



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

**Sunday 26th April 2020**

**Easter 3 (Altar Colour White/Gold)**

**Readings:** *Acts 2: 14, 36-41, Psalm 116: 1-7, 1 Pet 1: 17-23, Luke 24: 13-35*

(During Easter, Acts must be read during a service.)

**Collect:** Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; 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**

## **Acts 2:14-41 (ESV) - Peter's Sermon at Pentecost**

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his word were baptised, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

**COMMENT:** The conclusion to Peter's sermon at Pentecost in call for repentance and baptism, and a promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit had spectacular results. Thousands responded and became members of the new faith community. These astonishing events emphasised that the early church saw the resurrection as proof that Jesus was God's promised Messiah.

## **Luke 24:13-35 (ESV) - On the Road to Emmaus**

That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning

with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognised him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**COMMENT:** This narrative ascribes the fundamental Christian re-interpretation of the Old Testament scriptures to the risen Christ himself. It typifies the revolution in scriptural exegesis which was effective in the primitive church – that of an examination of the Old Testament (then the only Scriptures) to find out more about the Messiah. This passage is a favourite resurrection story and traces the disciples' despair at the death of Jesus to the joy of knowing that he is alive and still with them. Two significant facts about the faith of the early church come to the fore: 1) The apostolic community based its faith on the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ/Messiah as foreshadowed throughout the Jewish Scriptures. 2) The community centred around the celebration of Jesus' death for our sins in a fellowship meal. Later, this observance developed into the ritual of the Eucharist (Lord's Supper) – in the reading today we see the shape of the Eucharist – The Scriptures are explained and we meet the Lord in the breaking of bread. There is also that wonderful phrase in the reading; "it is toward evening and the day is now far spent."

**Short Preface:** But chiefly are we bound to praise you because you raised him gloriously from the dead. For he is the true paschal lamb who was offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting life.

**Post Communion:** Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Blessing:** The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**

***Prayer list and Notices on the next page.../***

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## Benefice Prayer list

In your prayers, please will you pray for our friends and neighbours throughout the benefice. For the sick, the grieving, the lonely, for key workers, all NHS staff and community support groups,

For those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit, through illness or recovering from hospital treatment: *Sara Milne, Ann Lambert, Fay Lord, Richard Hanbury, Geoff Harris, Ruth Tutt, Bernard, Alex Bexon, Fr. Damian Feeney, Wakeham family, Michelle Simpson, Giles Maber and Robyn Kotze.*  
For those in care homes: including *June Kelloway and Roger Gray.*



### ***Requiescat in pace***

*Craig Wakeham (Piddletrenthide)*  
*David Johnston (Cheselbourne)*

*Any additions or amendments to the prayer list, please email the Rector.*

## Benefice Notices

**Live Streaming:** Please drop into our live streamed services, order of services are available on the website home page for download for Communion and Rosary.

Sunday Communion Services are now being uploaded to YouTube after the livestreaming has taken place. Search 'Fr. Roger Butcher' within youtube or use this link [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ru\\_v3\\_1MZyzx72ka63g4A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ru_v3_1MZyzx72ka63g4A)

To access the live streamed services, please go to the benefice facebook page at the time of the service, and the live stream will appear. If you 'like' the benefice facebook page, you will receive notifications on live services and other information posted to the facebook page.

You can use this link, log in or follow the instructions to setup an account:

[https://www.facebook.com/piddlevalley/?eid=ARAxjQNj5mPHQUQD2hKEx\\_uzUyyf17basudX3D22bYJx4HsCh7ByYB8lltrMbHhsARvgwbTqvapn-Glq](https://www.facebook.com/piddlevalley/?eid=ARAxjQNj5mPHQUQD2hKEx_uzUyyf17basudX3D22bYJx4HsCh7ByYB8lltrMbHhsARvgwbTqvapn-Glq)

**APCM & Visitations:** PCC Secretaries and Churchwardens would have received an email from the diocese earlier this week, confirming the APCM deadline has been moved from 31st May to 31st October. Visitation dates will be arranged for after 1st November.

**Foodbank:** Donations for Dorchester Foodbank can be left at The Vicarage - Piddletrenthide, Orchard Cottage - Melcombe Bingham; or at the Bromilow's gate - Hilton for Blandford Foodbank.

**Funerals:** During the current Pandemic, graveside or crematorium funeral services are strictly private and therefore will not be advertised on the weekly church notices. Please refer to Fr. Roger's email dated 21st April.

THE  
**WEEK**  
AHEAD