

true prophet is as different as wheat from straw (v. 28). The dreams of the false prophets lead people astray, providing no benefit for them.'

Hebrews 11:29-12:2 (ESV)

By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Jesus, Founder and Perfecter of Our Faith

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Luke 12:49-56 (ESV) Not Peace, but Division

"I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptised with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law." Interpreting the Time, He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, 'A shower is coming.' And so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens.

You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

COMMENT: This apocalyptic vision of conflict about what Jesus means presents us with a picture of what may have actually happened in the community for which Luke was writing his gospel in the second last decade of the 1st century. Confronted by Jews who had expelled all Christians from their synagogues and threatened with persecution by the Romans, it would have been natural for them to seek a deeper understanding of what was happening to them in the Jewish traditions about the end of time and the teachings of Jesus himself. The quotation about the divided family comes from Micah 7:6, and such a quotation would have reinforced the message to his Jewish hearers, especially those trained in the Scriptures. Certainly the fall of Jerusalem, would have dislocated all of life, and could be described in apocalyptic terms. A turmoil many in the world could identify with today – especially in the middle-east.

Post Communion: Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Blessing: The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Benefice Prayer Requests:

- Please continue to pray for those who are ill, recovering from illness or surgery or suffering: June Kellaway, Ann Lambert, Terry Jeanes, Marion Traynor...
- Please pray for those awaiting GCSE Exam results, and for those making difficult decisions, whether it be regarding employment, college or university places.
- Please pray for those who grieve and miss the earthly presence of a loved one.
- Please pray for Max and Tessa married 16th August at Hilton
- We pray for our couples preparing for Holy Matrimony during August: Stuart & Judith (Hazelbury Bryan). September: Sam & Becky (MH), Sam & Rebecca (Hilton). October: Adam & Valerie (PH)



What's going on around the Benefice!



Food Bank: As a benefice we will continue to collect a packet/tin a week to support those in the wider Dorchester community who are in need. Food Bank is preparing for a busy summer holiday period, when the free school meals many families depend on are not available.

Thursday 22nd August: 9.30am Morning Prayer: at Piddlehinton, with Alan Neades

Wednesday 21st to Monday 26th August: Fr. Roger Ginny and family are working on site at the Great Dorset Steam fair. Fr. Roger is part of the Chaplaincy Team and will be available on his Mobile or by email over the course of the Steam Fair. Our grateful thanks to Rev'd Helier, Rev'd Bruce Dixon and LLM Jestyn Coke for covering the Sunday services to facilitate our secondment to the GDSF.

| <u>27th August 2019</u> | <u>10th Sunday after Trinity</u> | |
|---|---|---|
| Altar Colour - Green Isa. 58: 9-end Psalm 103: 1-8 Heb. 12: 18-end Luke 13: 10-17 | 8.30am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion * <i>Joint Service with Alton Pancras</i> 6.00pm Sung Evening Prayer 6.00pm Sung Evening Prayer | Cheselbourne Piddletrenthide Piddlehinton Hilton |

**Refreshments and Fellowship after the service*

Dates for your diary

Stepping Stones Home Group, 3rd and 17th September

Morning Prayer, Coffee and a chat with the Rector,
Thursday 5th September at Alton Pancras

10th September 10am Tiddlers at Piddle Valley School

29th September 10.30am Combined Benefice Communion Service at Milton Abbey

Rector: Fr. Roger Butcher, The Vicarage, Church Lane,
Piddletrenthide. DT2 7QY. **Tel:** 01300 348211 / **Mob.** 07502 118210

Email: rector.piddlevalleybenefice@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook and our website <https://piddlevalleybenefice.com/>

