



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

**Sunday 27th October 2019
Bible Sunday (proper 25)**

Altar Colour – Green

Readings: Isa. 45: 22-end, Psalm 119: 129-136, Rom. 15: 1-6, Luke 4: 16-24

Collect: Collect Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Romans 15:1-6 (ESV) - The Example of Christ

We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbour for his good, to build him up. For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me.” For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMENT: Paul in this epilogue to the Epistle is making a plea for unity within the Roman Church, which contained both Jewish and Gentile believers. Just beyond the scope of the passage in verses 7 to 12 Paul specifically mentions the Gentiles, and this insistence on unity will in part address the co-existence of the two groups. In making reference to the Lord Jesus, to whom Paul refers as ‘Christ’ (evidence of Jesus’ full acceptance as the Messiah, the promised one), he quotes Psalm 69:9, and in so doing accepts this as a messianic psalm, and in quoting this, is recommending to the Church, the Scriptures as a moral compass, and encouragement. This commending of the Jewish Scriptures as being authoritative will be aimed especially to the Gentile readers, as the Scriptures for all believers and not just the Jews.

Luke 4:16-24 (ESV) - Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke well of him and marvelled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, "Physician, heal yourself." What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.'" And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown.

COMMENT: It was the custom in the Jewish synagogues of the 1st Century to ask various Rabbis to teach from the scriptures. After making an initial tour of Galilee, Jesus went to worship on the Sabbath. He was asked to read and interpret a passage of scripture. His interpretation was not what his audience wanted to hear! Jesus chose a passage from Isaiah 61 which was to become the model for his ministry. Then he declared to the congregation that this prophecy was being fulfilled in their hearing. From this dominical mission, we can discern God's "preferential option for the poor" and the cause of social justice for the most vulnerable in our society. We have seen this mission exemplified in the enthusiastic secular response to environmental crises in many countries in recent years. Despite the lack of cooperation from such large countries as the USA, Russia and China, many national legislatures have adopted the Kyoto Treaty as national policy. On the other hand, for fiscal reasons, governments appear to have withdrawn more and more from their role of developing realistic programs for bringing about a sharing of the world's limited resources to drive the industrial and commercial systems that will bring equity and justice where it is most needed. Instead, the chief motivation of the most powerful is to compete for control of these resources so that as little change as possible in the lifestyle of the wealthier parts of the world will be necessary. One has to wonder what Jesus would say to us if he were to be asked to preach in our community.

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. I have delivered offerings from Alton Pancras this week.

Monday 28th to Friday 1st November. Fr. Roger, Ginny and family are having a short holiday over half term.

Thursday October 31st October: 9.30am Morning Prayer, with Alan Neades Piddlehinton

3rd November 2019 4 th Sunday Before Advent Altar Colour – White Dan. 7:1-3, 15-18 Psalm 149 Eph. 1: 11-end Luke 6: 20-31	All Saints /All Souls 8.30am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Service 10.30am Songs of Praise ** 11.00am Morning prayer 11.00am Morning Prayer With commemoration of All Souls 6.00pm Evening Prayer ** Wear your wellies to Church followed by annual churchyard tidy and a Bacon Butty reward!	Alton Pancras Piddlehinton Hilton Melcombe Horsey Piddletrenthide Cheselbourne
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Dates for your diary

Tiddlers at Piddle Valley School Tuesday 5th November 10.00am to 11.30am. For More details please contact Alicia

Morning Prayer, Coffee and a Chat with the Rector 9am Thursday 7th November at Alton Pancras

Rector: Fr. Roger Butcher, The Vicarage, Church Lane,
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