronicles 24:1). Indeed, the latter part of the Book of Exodus and the whole of Leviticus and Numbers focus overwhelmingly on Aaron and his functions as high priest of Israel. In order to draw the parallel between the high priest and Christ, however, the author goes further back into the Israelite tradition to the mysterious figure of Melchizedek, an ancient Canaanite priest-king of Salem to whom Abraham submitted and paid tribute. The priesthood of Melchizedek was regarded as superior to both Abraham, his descendent, Aaron, and the Aaronic priesthood. Fragments of text from one of the Dead Sea Scrolls revealed that the Melchizedek tradition was very much alive in late Judaism. It would appear that this tradition was well-known to the author of this letter and perhaps to his audience. Furthermore, Melchizedek served an even more important purpose for this author. He became the core of his messianic argument. By introducing Melchizedek in relation to Jesus here and much more explicitly in chapter 7, the author of the letter is making a profound messianic confession. Jesus, the Man of Galilee who is the Son of God, fulfilled all the conditions of the ideal priest. By Christ's obedience, suffering and death, the representative of God and humanity wrought the atonement God intends for human salvation.

### **Mark 10:35-45 (ESV)**

#### ***The Request of James and John***

And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptised with the baptism with which I am baptised?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them,

“The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptised, you will be baptised, but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

**Comment:** Their conviction that Jesus is the Messiah firmly established, James and John boldly put their request to Jesus, for precedence in the messianic kingdom. Question their intent. Jesus responded with a question. His question symbolised his suffering and death in the sacramental language of cup and baptism the church still uses to tell of its meaning.

### **Prayers**

Please pray: For the sick, for those suffering from long term illness, for those continuing to receive hospital treatment including:

Colin Webb, Anna Webb, Meg Gray, Ted, Michelle Simpson, Ann Lambert, Rev'd Deb Smith, Rev'd Benny Hazlehurst. Betty - Hillary and Jane.



For your Rector Fr. Roger,

For Rev'd Helier, and our laity;

For all those who take services in our benefice;

For those who are suffering who are lonely and the bereaved and the many care givers in our community.

### **Requiescant in pace**

Rev'd Stanley Royle

Graham Jackson (formerly of Piddletrenthide).

## What's going on around the Benefice!

*Fr. Roger, Ginny and the girls are on holiday over half term week. Our gratitude to those taking services to facilitate our holiday.*

THE  
**WEEK**  
AHEAD

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October: Funeral for Rev'd Stanley Royle, 2.00pm @ Milton Abbey**

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October: 9am Morning Prayer @ Piddlehinton with Alan Neades. This is a weekly service.**

**Stepping Stones Home Group** meets twice a month on a Tuesday evening at 7.30pm, at Orchard Cottage, Melcombe Bingham. **All Welcome.** For next meeting date further details please telephone Richard and Julie Saunders on 01258 880585

### **Services for Next Sunday.**

<b><u>28<sup>th</sup> October 2048</u></b> Simon and Jude  <i>Altar Colour - Red</i>  Psalm 119: 89-96 Isaiah 28: 14-16 Eph. 2: 19-end John 15: 17-end	<b><u>9.30am Family Eucharist</u></b> <b><u>with Alton Pancras</u></b> at Piddletrenthide Refreshments available  <b><u>6.00pm Sung Evening</u></b> <b><u>Prayer</u></b> at Piddlehinton	<b><u>8.30am Holy Communion</u></b> At Cheselbourne  <b><u>6.00pm Choral Evensong</u></b> At Hilton
--	---	---

***Rector – Rev'd Fr. Roger J. Butcher, The Vicarage,  
Piddletrenthide. DT2 7QY Tel. 01300 348211***

***Email: rector.piddlevalleybenefice@gmail.com.***

***Find us on Facebook and [www.piddlevalleybenefice.com](http://www.piddlevalleybenefice.com)***

